

**MINUTES  
CITY OF LAUREL  
CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP  
TUESDAY, JULY 11, 2023**

A Council Workshop was held in Council Chambers and called to order by Mayor Dave Waggoner at 6:33 p.m. on July 11, 2023.

**COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Emelie Eaton	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Heidi Sparks
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Michelle Mize	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Richard Herr
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Casey Wheeler	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Irv Wilke
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Richard Klose	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jodi Mackay

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Michele Braukmann, Civil City Attorney  
Brittney Moorman, Council Administrative Assistant  
Lyndy Gurchiek, Ambulance Director

**Public Input:**

There were none.

**General Items**

1. Appointment of Anthony Contreraz, Dallas Contreraz, and Kaleigh Olson to the Laurel Emergency Medical Services.

Ambulance Director Gurchiek introduced Anthony Contreraz, Dallas Contreraz, and Kaleigh Olson to the Council.

2. Appointment of LuAnne Engh to the Tree Board for a three-year term ending June 30, 2026.

There was no discussion on the item.

**Executive Review**

**Council Issues**

3. American Legion Building Septic Tank Discussion

James O'Lexey, TLC Patriot Septic & Excavation, reviewed the attached materials. After inspecting the existing septic system, he felt the tank could be reused. This system is certified to remediate drain systems when conventional repairs are not an option.

It was questioned what has failed and how does this system fix it. It was clarified that this system is very dated. Septic systems are designed to last 30 years; this one was installed in the 1940s.

The drain field failed due to the build-up of a biomat. The sledgehammer system changes the biological processes within the system and helps create bacteria that consume the biomat. This system can be used in wastewater treatment plants to help reduce wastewater loading. The whole system is \$6,000. There is maintenance that goes with that cost to keep the system up and running.

It was questioned if Riverstone Health has approved this system. It was clarified that this system is considered an upgrade to an existing system. No permit or review is needed to complete the work. However, they have received a letter of no objection from the County.

It was questioned if this system could help with the issues the City has been dealing with at the Elm lift station. It was clarified that this is not the scope of today's discussion, but they had a few different ideas and would approach the City later.

It was questioned how long it would take to install the system. It was clarified that it would take approximately a day to install. They will also be back yearly to test and ensure everything works properly. Right now, they are out a few weeks before they would be able to get to it. The City would also receive an as-built after the completion of the project for its records. There will be a filter installed to help protect the drain field. They will also open up the top of the second side of the tank. He noted that the City will not want people driving over the top of this system and will need to ensure it is marked off to keep from damaging the equipment. Also, on the quote, there is a replacement of a transfer pipe included as well.

#### 4. Lions Proposal Discussion

Paul Kober and Kenny Seymour, Lions Club, stated the Lions Club would like to take over managing the old Jaycee Hall. They briefly reviewed their attached proposal.

Park Board has reviewed this request. The only item they disagreed with was renaming the building to Lions Hall. They would prefer to change the building to Riverside Park Hall, managed by the Lions Club with their logo.

So far, the Lions Club has installed five new windows in the building at their own expense. Their goal is to have a community center that people can utilize.

It was questioned if the City rents out the space. It was clarified that it has rented out the space once.

The Lions would like to keep both rooms open to use. While there will be a small loss of income, all monies raised will be used within the community.

It was questioned if the bb gun club would continue shooting in the building. It was clarified that the Lions would take over the utilities within the building. Groups who do not pay will be asked to help pay those utility bills.

## 5. Special Event Insurance Requirements Discussion

Recently the special event permit process was substantially revised. Applicants have been running into barriers in being able to obtain insurance coverage. It is believed that applicants are asking their agents to up their entire general liability insurance and not obtaining the additional coverage needed via a special events policy. MMIA just announced they have a program offering special events coverage. For low-risk events, those increased insurance requirements have been waived.

The Civil Attorney will meet with a few applicants who do large events within the City to understand better the barriers they have faced. The City will focus on better educating what requirements are needed for applicants. They will also provide the information given by MMIA to applicants as well.

