Annual Self-Audit is the eight and last element of a Capacity, Management, Operation & Maintenance (CMOM) Program.

The success of your CMOM Program depends upon the careful review of your program annually. Where have you seen improvements and successes? How can you spend your budgeted money most effectively to make your program even better? What lessons were learned? Use information gathered during the annual self-audit to improve your CMOM program for next year.

The Compliance Maintenance Annual Report (CMAR) Collection System section is, in part, an annual self-evaluation or audit of your collection system CMOM Program. Once you have entered your facility’s data into the CMAR, it will create trend graphs for you. Trend graphs for various collection system performance indicators are:

- Lift Station Failures (failures/lift station/year)
- Sewer Pipe Failures (pipe failures/sewer mile/yr)
Sanitary Sewer Overflows (number/sewer mile/yr)
Basement Backups (number/sewer mile)
Complaints (number/sewer mile)
Peaking Factor Ratio (Peak Monthly:Annual Daily Average)

The performance indicator trend graphs can help you determine if your CMOM Program is effective. Your CMAR generates these graphs automatically by clicking the Graph buttons. In theory, an effective O&M Program over time should result in a reduction in I/I (peaking factors), SSOs, basement backups, complaints, and equipment and pipe failures. Be sure to generate and observe trend graphs to see if you are making progress toward an optimum performing collection system. Observe your graphs every year. Hopefully any trends are declining as these examples show.
This is the last installment of the collection system CMOM articles. By now, I hope many of you already have a CMOM program developed and are implementing it, especially by having a strong collection system O&M program.

I want to wish you all a relaxing and healthy holiday season. I’ll be returning with more wastewater treatment plant process control articles next year. Happy Holidays!