

CHATHAM WATER NEWS

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William G. Redfield, P. E., Director

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Spring Flushing & Chlorination Program

The Water Department has once again started conducting its spring water distribution system flushing program. The program is aimed at cleaning the system of any sediment that may have accumulated over the winter and to bring fresh water to those areas that have low water use during the winter months.

The Water Department is continuing to add a small amount of chlorine to the water system as a precautionary measure to kill any bacteria that may be stirred up as a result of the flushing program. Flushing began the beginning of March. Notices were published in the local newspapers prior to flushing and signs will continue to be posted in the area being flushed.

You may experience some discoloration in the water for short periods of time. In most instances, letting your water run for a few minutes should clear the discoloration. Please check the water coming from your faucet before you begin to do a wash, shower or other chores that require clear water. We also suggest that customers keep a gallon or two of water stored in the refrigerator for drinking or food preparation should off-taste or discoloration develop.

System wide flushing of the distribution system is an important aspect of our ongoing maintenance program. We understand you may experience some inconvenience and we thank you for your cooperation and patience during this important task.

Water and Sewer Open Houses

The Water Department will be hosting their annual open house on Saturday, May 7, 2011, from 10:00 a.m. through 2:00 p.m. in celebration of "National Drinking Water Week". The Water Department's open house will be held at the Training Field Well Pump Stations #5 & #8, located at 125 Training Field Road. The water and wastewater systems are the largest capital investment that the residents of Chatham have made, and this is your opportunity to stop by and see two of your well pump stations first hand.

Due to the construction of the new wastewater treatment facility, this year's Sewer Department's open house has been suspended for the safety of the public. When the new treatment Facility is completed the Sewer Department will resume having its open house.

Irrigation Systems Testing Schedule

The Chatham Water Department will be testing backflow prevention devices installed on irrigation systems beginning in May of 2011. These devices prevent lawn fertilizers, chemicals, and other contaminants from entering the water supply system.

A copy of the test results will be left at each tested location. It is not necessary for the homeowner to be present during the testing of the device since most devices are located on the outside of the building. If you prefer to be present during the test, you must call the Water Department office at 508-945-5150 prior to May 30, 2011 to schedule an appointment.

South Chatham Chemical Feed Building

Robert Our Company of Harwich completed the replacement of the South Chatham wells' chemical feed building in June of 2010. The Department of Environmental Protection gave approval for the operation of this well site on June 23, 2010. Due to unusually high water demand, Well 3 began operation on July 6, 2010. The Water Department is currently preparing the well site for continual chlorination should the need arise. Sealing of the old tubular well field and demolition of the antiquated chemical feed building will be scheduled after the May Annual Town Meeting appropriates the \$375,000 fund needed to implement this project.

Emergency Notification System

The Town of Chatham has contracted with Swiftreach Networks, Inc. to provide emergency notification. The Emergency Management Agency or other Town departments will use this calling system to notify residents in the event of an emergency. You may add your cell phone, text number or pager as alternates to your primary contact number. You may also add numbers where you can be reached when you are not in Chatham as long as you use your Chatham address. If you wish not to participate you may have your number removed. If you do not have a computer you may change your information by calling the Chatham Fire Department at 508-945-2324. To access the site and update your contact information please go to the town's website at www.town.chatham.ma.us. On the main page click on the quick link in the upper section that says Swift 911 -- Emergency Notification and follow the instructions.

Water Use Survey

The Chatham Water Department would like to thank everyone who submitted their water use survey that was included with your last bill. The results are being tabulated and will be posted on the Water Department website when they are complete. The information gathered in this survey will assist with the Water Department's argument that the seasonal population in Chatham is larger than is being forecasted by the Department of Conservation & Recreation (DCR) whose projections for future water demands are used by the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) when issuing the Town's 20 year Water Management Act's withdrawal permits. DCR's population figures appear to be underestimating the Town's population which is resulting in the appearance that Chatham is exceeding its permitted residential gallon per capita daily (how much water each resident uses daily). We anticipate that our survey will show that the number of residents are higher thus resulting in a lower residential gallon per capita daily (RGPCD). A lower RGPCD along with unaccounted for water being less than 10% per year should support Chatham's assertion that we are managing our water resources in a responsible manner and should not be restricted to two day a week outside watering.

Wastewater Management Update

Wastewater Treat Facility Upgrade-Contract # 1

Construction continued on the various components of the new wastewater treatment facility throughout the winter. Due to the diligence of Contractor J.L Marshall & Sons, Inc. of Pawtucket, Rhode Island, the majority of buildings have been erected and made weather tight. This allowed interior work to continue throughout the winter. The project remains on-time and on-budget with substantial completion scheduled for summer 2012. As a reminder, this project's funding sources are USDA grants and loans which include ARRA funds.

Pump Stations -- Contract #2

MECO Environmental of Weymouth, MA continued working throughout the winter months on all five sewage pumping stations. Huckleberry Lane's, Barnhill Road's and Lime Hill Road's buildings have been erected, wetwells and all underground utilities have been installed. Additionally, equipment has been received and put in place. This contract remains on-time and on-

budget with substantial completion scheduled for late spring 2011.

This project's funding sources are State Revolving Fund (SRF) Low Interest Loan and ARRA Principal Forgiveness.

Route 28 Sewer construction -- Contract #3

The Robert B. Our Company of Harwich, MA suspended sewer construction in early January 2011 due to winter weather conditions. All sewer construction, including gravity sewer, force main, laterals and manholes, was completed along Route 28 between Crowell Road and Old Queen Anne Road, between George Ryder Road and Barnhill Road and between Beacon Hill and Sam Ryder Road. Final paving of these areas will likely occur in spring of 2011, as there is a 90 day settlement requirement. Sewer construction along Rte 28 will resume in the early spring of 2011 between Sam Ryder Road and George Ryder Road as well as, between Barnhill and Old Queen Anne Roads. As with Contract # 2, the funding sources of this project are State Revolving Fund (SRF) Low Interest Loan and ARRA Principal Forgiveness.

Side Road Sewer Construction -- Contract #4

Work on the side road (George Ryder Rd., Barn Hill Rd., Meadow View Rd., Meadow View Rd. South, Vineyard Ave., and additional side streets) sewer project was essentially completed at the end of 2010 except for final paving. Robert B. our Company suspended work for the winter and will resume in the spring with restoration and paving. Final paving on Barn Hill Rd., between Route 28 and Harding's Beach Rd., will be delayed while the town works to add drainage and re-align the road to allow for the installation of sidewalks. Final paving of the private roads in the Meadow View neighborhood will await work by the neighborhood association to address drainage issues. This contract is also funded through the State Revolving Fund (SRF) Low Interest Loan and ARRA Principal Forgiveness.