A Council Member noted that his grandson rented out the venue in August for \$300 and now needs expensive insurance. Their homeowner's insurance wouldn't cover the event. Thankfully the father-in-law was able to work something out and meet the requirements.

It was questioned if a caterer has insurance does that reduce the cost to the applicant. It was clarified that it could assist with the insurance requirements.

It was clarified that many wedding venues charge for what they do because of the liability issues involved.

### **Other Items**

#### **Attendance at Upcoming Council Meeting**

All Council Members present plan to attend the next meeting.

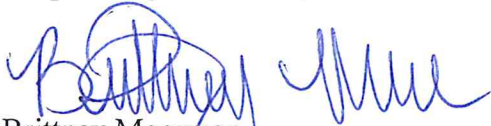
#### **Announcements**

##### 6. Employee Recognition July – December

There was no discussion.

The council workshop adjourned at 7:19 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Brittney Moorman  
Administrative Assistant

**NOTE: This meeting is open to the public. This meeting is for information and discussion of the Council for the listed workshop agenda items.**

# THE LATEST ADVANCE IN WASTEWATER TREATMENT

Finally, septic waste has a natural enemy aggressive enough to save your property from ruin!

## SLUDGEHAMMER® PUTS NATURE TO WORK

We combine modern technology with the fundamentals of nature to provide a biological solution to a biological problem. Need an inexpensive system that can fit in a limited space? SludgeHammer® installs anywhere—even in existing tanks without damage to the site. And, SludgeHammer's® end product is clear water that can be used for irrigation or introduced right back into the water table.

Our simple, but effective systems are environmentally safe and easy to install. A SludgeHammer® system can process wastewater at half the cost and energy consumption of our leading competitors and uses only 60 watts of power—literally pennies a day. Our systems are easy to maintain with only a quick, yearly check-up recommended. No moving parts, no landscape damage, no odors!

MAKING PRODUCTS  
THAT MAKE A DIFFERENCE

SATISFACTION GUARANTEED!

Our engineers have been working in the field of septic and bioremediation for over 35 years. Today the SludgeHammer® is fully refined, tested and working in thousands of septic systems world-wide.

TLC-Patriot Septic & Excavation is a licensed installer and the EXCLUSIVE distributor of SludgeHammer® in the western United States. Contact them today to learn more about how this amazing technology can bulletproof your septic system!

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SLUDGEHAMMER®  
Residential Application

INSTALLS  
ANYWHERE.  
WORKS  
EVERYWHERE.

EMPOWERING NATURE IN  
WASTEWATER TREATMENT  
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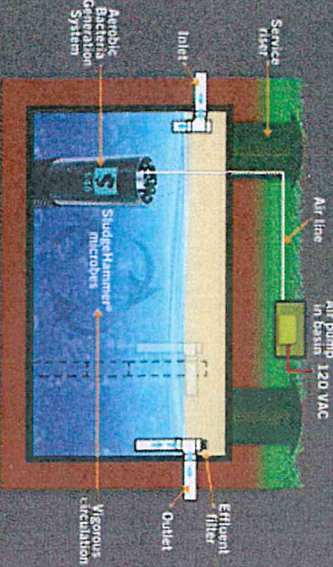


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**SludgeHammer® Keeps All Systems Clean Naturally**



## A NEW SOLUTION TO AN OLD PROBLEM

Wherever you find people and water, you'll find wastewater. And where you find wastewater, you'll find the headaches that go along with maintaining septic systems. The EPA estimates that 95% of all septic system failures are caused by clogging from colonies of bacteria that journey to the disposal field producing soil-clogging slime called biomat. Eliminate this biomat and you extend the life of your system and drastically reduce the need for septic tank pumping or budget-busting septic field replacement—the problem conventional septic systems cause.

