

Dedham-Westwood Water District Annual Report 2017

James J. Galvin Chairman

Board Members

Robert E. McLaughlin Jr, Gary Yessaillian, Ronald J. Willey, John S. Miller, Steven M. Mammone

Mission

To provide high quality drinking water and water for fire protection to the Towns of Westwood and Dedham.

Water Quality

In mid 2017, we detected E.coli bacteria in one of the untreated water supply wells and notified customers as required by MADEP. We never detected any coliform bacteria in the treated water leaving the treatment plants or in our water distribution system. Working with MADEP, this past fall we installed two Remote Water Quality Monitoring Stations in our water distribution system. These stations continually monitor the disinfection of the drinking water ahead of delivery to any customers. With these facilities operational, a bacteria detection in the raw water such as was experienced last July, will no longer require a general public notification because demonstration of adequate disinfection can be established with such continuous monitoring in place.

In response to the nationwide concern for lead in drinking water, we've been notifying those customers with any lead components in the DWWD water service pipe to their property and offered water testing to them. Typically, we have been replacing many of these water services over time due to leaks or in coordination with Town paving projects. According to our records, approximately 300 services that contain lead remain in use.



Dedham-Westwood Water District Employees

MADEP named DWWD as a Public Water Supplier of the Year and recognized the staff and Commissioners at a ceremony held during Drinking Water Week in May. The DWWD complies with all MADEP and EPA Drinking Water standards and regulations.

Water Rates and Monthly Billing

The DWWD has not increased water rates for two consecutive years. All customers are now billed monthly for water service. This helps customers better understand their water use and alerts them to leaks much sooner. We also recently launched Electronic Bill Presentation and Autopay Enrollment to save costs and offer more convenience to customers.

Bridge Street Treatment Plant

The Bridge Street Water Treatment Plant Modernization Project began construction this past summer. The project is on budget to date. The completion of the project is expected in 2019. The support of the Elected Town Officials and staff is greatly appreciated.



Mike Butler, Nancy Hyde, Eileen Commene, Paul McMurtry, Mike Rush, Marie-Louise Kehoe, Steve Mammone, Rob McLaughlin, Mike Walsh, Jim Galvin

2017 Capital Improvement Projects

Work this past year included replacement of 6266 feet of water mains, 10 replaced fire hydrants and 24 new hydrants, 60 new and replaced water services and 409 meters replaced or installed.

MADOT Low Salt Zone Request

The DWWD continues to encourage MADOT to take measures to reduce the amount of sodium and chloride they apply which ends up in the Public Water Supply Wells situated near the highway.

Water Conservation

The DWWD is committed to working to protect water supplies and encourage conservation of water. Through a Sustainable Water Grant from the Commonwealth this past year, we introduced Dropcountr-an application which helps customers access their water consumption patterns from smart phone or computer and provides timely water saving ideas and information. This program was implemented in partnership with both the Charles and Neponset Watershed Associations.

DWWD also continues to offer rebates and provided incentives to 38 residents to purchase water efficient washing machines and to 72 customers to replace their toilets with ultra water conserving models.

Lastly, I want to thank the Town and its employees and boards, who work with us in so many different ways.



Respectfully Submitted,

Eileen M. Commane

Executive Director