

#### Paperless Data Collection

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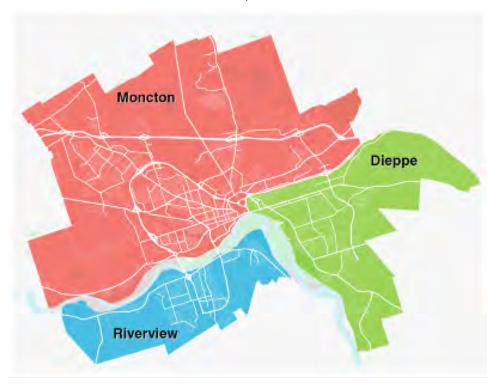
How City of Moncton staff leveraged geospatial technology to modernize and standardize data collection

Julie Stokes, Shannon Josey October 30, 2020

#### **Background**

City of Moncton Utilities department is responsible for providing clean drinking water to the Tri-community of Moncton, Riverview, and Dieppe (pop. ~125,000).

- Water treatment- owned by City of Moncton, operated Veolia Canada
- Wastewater treatment TransAqua (commission for the Tri-community)
- Transmission/water distribution City of Moncton to Dieppe/Riverview boundaries



Tri-community: Moncton, Riverview, Dieppe

#### **The Problem**

# COVID-19: staff working remotely, but still relying on paper processes

- Decrease in productive time
- Employee safety
- Geographic challenges (remote work stations)

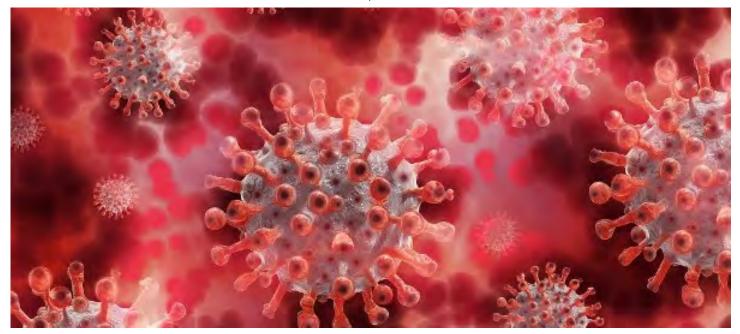
#### **Our solution...**



# **ESRI Apps**

#### why ESRI apps?

- Included in our suite of offerings from GIS vendor (no added \$)
- Location based data collection
- GIS integrated
- Reliable
- Centralized data (ArcGIS Online)
- Survey123 (create form, collect data, view results)
- Dashboard (live updates data driven)
- Workforce (assign work based on assets)
- Storymaps (this presentation)



# "High Level of Touch" processes

- Chlorine residuals monitoring program (required by dept. health, twice weekly collection)
- Hazard assessment sheets
- Preventative maintenance (PM) sheets
- Valve maintenance program (4035 valves to maintain)

## **Chlorine Residuals Monitoring Program**



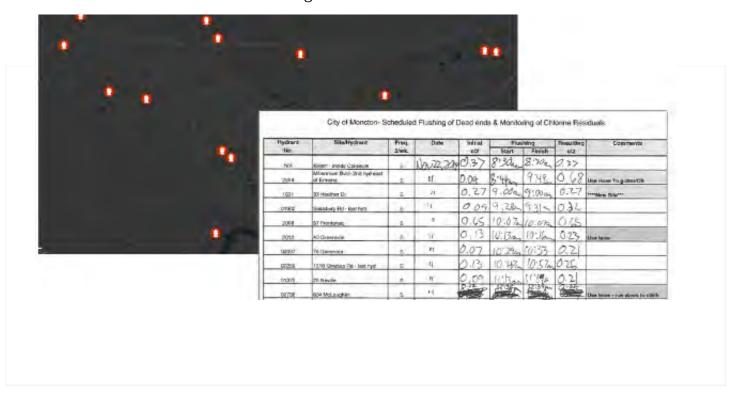
The City of Moncton is regulated by the Department of Environment and Local Government, in coordination with Department of Health, to ensure that we provide clean potable water to our residents.

- Regulations to be adhered to are part of a Certificate of Approval to Operate.
- One of those requirements is that chlorine levels are maintained to prevent bacteria growth that could cause illness.

