

## City of North Ridgeville, Ohio - French Creek Waste Water Treatment Plant



**French Creek Waste  
Water Treatment Plant  
North Ridgeville, OH**

Owned and operated by the City of North Ridgeville, Ohio, the French Creek Waste Water Treatment Plant has been in operation since 1975. The plant serves the Ohio cities of North Ridgeville, Avon, and Sheffield through main underground interceptor sewer lines. Each community pays a monthly fee based on the amount of wastewater flow processed by the French Creek WWTP. In this type of custody transfer application, highly accurate flow meters are essential to ensure billing correctness.

Well versed in the operation of Marsh-McBirney flow meters, French Creek personnel had utilized the brand for over 20 years.

According to local Hach flow meter rep Tim Carrig of Carrig & Associates, “We’ve been calling on French Creek for the past 23 years. We have a relationship of a trusted friend. You get to know each other personally over that span of time. They can rely on us no matter what the situation.” Carrig recalls that French Creek started out with the popular Marsh-McBirney Flo-Tote II meters that were used for Inflow & Infiltration (I & I) work. He adds, “I was nick named ‘Rain Man’ by French Creek personnel because it seemed to rain every time we went out in the field.”

In 2006, French Creek added Marsh-McBirney’s latest flow meter innovation, the non-contact Flo-Dars to their flow meter fleet in an effort to utilize the best technology available on the market for their custody transfer application. The new meters were utilized in five interceptor lines ranging in size from 35" to 60" and in a 14" influent line.

Flo-Dar’s uniqueness lies in its ability to accurately monitor open channel flow from above the fluid eliminating sensor fouling, a problem experienced by French Creek personnel with meters that utilized a submerged sensor.

According to Mark Francis, Assistant Superintendent at French Creek, “With the submerged units, the sensors would collect debris upon them which resulted in more site visits for cleaning and calibrating. With Flo-Dar, the sensor would be above the water and we wouldn’t have anything submerged in the flow to cause problems.”



**DDS Flo-Logger electronics install – Abbe Road**

While the Flo-Dar meters would reduce site visits for sensor maintenance, personnel would continue to make site visits to collect flow data on a regular basis.

In 2008, French Creek began investigating the use of wireless technology to read their Flo-Dar meters in an effort to eliminate required data collection site visits. Local rep Carrig recommended Hach’s Data Delivery Services (DDS).

With DDS, customers enjoy a 'hands-off' approach to flow monitoring. Web-enabled meters, in this case, Flo-Dar's, are installed and maintained by Hach for a low monthly fee. Unedited flow data resides on Hach's secure web server and is available to the customer 24/7 via any web browser. A decision was made by North Ridgeville to 'trade-up' their current Flo-Dar meters for a 2-year DDS contract.

By utilizing DDS, French Creek personnel would no longer have to make regular site visits for data collection or to check on the meters. Instead, flow data was available to them 24/7 via Hach's secure website and any necessary site visits would now be made by Hach's DDS personnel.

Most importantly, DDS was an ideal solution for the city because it removed their personnel from being directly involved in the data collection process for the custody transfer agreement and instead provided a third party approach.

According to Francis, French Creek personnel look at the online DDS flow data on a daily basis since getting their meters installed in July 2008. He adds, "We are able to pull the data up on the secure website and actually monitor a lot better than going out to the site. It makes life a lot easier."



DDS Flo-Dar Sensor installed in 14" Line – Case Road

Another plus with DDS was the fact that all of the communities involved in the custody transfer agreement would have the capability of looking at the flow data via a web browser 24/7.

**"It's much easier now to access the info on the website... you don't have to deal with going to the manhole and pulling out the meter to check the data..."**

**Lou Cover - Foreman  
French Creek WWTP**

Lou Cover, Industrial Pretreatment Foreman states, "DDS makes it easier because you don't have to deal with going to the manhole and pulling out the meter to check the data and so forth. Before DDS, we really didn't know what had happened throughout the month. It's much easier now to access the info on the website and see live data being generated. We have also been pleased with the service we have received from Hach personnel."

With very high expectations for a reliable and accurate flow monitoring system that would leave *no doubt* about the accuracy of the data for all parties involved, North Ridgeville is pleased with their decision to utilize Hach's Data Delivery Services.

The selection of DDS is further proof of the city's commitment to invest in current technology that allows them to remain compliant with environmental guidelines now and well into the future.

For additional information contact our Customer Support Group  
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