



Case Study Category: REWW

Case Study Title: In-House Pipe Bursting

Utility Name: Western Virginia Water Authority

Case Study Abstract: This is an original case study about the Western Virginia Water Authority (WVWA) experience with in-house pipe bursting practices. WVWA uses pipe bursting to replace sewers in poor condition with diameters between 8 and 12 inches. Since pipe bursting is not suitable for every replacement need, a pipe inspection using closed-circuit television (CCTV) is always performed as a decision support tool before deciding the most adequate technology for replacing the sewer. The utility finds pipe bursting to be a relatively easy process with significant benefits, and are currently considering the expansion of crews performing pipe bursting. New crew members find the pipe bursting technology easy to learn and apply. The main challenges to WVWA when using pipe bursting are the replaced pipe's depth and cold climate. Other conditions that make pipe bursting challenging are almost-flat laterals and certain soil types, as well as the existence of repair clamps.

Case Study Link: <http://waterid.org/content/house-pipe-bursting-western-virginia-water-authority>