#### Before...

#### **Data Collection**

- 19 hydrants on dead-end streets
- Flushing/sample bi-weekly
- Paper sheet filled out by field crews
- Flushing start/end times
- Initial and resulting chlorine residuals



#### **Analysis and Reporting**

- Reviewed by supervisors for deficiencies
- Manual data entry work, prone to errors
- Create graphs for monitoring
- Deficiencies difficult to monitor cumbersome spreadsheet



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# **Using Survey123**

- Recreated paper form into a web-based form
- Specified mandatory fields
- Pick lists
- Auto-populated fields
- Automated date and time fields
- Set constraints

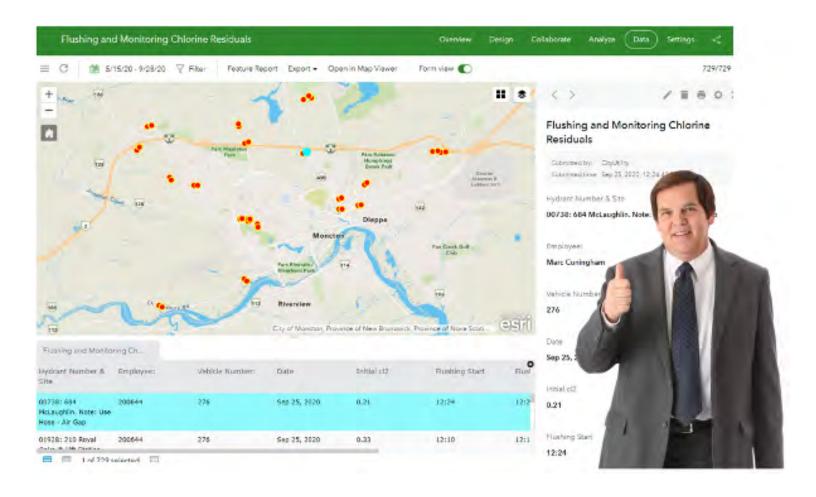
#### Field staff collect data

- Using Survey123 app (iOS or Android)
- Collect info for each hydrant
- Data uploaded in real time
- Option to collect offline



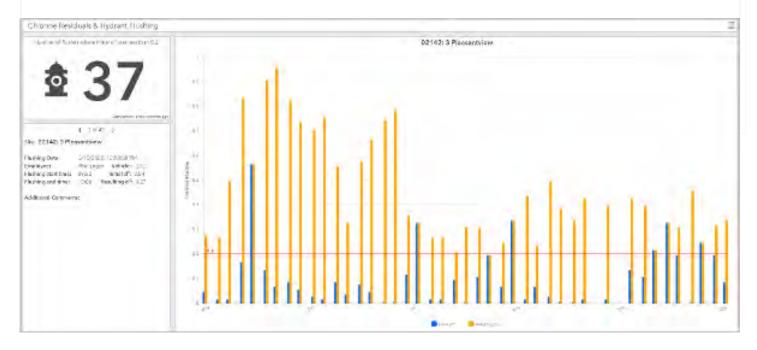
#### **View Results**

- Supervisors can view results immediately
- Query and filter
- Export data if necessary (regulation and compliance)



#### **Dashboard**

- Updated in real time as surveys come in
- Data comes directly from chlorine residuals survey
- Supervisors can quickly make informed decisions



# Preventative maintenance and hazard assessment sheets

- NBCSA safety requirement
- Annual audit
- Daily forms



#### Before...

- Field staff required to fill out on paper each day
- Piles of paper for Supervisors to review
- Incomplete or incorrect information
- Hard to read = hard to resolve problems
- Multiple departments involved

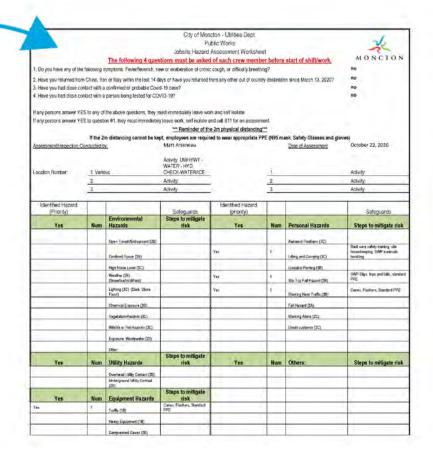


#### Now...

#### **Hazard assessment**

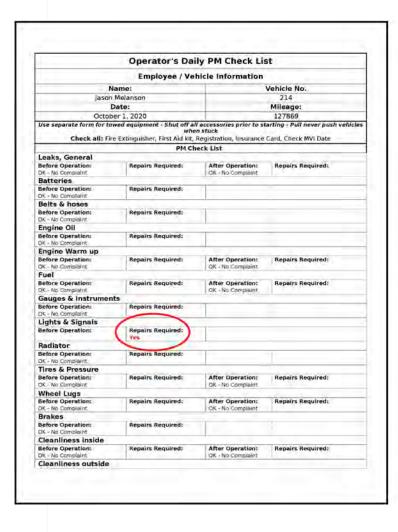
- Filled out digitally (on device)
- · Centrally located data no paper chasing
- Appropriate steps to mitigate risk
- · Makes audit submission efficient
- · Create pdf export when needed





