



Wareham Water Well House Newsletter

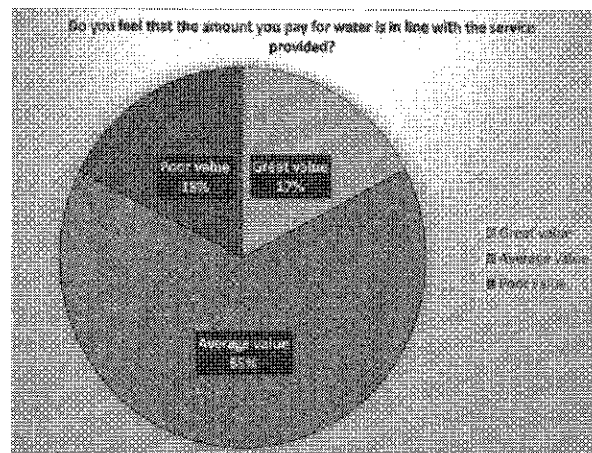
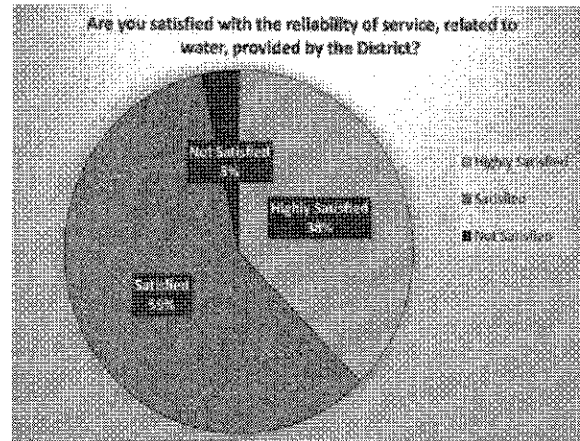
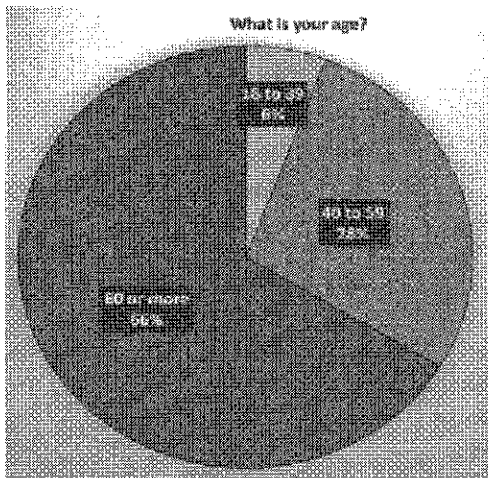
Summer/Fall 2019

2550 Cranberry Hwy
Wareham, MA 02571

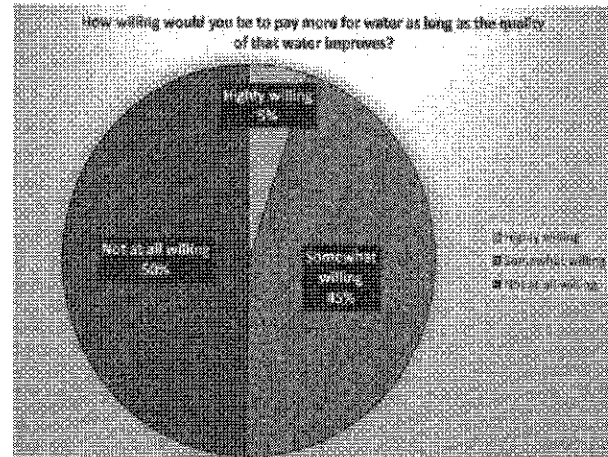
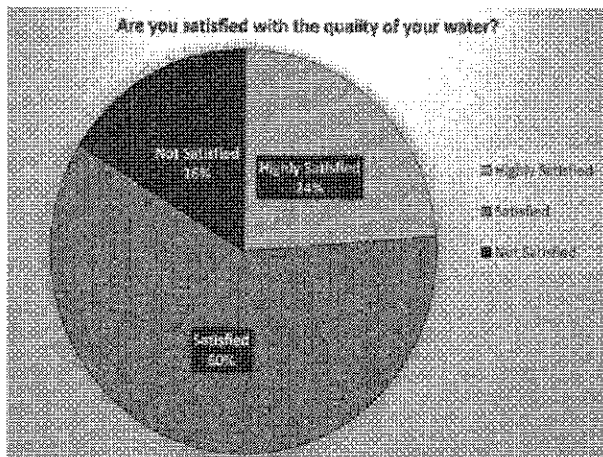
Any questions? Call Us!
PHONE: 508-295-0450

2018 Value of Water Survey

In 2018, Wareham Water performed a project funded by a Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection grant. One task of the project was to assess on a local basis, how customers value water and what the customers of the District are willing to pay for this resource versus better water quality. The survey was mailed to approximately 8,200 customers in the District and about 1,450 responses were returned. The majority of received responses were from retired or fixed income residents and generally represent the view of customers older than 60 years old. Here we share abbreviated results for your reference and consideration.

