



Dedham-Westwood Water District

2021 Annual Report

Dedham Commissioners

Robert Lexander, Vice Chair
Eric Merithew
John Miller

Westwood Commissioners

James Fox, Chair
Andrew Kara, Clerk
Gary Yessaillian

Mission

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

Water Quality

In late 2021, Dedham-Westwood Water District exceeded compliance levels of total trihalomethanes, a disinfection by-product. As a result, the District provided notification to all of its customers and provided detailed information on its sampling results to the officials of both communities. Although non-compliance is a significant concern, due to the swift action on temporary corrective measures, we were happy to report that the District came back into compliance at its next sampling period. DWWD is continuing its temporary measures as we work towards a long-term solution which will require the procurement and installation of mixers, aerators, and vents within the water storage tanks.

The Dedham-Westwood Water District complied with all other Massachusetts and EPA primary drinking water standards.

2021 Capital Improvement Projects

During 2021, \$4,375,000 was invested into the districts infrastructure, of which \$849,000 was provided through a ten year interest free loan from the MWRA's Local Water System Assistance Program. Significant projects included new and replacement water mains on Easter Avenue, Pine Street, Schiller Road, and Ridge Streets in Dedham and Carroll Court and a portion of the South Bound lane of Providence Highway in Westwood. In total, over 6,100 linear feet of water mains were replaced within the distribution system along with the replacement of 25 hydrants, 55 gate valves, 27 water services and 695 water meters.

In 2021, the District made improvements at its White Lodge Treatment Plant in Westwood. The improvements included installation of a new Orthophosphate chemical feed system to help reduce internal corrosion within the supply pipes, new chemical feed pumps and piping for the existing Fluoride and Potassium Hydroxide dosing systems, insulation of the piping at well #1 and over 60 linear feet of 20-inch diameter discharge piping.

New Chemical Feed System



New Chemical Feed Pumps



The District also performed renovations at its office located at 50 Elm Street. These renovations included the complete remodeling of the interior of the building, which had not seen any major improvements since 1981. Most notably, these renovations made the facility fully ADA compliant.

Updated Front Desk and Customer entry



Main Office Improvements



MADOT Low Salt Zone Request

The DWWD continues to urge MassDOT to take measures to reduce the amount of sodium and chloride they apply during deicing operations which ends up in the Public Water Supply Wells situated near the highway.

Water Conservation

The Dedham-Westwood Water District is committed to working to protect water supplies and encourage conservation of water. We are happy to announce that our hands-on classroom education program to Dedham and Westwood elementary schools covering water resource protection and water conservation through a partnership with the Neponset River Watershed Association returned in 2021 and will continue in 2022.

The District also continues to offer rebates and provided incentives to 24 residents to purchase high-efficiency washing machines and to 63 customers to replace their toilets with ultra-water conserving models. Rain Sensors, low flow showerheads and aerators are available free of charge at our office. The District also provides a \$10 subsidy toward rain barrel purchases.

Special Recognition

The District would like to thank both Bob Eiben and Eileen Commane for their dedicated services to the District over their many years of service. General Manager, Robert Eiben, retired at the end of 2021 after 36 years of service and Executive Director, Eileen Commane, retired in September of 2021 after 13 years at the District. Bob and Eileen have both made valuable contributions to the District and the Board and Staff of the District would like to thank them for their guidance through the years. Lastly, we thank the Town and its employees and boards, who work with us in so many ways.

Respectfully Submitted,

Blake D. Lukis, Executive Director