## THE SLUDGEHAMMER® DIFFERENCE

Enter the SludgeHammer®, a patented Aerobic Bacterial Generator that stimulates the growth of a specialized and helpful bacteria right in your septic tank. Once the SludgeHammer® is installed, the SludgeHammer® Blend of micro-organisms immediately begin digesting wastes. The aggressive bacteria migrate into the septic field where they consume the biomat that clogs the soil. The digestion is so complete that the need for pumping your septic system is virtually eliminated.

### CALL US FOR A FREE SITE SURVEY IF YOU ARE EXPERIENCING:

- Septic odor
- Failed septic fields
- Standing water
- Slow toilets
- Frequent pumpouts
- Soft spots in your lawn

### BENEFITS OF A SLUDGEHAMMER® SYSTEM:

- Repairs failed septic fields
- No field replacement
- Eliminates odors
- No moving parts
- Low maintenance/ low cost
- Fits into any tank and system
- No landscape destruction
- Environmentally safe
- Effluent can be used for landscape irrigation
- Uses the same energy as a 60 watt light bulb



IAD - MAARU  
MFC-153 (S5)  
International Liguid's Register

Model S-400/600  
Certified to NSF/ANSI  
Standard #40 - Class 1



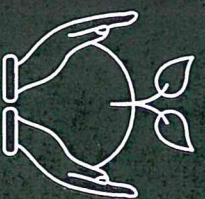
IAPMO STANDARD  
IC180-2003



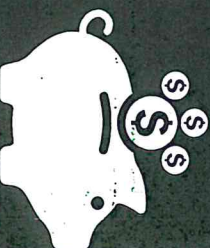
TLC - Patriot Septic & Excavation  
8937 Sundance Drive, Billings, MT, 59101

(406)633-4333

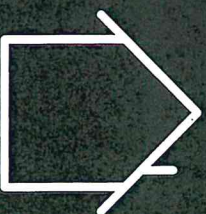
PROTECT THE ENVIRONMENT



PROTECT YOUR INVESTMENT



BULLETPROOF YOUR PROPERTY



IMPROVE QUALITY OF LIFE



# SYMPTOMS OF A

## FAILING DRAIN FIELD....

- *Soft spots on lawn*
- *Sewage leaking out of drain field*
- *Sewage backing up into home despite regular pumping of septic tank*
- *Slow-flushing or gurgling toilets and drains*
- *A sewer odor in house or on property*



**COMMITMENT.**

**SERVICE.**

**INTEGRITY.**



**CONTACT US TODAY!**

**406-633-4333**

**8937 Sundance Drive  
Billings, MT 59101**

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# DRAINFIELD

# REJUVENATION

## WHEN A DRAIN FIELD IS FAILING YOU CAN DO THIS...



**COST: \$5,000+**

(Not including re-landscaping)

**OR YOU CAN DO THIS...**



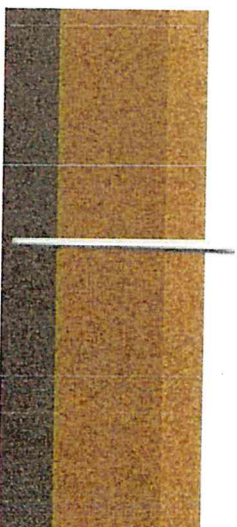
**COST: \$2,800**

(And you get to keep your lawn!)

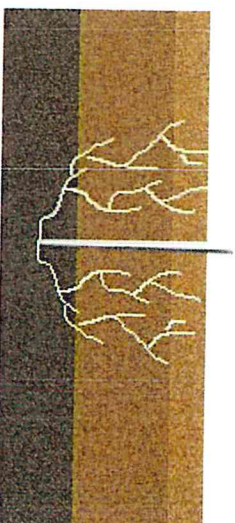
## HOW IT WORKS

Drain Field Rejuvenation is a technological breakthrough in soil restoration. It repairs exhausted drain fields by solving soil problems such as compaction, saturation, and improper drainage with minimal disturbance of the ground's surface.

