



Wareham Water Well House Newsletter

Summer/Fall 2018

2550 Cranberry Hwy
Wareham, MA 02571

Any questions? Call Us!
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Reducing Number of Fees

The Board of Water Commissioners have reviewed fees, and have voted to drop the \$10 non-active curb stop fee. The garden club fee for watering the local flower gardens has also been waived to lessen the cost to the Town.

Recent Grants

In 2017, Wareham Water was fortunate enough to again receive the MassDEP Water Management Grant (WMA) as well as Infrastructure Grant. (IG) Special thanks goes to Representative Gifford, Senator Pacheco, as well as SRPEDD for their support in obtaining these grants. The WMA grant will focus on a cost/benefit analysis of installing an automatic meter reading (AMR) system as well as testing an AMR system at each of the mobile home parks. The analysis will also explore the effect on water conservation as more water consumption information becomes available. Coupled with this, the WMA grant also funded a customer survey which wrapped up in June, 2018. We will share the results when available. The IG will determine the remaining useful life of the installed pipe in the ground. In this grant, Wareham Water has hired Echologics to perform in-situ testing to confirm the pipe thickness (e.g. remaining pipe life). To confirm the results, sections of pipe will be removed and sent to McWane for physical testing to confirm structural properties. We will use this information as a basis for replacing our pipe going forward. Wareham Water also received a 2018 Department of Industrial Accidents (DIA) grant. The DIA grant was used to train our staff to meet the hazard communication requirements of OSHA. Total grant funding including match was \$196,000.

Fee Changes

The fees charged for water are changing. The reason for these changes is to cover the cost maintaining our aging infrastructure to continue to provide reliable service as well as cover the cost of the water purification plant to improve the water quality by removing iron and manganese in the source wells. The following table provides an update on the fee changes. More can be found in our rules and regulations found on our webpage and appendices.

FY18 (July 1, 2017)	FY19 (July 1, 2018)
Fixed Fee for 4,000 cf: \$92.24	Fixed Fee for 2,000 cf: \$120.00
>4,000 to 10,000 cf: \$3.07/HCF	>2,000 to 4,000 cf: \$0.85/HCF
>10,000 cf: \$3.20/HCF	>4,000 to 10,000 cf: \$3.40/HCF
----	>10,000 cf: \$3.85/HCF

Staying Green

Many people do not know that about three quarters of the electricity the water department uses comes from a solar field off of High Dam Road. The rate for this generation is competitive and the District obtains substantial net metering credits which have kept the cost of pumping water low, staying within our motto of "protect and conserve." Going forward we hope to expand solar usage to cover much of the additional power demands from the proposed water treatment plant. The first phase of that has started with the \$200,000 MassDEP gap grant to expand our solar usage.

Testing And Metering

The MassDEP requires an annual water statistical report or ASR. In the ASR, the MassDEP monitors our water consumption in line with conservation standards of 10% unaccounted for water and 65 gal/day/capita. We are proud to report that this is the second year we have met both goals. In line with this, many people do not know that the MassDEP also mandates water testing to confirm safe water. Last year we performed over 3,800 tests (many were voluntarily initiated by the District) to ensure your water is safe to drink. Information on testing can be found in our consumer confidence report located on our website.

Sign Up For Reverse 911

Wareham Water has teamed with the Town of Wareham on a new reverse 911 system. This system updates how we communicate with you during an emergency. Sign up for alerts and stay informed! Look for the alert logo (shown here) on our webpage and click on it to get started and get linked!



Same Town, Different District

Wareham has two Fire Districts: Wareham Fire District and Onset Fire District. Both Districts were established for fire fighting and grew into providing drinking water and both are separate from the Town of Wareham. Many people do not know which District they are in. We have provided a map on our homepage. Long term we would like to develop this into a look up table so that residents can easily find which district they are located in.

Notes for Table: cf = cubic feet of water, HCF = 100 cf of water.

Example calculation for FY19 4,000 cf of water over 6 months:

- 1.) Up to 2,000 cf = \$120.00
- 2.) Next 2,000 cf : \$0.85/100 cf = \$17.00 (Total of \$137 or 0.5¢/gallon)
- 3.) Capital improvement project fees can be found in Rules and Regs. For this example it would be ~\$91 additional (~0.3¢/gallon additional).

<http://www.warehamfiredistrict.org> or search for Wareham Water on Facebook