

miles. In succeeding years, the General Assembly has made additions, and the Washington Suburban Sanitary District now contains about 1,000 square miles within Prince George's and Montgomery counties, adjacent to the District of Columbia. The Commission has jurisdiction over the construction of any water and sewerage systems built in either county beyond the limits of the Sanitary District boundaries. The present Sanitary District has a population of more than 1,250,000 and an assessed valuation of approximately \$8,500,000,000.

The Commission provides for the construction, maintenance and operation of water supply and sewerage systems; it has jurisdiction over storm drainage in Prince George's County only. It regulates and inspects plumbing and gas fitting installations in both counties. The Commission has been designated as the organization responsible for the administration, maintenance and operation of the Anacostia River Flood Control and Navigation Project. As of June 30, 1976, the water and sewerage systems of the Commission contained about 3,350 and about 3,400 miles of mains, respectively.

Two major sources of water now supply the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission system. The Patuxent River, which the Commission has impounded with the construction of two dams near Brighton in Montgomery County and near Laurel in Prince George's County, gives the Commission a yield of 65 million gallons a day through the Patuxent Filtration Plant. The Potomac River supplies raw water to the Potomac River Filtration Plant. This facility was opened in 1961 and has a capacity of almost 200 million gallons a day. The Potomac River plant will be expanded in stages to reach a peak production capacity of up to 400 million gallons a day. It serves both counties.

Much of the sewage from the Commission service area is transported through trunk sewers into the District of Columbia and is treated at the District's Blue Plains Pollution Control Plant. The Commission pays for this service on a metered volume basis, and it also contributes its share to

capital improvement of the Blue Plains facility. Sewage disposal plants operated by the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission are near Laurel, at Piscataway Bay, and at the Western Branch of the Patuxent River.

Ten-Year Water and Sewer Plans for Montgomery and Prince George's Counties, formerly drafted by the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission, are now prepared by the respective County Governments. The WSSC's annual budget also is subject to joint approval by the governing bodies of Montgomery and Prince George's Counties. The WSSC does have responsibility for setting customer rates pertinent to WSSC functions in its Suburban Maryland service area (Acts 1918, chap. 122, as amended from time to time, e.g., Acts 1947, chap. 733; Acts 1949, chap. 728; Acts 1953, chaps 430 and 434; Acts 1959, chap. 618; Acts 1961, chap. 740; Acts 1965, chaps. 819 and 896; Acts 1966, chaps. 370 and 679; Acts 1967, chaps. 53, 54 and 713; Acts 1968, chaps. 628 and 703; Acts 1969, chap. 700; Acts 1970, chap. 468; Acts 1971, chap. 115; Acts 1972, chaps. 597 and 729; Acts 1973, chap. 194; Acts 1975, chaps. 472, 478, 498, 501, 791, 792, 813; Acts 1976, chaps. 749, 806, 847, 848).

WASHINGTON SUBURBAN TRANSIT COMMISSION

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