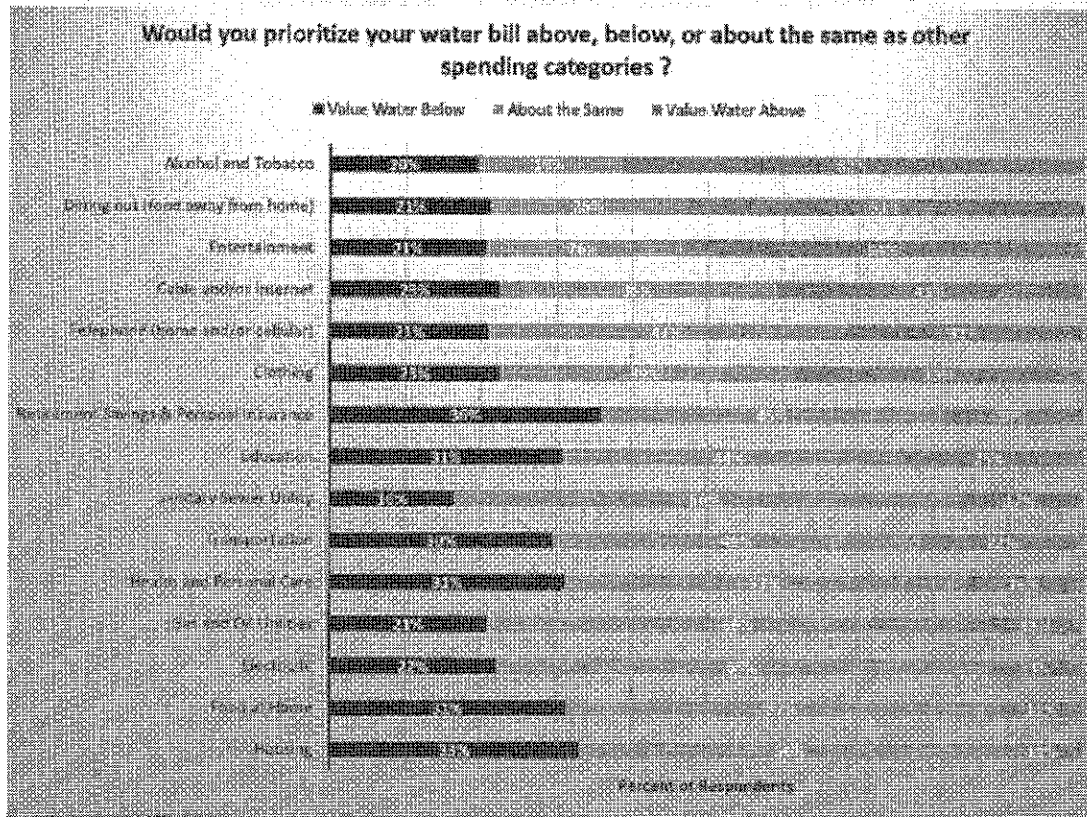


The full report as well as other planning documents can be found on Wareham Water's webpage at: <http://www.warehamfiredistrict.org/waterdepartment/planningreports.html>.



Find us at <http://www.warehamfiredistrict.org> and Facebook under Wareham Water

Of interest in the survey was how residents prioritized their water expenditures, estimated at \$520 annually at time of report, compared to other household bills. Generally about 70% or greater of the respondents indicated they find water as or more valuable than other categories. The typical amount spent in other categories from the 2016 Bureau of Labor Statistics is provided for reference.



Household Spending Category	Northeast Average Annual Spending	Percent of District Survey Respondents that		
		Value Water Below	Value Water About Same	Value Water Above
Necessity/ Essential Categories – District Average Annual Water Bill is \$520				
Housing, all items (following list is not meant to sum to this total)	\$21,462	33%	56%	11%
Housing, Shelter	\$13,514	33%	56%	11%
Property Taxes	\$3,298	—	—	—
Cell Phone Service	\$1,046	21%	47%	32%
Natural gas	\$529	21%	66%	13%
Electricity	\$1,334	22%	65%	13%
Telephone Service	\$1,483	21%	47%	32%
Utilities, fuels, and public services	\$3,995	21%	66%	13%
Water and other public services	\$394	—	—	—
State and Local Income Taxes	\$2,709	—	—	—
Apparel and services	\$1,951	23%	39%	39%
Transportation	\$8,128	30%	49%	22%
Transportation, Gas and motor oil	\$1,591	30%	49%	22%
Healthcare	\$4,655	31%	53%	16%
Personal insurance and pensions	\$7,110	36%	45%	19%
Education	\$1,949	31%	44%	25%
Food at home	\$4,127	31%	57%	11%
Discretionary Categories				
Food away from home	\$3,032	21%	26%	53%
Sugar and other sweets	\$146	—	—	—
Alcoholic beverages	\$567	20%	19%	62%
Tobacco products & smoking supplies	\$367	20%	19%	62%
Entertainment	\$2,783	21%	26%	54%