*Drain Field Rejuvenation utilizes a long, narrow probe and an integral pneumatic hammer to penetrate the soil at depths of 3 to 6 feet.*



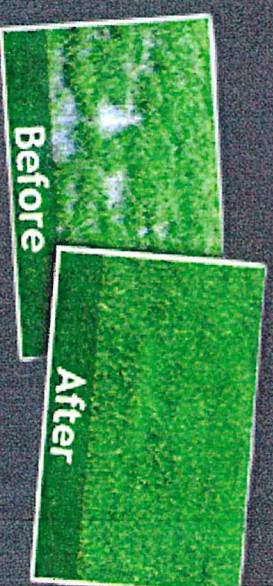
*The probe forces air into the soil at a controlled rate creating hairline fractures in the drain field below the ground surface.*



*Since air tends to follow the path of least resistance, the air will move horizontally and vertically through the soil creating an aerobic condition that facilitates proper draining and rejuvenates the soil.*

## WHY DRAIN FIELD REJUVENATION?

- **HUGE Cost Savings**
- **No Chemicals**
- **Minimal Disruption to Lawn/Landscaping**
- **No Disruption to Daily Life**
- **Immediate Results**
- **1-Year Warranty**





## SludgeHammer Soil Bioremediation



# It's science— not magic.

Drawing on our years of knowledge and experience in the science of microbes and waste treatment, SludgeHammer has developed a process to clean contaminated soil with no leftover wastes.

Our process is simple:

- Gasoline, diesel fuel and oil contamination clean-up.
- The perfect process to clean sites contaminated by petrochemicals.
- Work is done on-site. No cost needed to move soil off-site.
- The process is biological. There is no need to bake the soil, so no contaminants are released into the air.
- A faster remediation process and less heavy equipment means a smaller footprint and an economical solution.
- No separate workspace needed. A great solution for hard to access sites.
- No chemicals involved.
- Cleans volatile and non-volatile sites.
- Injection and extraction remediation methods available.
- Easily adapted for large or small projects.

**And: SludgeHammer has over 20 years of experience in biological waste disposal.**



# Case studies: The power of the bugs.



Site conditions in Mexico before cleanup.



Contaminated soil



Finished topsoil

## MEXICO OIL CLEAN-UP

An oil company in Mexico needed to clean up an extensive 40-acre (15.3 hectare) site contaminated with 80-year old tar-like crude oil. No equipment could be used because the site had oil pipelines buried throughout the region. With simple equipment and our versatile, powerful bacterial blend, the soil was turned from black muck to high quality topsoil.



Contaminated soil

Clean soil

## CAMP PENDLETON

When the Marines found a leaking underground fuel tank behind their First Force Recon barracks they needed technology as tough as they are to do the clean-up. With the San Diego health department looking over our shoulders we completed the project in just six weeks.



## HONOLULU

Waterpark Towers was ready to build its long awaited second tower but the expansion site was right on an old, contaminated landfill. With our technology it only took about a month to get the contamination down to non-detectable and the client was able to expand their development.

**Bio•re•me•di•a•tion** (bī'ō-rī-mē'dē-ā'shən) - *noun*  
 is the process in which living organisms are used to decontaminate polluted systems.

Simple by definition, bioremediation can be a complex process. It works only if you have the knowledge and skills to create a soil environment that allows bacteria to flourish and consume the contaminants you need to eliminate. It depends on the right bacteria with the right appetite in a high enough concentration to consume any and all organic compounds. And it requires experience and the know-how to do it right. The SludgeHammer process generates huge amounts of bacteria that feed on contaminants turning them into harmless compounds. SludgeHammer Activated Bioremediation is a quick and efficient process that can work on any site, small or large, and provides the best solution for soil remediation.

Our bugs do all the work.  
 It's not magic—it's science.

