



# Better Water. Better World.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Press Release

**Title: Onsite Wastewater System Helped Earn City's Award**

**Subtitled: Community-focused Projects for the Community, Youth, and Environment get recognized**

**Shawnee, KANSAS** - In 2009, winners of the All-America City Award Program, established by the National Civic League in 1949, addressed serious challenges with innovative, grassroots strategies that promoted civic engagement and cooperation between the public, private and nonprofit sectors for outstanding civic accomplishments. Illustrating collaborative, community-based problem solving, Caroline County was recognized for addressing the needs of Dawn, Virginia, an underserved community in the county. The projects they were determined to tackle were focused on improving the quality of life for the residents of Dawn: furthering the education of its community, establishing a dental program for its youth, and implementing a state-of-the-art wastewater treatment plant for the environment. This culminated into a city worthy of such a distinction and the model for other cities to follow suit.

The Board of Supervisors of Caroline County recognized the needs of Dawn to address specific challenges to the environment and to solve a critical standard-of-living challenge – an outdated and ineffective wastewater system. Dubbed the Rehabilitation Project, Dawn's community leaders took an active role in working with county government; which committed \$1.8 million of local funds to the Project. In late 2003, Caroline County chose Arcadis Engineering, Inc. because of their success implementing other similar systems in Virginia, such as the Bayview's Development Project and approved the concept of using technology to create a decentralized wastewater system, which is less expensive and simpler to



Multiple MicroFAST™ Units installed by Nature Works Inc. in Dawn, VA, June 2006.

design and construct. "If you can eliminate the manpower aspect..., you reduce [the cost for] everything by 90 percent," said John Warwick, Arcadis Engineer, "...the big savings is if you run this thing out and look at the cost of manpower over the next 20 years."

Arcadis Engineers were in charge of the design for the entire site, including the water and sewer system, house hook-ups, grating, drainage, etc. They selected the Bio-Microbics MicroFAST® treatment system. Past experience has taught them that the MicroFAST® (Fixed Activated Sludge Treatment) systems' design would allow for nitrogen reduction and high-quality effluent required for discharge.

More importantly, the low operation and maintenance was paramount for the community. Ideal for residential developments, as well as light commercial high-strength wastewater applications and the renovation of failing septic systems, the MicroFAST® is a fixed-film, aeration system that uses a combination of attached and suspended growth that nitrifies and denitrifies – all in a single tank. Organisms in the aerated media chamber digest the impurities; turning the wastewater into clear, odorless, high-quality effluent. The microbes remain inside the system, regardless of hydraulic flows. The MicroFAST® systems were installed in pre-cast concrete tanks and required little maintenance of the above ground aerating blowers.

In 2006, the first homes were fully connected to the working system and within the next 18 months, 188

pg 1 of 1



# Better Water. Better World.

more homes and businesses were connected, thereby eliminating reliance of outdated conventional septic systems. Because of the MicroFAST® system's flexible design, the units can be turned on or off as water flow increases or decreases. The entire system is monitored by wireless technology through internet access by Nature Works, Inc. in Burgess, VA. It allows the user to know the system's functions at any time and eliminates unnecessary labor. Mike Burch of Nature Works, Inc. and a Bio-Microbics Distributor for Virginia, completed the routine cleanings, monitoring the system, and then turn over the monitoring to local county regulators.

"...Communities [such as Dawn, VA] give us outstanding examples of leadership and civic innovation," said National Civic League President Gloria Rubio-Cortés. "The All-America City Award is like an Oscar for civic accomplishment. This year's event was particularly exciting because it is our 60th anniversary. We really had outstanding finalists to choose from."



Mr. Robert Wittman, Virginia State Representative, addressed the US House of Representatives on June 24, 2009 and expressed his congratulations to Caroline County for receiving the Award "...[and] for its outstanding civic accomplishments. This recognition is well deserved, and rightly honors Caroline County, which has long been dedicated to meeting the needs of its community." Wittman concluded, "I am proud to see our citizens and local government work in concert to meet community needs...[and] recognize Caroline County as a wonderful and unique community of Virginia's First Congressional District for receiving the 2009 All-American City Award."



For more info on the All-America City Award winners or the National Civic League, visit their website ([www.ncl.org](http://www.ncl.org)).

For more info of the Robert Wittman, Representative to the State of Virginia Address, dated June 24, 2009, 10:19:03am, C-Span Congressional Chronical Record archive: <http://www.c-spanarchives.org/congress/?q=node/77531&id=9002796>.

## About Bio-Microbics, Inc.

With a worldwide emphasis on environmental concerns and improving water quality, Bio-Microbics manufactures proven wastewater and storm water treatment systems for decentralized communities and commercial properties. Ideal for concrete, fiberglass, steel, or plastic tanks, the simple, pre-engineered, modular design of our FAST® [including the popular MicroFAST®] wastewater treatment systems deliver consistent high performance. Successfully used for over 35 years in municipal, industrial, marine, commercial and residential properties located around the globe, the advanced FAST® (Fixed Activated Sludge Treatment) technology is easy to install and maintain. Our advanced wastewater and stormwater treatment products help treat the world's water better. ■■■■

## Bio-Microbics...Better Water. Better World.®

Contact: Jennifer Cisneros, Manager Marketing Communications  
 Phone: (913) 422-0707 • FAX: (913) 422-0808  
 E-mail: [jcisneros@biomicrobics.com](mailto:jcisneros@biomicrobics.com) • Web: [www.biomicrobics.com](http://www.biomicrobics.com)