

WATER DROP



Franklin Water Pant Newsletter July 2006

Diver Down

Pearson & Rosser Commercial Diving Service from Bowling Green, Kentucky inspected and removed mud from the Water Plant Intake.



In the fall of 2005, the Water Plant's #3 Raw Water Pump failed so we had it pulled and discovered that it was full of mud and mussels. That is the worst thing an operator can

ever hear, that one of your pumps is full of mud and mussels. This has never happened before. We believe that the diversion of the normal creek flow of our raw water source during the construction of the dam was the cause of this problem. Water flow to the intake was at a bare minimum and the mud and mussels now had a place to form

City Manager Tom Gordon approved Pearson & Rosser Diving to come inspect our intake and remove the sludge. In October of 2005, Pearson & Rosser came but with limited funds made available to the Water Plant, they were not able to remove very much of the sludge.

On June 16th, 2005, the divers were back. We only had funds budgeted for 8 hours dive time. The divers inspected the intake more thoroughly than in

October and discovered several large pieces of concrete blocking most of the intake screen. The pile of concrete was from the dismantling of the old spillway during the dam construction.

Divers see Huge Catfish



The Divers made a total of three dives and worked a total of twelve hours on site. They were able to remove 3/4 of the mud and mussels in the pump room but had to stop due to the Water Plant's limited budget. The divers recommend to have the mud & mussels removed

entirely along with the concrete pieces in front of the intake. They estimate that it would take 24 more dive hours to complete the job. There are four levels to the pump intake and there are still areas that have 3 to 4 feet of mud. There's also a huge catfish that's trapped inside because he's grown so big! But he doesn't bother us, just the mud. A water plant is dependent on its intake more than any other piece of equipment. We can't afford not to finish the job. Imagine being crippled by some dirt and little mussels. It's not too far fetched. Think about it.