4125 Cedar Run Rd., Suite B  
 Traverse City, MI 49694  
 Phone 231-946-6767  
 Fax 231-946-8741  
 sosanalytical.com

**SOS ANALYTICAL**  
 COMPANY: SLUDGE HAMMER GROUP LTD

NAME: Island Project  
 PROJECT NO: 2071-11  
 DATE SAMPLED: 9/7/2011  
 TIME SAMPLED: 1:00 PM  
 SAMPLE MATRIX: SOIL  
 SAMPLE ID: 3B

COUNTY: MI  
 TWP: PNA EPA 8270 GC/MS

Analysis	Concentration	LOD	Units
Acenaphthene	ND	330	ug/K-g
Acenaphthylene	ND	330	
Anthracene	ND	330	
Benzo(a)anthracene	ND	330	
Benzo(b)fluoranthene	ND	330	
Benzo(k)fluoranthene	ND	330	
Benzo(a)pyrene	ND	330	
Benzo(ghi)perylene	ND	330	
Chrysene	ND	330	
Dibenz(ah)anthracene	ND	330	
Fluoranthene	ND	330	
Fluorene	ND	330	
Indeno(123-cd)pyrene	ND	330	
2-Methylnaphthalene	ND	330	
Naphthalene	ND	330	
Phenanthrene	ND	330	
Pyrene	ND	330	

SOIL/SOLIDS CONCENTRATIONS ARE DETE  
 ND = NOT DETECTED  
 LOD = LIMIT OF DETECTION

SOS ANALYTICAL, INC. IS CERTIFIE

**SOS ANALYTICAL**  
 COMPANY: SLUDGE HAMMER GROUP LTD

NAME: Island Project  
 PROJECT NO: 2071-11  
 DATE SAMPLED: 9/7/2011  
 TIME SAMPLED: 1:00 PM  
 SAMPLE MATRIX: SOIL  
 SAMPLE ID: 3B

COUNTY: MI  
 TWP: PNA EPA 8260 VOLATILE ORGANICS

Analysis	Concentration	LOD
Benzene	ND	50
Toluene	ND	50
Ethylbenzene	ND	50
Xylene(Total)	ND	50
1,2,4-Trimethylbenzene	ND	150
1,3,5-Trimethylbenzene	ND	50
Methyl-t-Butyl Ether	ND	50
Naphthalene	ND	250
2-Methylnaphthalene	ND	250





# SludgeHammer®

nature called. we answered.

## Mission

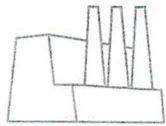
The mission of SludgeHammer Group, Ltd. is to help solve the world's wastewater treatment and reuse problems by providing safe, environmentally appropriate, efficient and effective microbial biotechnology for residential, community, industrial and marine use.

## History

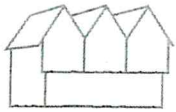
Dr. Dan Wickham, a Ph.D. in biology, worked for many years detoxifying petroleum contaminated soil with the use of micro-organisms. In order to bring the same technology into wastewater treatment, he used his decades of experience as a research ecologist at the University of California to guide the introduction of applied microbiology to the industry. He experimented with blends of microbes and tried them out in a variety of circulating containers. Eventually he developed his break-through concept, the Aerobic Bacterial Generator (ABG), and opened the pathway to apply advanced biotechnology to wastewater treatment in a simple and economic fashion.

## The SludgeHammer Difference

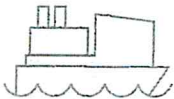
Over the last decade, our patented SludgeHammer technology has revolutionized wastewater treatment by providing a highly effective, all natural, non-toxic solution to the challenges of failed existing septic systems and the design and development of new systems in unique environments. We design and manufacture our patented SludgeHammer systems to the highest quality standards. Our safe, reliable systems have been installed in residential, commercial, industrial and marine environments to satisfied customers around the world.



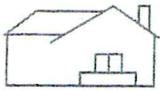
commercial & industrial



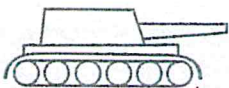
communities



marine



residential



military

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