

Water District Begins \$2.7 Million Marrowbone Water System Replacement Project



Those responsible for getting the project underway, as well as those who will benefit or helped in other ways gathered last Friday in Marrowbone for a group photo. Pictured from the left are, Mark Vibbert (Cumberland Co Water Board Treasurer), Michael Ballard (Cumberland Co Water General Manager), Luke King (Cumberland Co Judge Executive), Amy Neighbors (State Representative), Jeffery Cyphers (Magistrate Dist 4) and family, Lane Cope (Magistrate Dist 2), Larry Anderson (Magistrate Dist 3), Lee Mudd (Monarch Engineering), Troy Norris (Cumberland Co Water Board Chairman), Joe McGeorge (Monarch Engineering), Barry Stotts (Stotts Construction) and Rondal Wray (Magistrate Dist 1).

The Cumberland County Water District is proud to announce the official start of the Marrowbone Area Water System Replacement Project, a major infrastructure initiative that will significantly improve water reliability, service quality, and long-term system performance for residents in the Marrowbone community and surrounding areas.

This essential project is made possible through substantial funding from the Commonwealth of Kentucky, including \$257,000 from the Kentucky Cleaner Water Grant Program and \$2,465,000 from the Kentucky Waters Grant Program—a combined investment of more than \$2.7 million. These funds will allow the Water District to replace aging, failure-prone components of the existing water system and build a stronger, more resilient infrastructure for the future.

“We are grateful for the critical funding that makes this project possible,” said Troy Norris, Chairman of

the Cumberland County Water District. “This investment directly supports the health and well-being of our community and represents a major step forward in modernizing our local water infrastructure.”

The project will include:

Replacement of deteriorating water mains, service lines, and meter settings

Replacement of old water meters with advanced ultrasonic meters, providing higher accuracy, better leak detection, and improved system monitoring

Installation of modern, long-lasting system components

Construction will begin in early 2026 and will proceed in phases to minimize

service disruptions. The District will provide ongoing updates and advance notice for any temporary service interruptions.

The Cumberland County Water District also extends special thanks to the Kentucky General Assembly for providing essential funding that makes projects like this possible. In addition, the District expresses gratitude to Kentucky State Representative Amy Neighbors for her strong advocacy, support, and leadership in helping secure state funding for this project. Her dedication to the needs of rural communities in South Central Kentucky has played a vital role in moving this effort forward.

“This project would

not be possible without the partnership and advocacy of leaders who understand how important safe, reliable water is to a thriving community,” added Michael Ballard, General Manager of the Cumberland County Water District. “We deeply appreciate Representative Neighbors’ commitment to Cumberland County.”

For additional information, community members may contact the Water District office at (270) 864-3133 or cumberlandcowater@gmail.com

2026 Young Writers Contest is open for submissions

Students in Pre-K through 12th grade are invited to submit stories and poems for the 2026 KET Young Writers Contest. The contest, which runs November 14 through March 15, encourages students to celebrate the power of crafting stories, poems and illustrations by submitting their own, original work. Categories include Poetry, Illustrated Stories, Short Stories and Graphic Novel.

Persuasive writing pieces in this subcategory will be eligible for special recognition and prizes.

To enter, students must submit original, single-author work.

Complete rules and contest entry forms are available at KET.org/writerscontest.

In celebration of the 250th birthday of the United States, KET is including the new subcategory of Persuasive Writing: Civics. KET invites young writers to think deeply about civics – what it means to take part, make change and shape the future.

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The Cumberland County News

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ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS Burkesville-Cumberland County Industrial Development Authority

Cumberland River Industrial Park Development Project Phase II

Cumberland County, Kentucky

Separate sealed bids for the construction of this contract will be received by the Burkesville-Cumberland County Industrial Development Authority (IDA) Board, 111 Hill Street, Burkesville, Kentucky 42717, until **Wednesday, December 10th, 2025, at 2:00 PM CST.**

Immediately following the scheduled closing time for reception of bids, all proposals which have been submitted in accordance with the conditions set forth will be publicly opened and read aloud at **BCIDA’s office, 111 Hill Street, Burkesville, Kentucky 42717.**

The work to be bid consists of:

The Project will consist of the complete development of the Cumberland River Industrial Park as described in the engineering plans and technical specifications. The work consists of roadway construction, waterline installation, sanitary sewer installation, Storm Sewer installation, Electric & Natural Gas Installation, etc. The Contractor shall furnish all materials, equipment, and labor necessary to complete the construction of the project. Time of completion for the contract is **180 calendar days.**

Attention of bidders is particularly called to the requirements as to conditions of employment to be observed and minimum wage rates to be paid under the contract. These include Section 3, Segregated Facility, Section 109 and Executive Order 11246. Further, Title IV minority bidders are encouraged to bid.

This project is funded by the use of general local funds.

A Pre-Bid Meeting will be held at the Cumberland River Industrial Park, Burkesville, Kentucky on **Monday, November 17th, 2025, at 1:00 PM CST.** All potential bidders are encouraged to attend.

Sealed proposals for the Contracts shall be clearly marked on the outside of the envelope as follows:

Sealed Proposal For:

BCIDA
Cumberland River Industrial Park Development Project Phase II
Not to be opened until December 10th, 2025, at 2:00 PM CST.

If forwarded by mail, the sealed envelope containing the proposal must be enclosed in another envelope and mailed to allow sufficient time for such mailing to reach this address, **P.O. Box 312, Burkesville, Kentucky 42717**, prior to the scheduled closing time for receipt of proposals.

Plans and specifications may be viewed on or after **November 5th, 2025**, at the following locations:

BCIDA Office, 111 Hill Street, Burkesville, KY 42717

Copies of the Contract Documents may be obtained at the office of Lynn Imaging (859)-255-1021 upon receipt of a non-refundable printing and/or shipping charge of **\$250.00 per contract.**

Bids shall be accompanied by a certified check or bid bond made payable to The Burkesville-Cumberland County Industrial Development Authority in an amount not less than 5 percent of the base bid. No bidder may withdraw his bid for a period of 90 days after the date bids are opened. He may, however, withdraw his bid at any time prior to the time and date scheduled for opening of same or any authorized postponement thereof. Any bid received after the time and date specified shall not be considered and will be returned unopened to the bidder.

Award will be made to the lowest, responsive, responsible bidder.

The BCIDA is an Equal Employment Opportunity Employer. The BCIDA reserves the right to reject any or all bids.