



Wareham Water Well House Newsletter

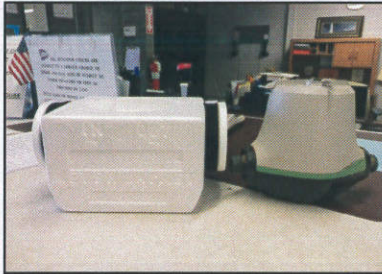
Winter 2020/Spring 2021

2550 Cranberry Hwy
Wareham, MA 02571

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

Freezing Water Meters and Lines

It is that time of year again and as the saying goes "Winter is Coming!" Residents are encouraged to check your water meter and ensure that the meter is in a space that remains warm. Often residents do not know the meter or associated pipe has frozen and leaks can occur for long periods of time, which can become expensive. We encourage insulating and heating these areas. Wareham Water also sells foam insulated meter jackets which fit on the iPearl grey plastic meters. If you are a seasonal resident or just will not be in the home for an extended period of time, the water department can turn off you water so that if the line freezes in the house, it will not cause more damage. Call for details.



Hydrant Use

We would like to make a note that hydrants are intended for fire fighting and not for landscaping or lawn care. Wareham Water does work on a case by case basis to allow access to hydrants for specific projects in which we provide meters and backflow devices.

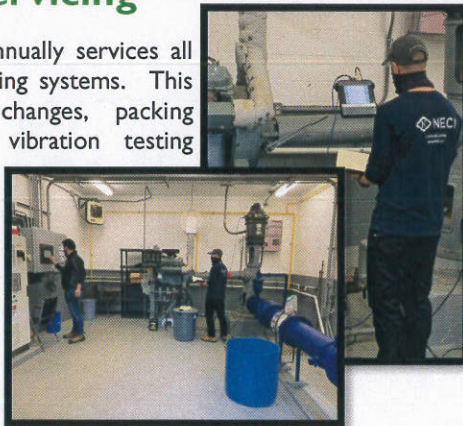
District Meeting

The Wareham Fire District will be holding its annual meeting likely on April 12, 2021 (typically at 7 pm). The meeting will likely be held in the high school auditorium, barring restrictions due to COVID-19. We also encourage you to come and vote which likely will be April 17 at the Water Dept. office. See posting for official location and time. Stop into office for more details.



Well Servicing

The District annually services all our well pumping systems. This includes oil changes, packing changes, and vibration testing (shown here) done by NECI. This helps to provide an early warning on repairs needed before failure.



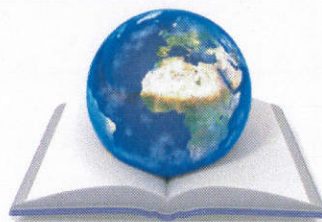
Free Sign Up For Reverse 911

Wareham Water has teamed with the Town of Wareham and Onset Fire District on a reverse 911 system. This system updates how we communicate with you during an emergency. Sign up for alerts and stay informed! **Look for the web alert logo (shown below) on our home page and click on it to get started and get linked!** We also post announcements on our Facebook page and Twitter pages (search under Wareham Water).



Consumer Confidence Report

Wareham Water provides an annual report that summarizes the testing we perform. These reports can be found on our website. Look for "CCR" under the water department in the top ribbon pull down. The new report typically comes out in January of each year.



WAREHAM WATER
ALERT

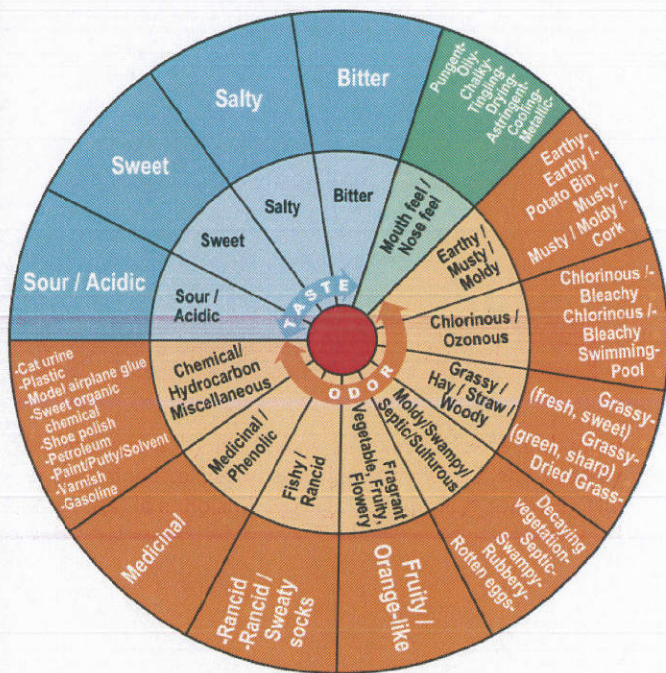


Water Purification Plant and the Water Flavor Profile

We are happy to report that the Maple Springs Water Purification Plant (MS WPP) is forecasted to be up and running by January 2021. The plant is slated to remove iron (causes tan and brown colored water) and manganese (causes black colored water), from the Maple Springs (Nos. 1-4) and Maple Park (No. 9) as well as disinfection and corrosion control. When the MS WPP comes online, residents will see marked improvement. Please note however, it will take some time for the distribution system to adjust and it is still possible that colored water events could occur periodically due to sections of unlined cast iron pipe in the distribution system. Over time, these colored water events will occur less frequently.

Part and parcel with the MS WPP, Wareham Water periodically will receive a complaint on water quality. Using the Flavor Profile Wheel ("Wheel") below helps the Water Department determine what may be the cause. The Wheel is broken up into two basic sections, taste and odor. If you are calling in a particular taste or odor complaint, sometimes using the Wheel can help us identify the issue.

Water Flavor Wheel



Source: Katherine Phecumphou, Aarathi Raghuraman, Andrea M. Dietrich. "Implementing the Drinking Water Taste-and-Odor Wheel to Improve the Consumer Lexicon." JAWWA, 109:11, Nov. 2017. <https://doi.org/10.5942/jawwa.2017.109.0122> (accessed on 10/2020)



The process is by no means an exact science and some can be trained to become 'water sommeliers' and used by companies like Poland Springs for quality control! The graphic below from Virginia Tech shows descriptors used by a sample group tasting water which had been spiked with copper sulfate. The font size provides the most frequent descriptors with a larger font indicating more samplers describing the water with that taste. As can be seen, there are a variety of descriptors used and the descriptor is based on the individual's senses and experiences. This can make identifying taste causing agents difficult. Sometimes, however there are tastes that are almost universal. Sodium for example is almost universally described as salty.

Descriptors for COPPER as $CuSO_4$ / Sodium, as $NaCl$

Metallic Salty
Bitter Bloody
Penny-like Astringent

Salty

Source: <https://blogs.lt.vt.edu/water/2020/07/15/taste-and-odor-in-drinking-water-a-tricky-problem-to-solve/>

The more common taste and odor complaints that have occurred for Wareham Water can be found under the FAQ section on our webpage. The MS WPP tackles several of the more common historical taste and odor issues as follows:

- ◇ Filtration will remove iron and manganese. These elements are generally described as bitter/salty taste.
- ◇ Filtration and ultra-violet disinfection will help better control the amount of chlorine used. This will help reduce the bleach taste and/or odor.