

SHERIDAN, IN: ACQUISITION SOLVES SEWER OVERFLOWS AND PROVIDES CAPITAL FOR OTHER PRIORITIES

For years, the Town of Sheridan, Indiana, faced a common infrastructure challenge: its aging wastewater treatment facilities were overloaded during wet weather, leading to system overflows and sewage discharge.

Facing repeated, heavy fines from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the Town decided to seek help. In a transaction designed to provide the infrastructure investments needed to address sewer system deficiencies and provide capital for other local priorities, Indiana American Water acquired the Sheridan water and wastewater systems for \$10.75 million in 2018.

As Sheridan Town Council President David Kinkead said at the time: “This acquisition will help us to address local infrastructure needs while also providing future rate stability by keeping our rates lower than they would have been under municipal ownership.” The proceeds from the asset sale allowed the Town to pay off existing utility-related debt, establish a retirement fund for City employees, and help fund other community priorities by providing local matching funds for infrastructure grants.

Within three years of the sale closing, Indiana American Water followed through on its commitments. In July 2021, the company completed a \$10 million upgrade to the Sheridan wastewater treatment facility that doubled daily plant capacity and tripled peak capacity to address overflow challenges during wet weather.

Separately, Indiana American also upgraded the Town’s drinking water infrastructure, investing \$2 million to remove lead service lines, upgrade water treatment facilities, and replace a major groundwater pump.

Council President Kinkead views these infrastructure upgrades in a larger context: “This community has a lot of future growth potential, and the investments Indiana American Water is making in our local infrastructure will help to make Sheridan an even better place for our residents and businesses.”

Sources

1. The Times, “Indiana American Water completes nearly \$10 million upgrade of Sheridan, Ind. wastewater treatment facility” 27 July 2021 ([link](#))
2. BusinessWire, “Indiana American Water Acquires Sheridan Water and Wastewater Systems in Central Indiana” 21 December 2018 ([link](#))
3. Indiana American Water, “Wastewater BD Video” ([link](#))