#### **Preventative maintenance sheets (PM sheet)**

- Centralized data easy to review by supervisor audit submissions
- PDF format great for sharing between departments
- Issues can be quickly identified and sent to mechanical dept. for scheduling of repair

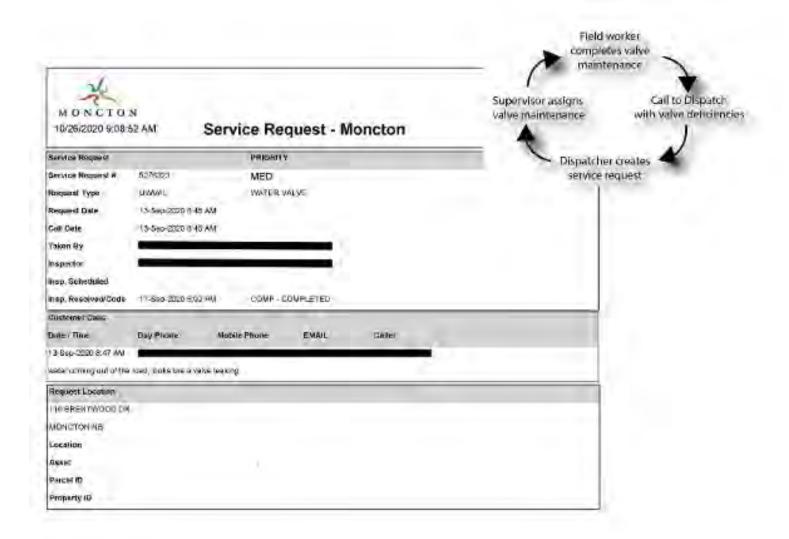




# Valve maintenance: closing the loop

#### Before...

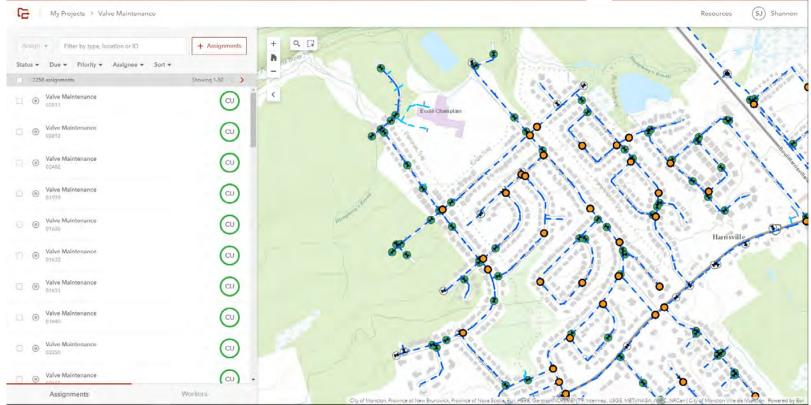
- 4035 main valves to maintain out of 8234
- Work assigned using paper maps
- Crew efficiency
- · Deficiencies sent to city dispatch
- · Dispatcher creates service request
- Request sent to supervisor to assign work
- Information and requests got lost



#### Now...

- Crews are assigned work via Workforce for ArcGIS
- Assignments are data driven (based off our up to date GIS)
- Real time progress (less duplicate work)
- Progress easily tracked by supervisors
- No need to call dispatch freeing them up for customer service
- No paper = no lost data





# **Dashboard for viewing progress**



## **Benefits of going paperless**

easier reporting for compliance
eliminate data entry errors
more complete data
eliminate paper

reduced staff time / increased staff efficiency reliable data

## **Other Paperless Projects in 2020**

- Temporary water connections
- Hydrant maintenance
- Private Hydrant Inspections
- Liphook Restoration
- Valve Operating Plan



# Any questions?



# **Contact information**

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