



Town of Scituate

25 mins · 🌐

WATER SYSTEM UPDATE 11/2/16

Please note that this update contains new information and does not repeat information already provided in previous updates

The Drought Management Crisis Team met on Tuesday, November 1st.

Water Supply

- **Supply:** The Water Department continues to supply all of the Town's water exclusively from the wells. The Reservoir has not been touched!
- **Rainfall and Reservoir level:** As a result of 3.6 inches of rainfall over the past 14 days, the Reservoir level has increased by 11 inches. While this equates to 37% full, we are still far below the 62% level we typically see this time of year. The good news is that the Reservoir is gaining more inches of water than the amount that falls directly onto it. This indicates that the watershed is becoming more saturated and that rainfall is flowing into the streams that feed the Reservoir, not just soaking into the ground.
- **Forecast:** The weather forecast for this week shows a 50-50 probability of 1" of rain on Thursday.

Water Usage

- **Scituate residents and businesses** continue to be prudent in their use of water! Water use in the week of October 10th was 64 gallons per person per day. This declined to 63 gallons the week of October 17th and to 61 gallons last week, a 5% drop in daily consumption. Conservation by residents and businesses has been the single biggest factor that has enabled us to get through this extraordinary period of drought. Thank you!
- **Dishwashers:** In a recent tip one resident reported on some research she had done concerning the cycles on modern dishwashers. Contrary to what might seem logical, the 'Short Wash' or 'Express' cycles actually use more water than the normal cycle! She said, "Even though the short cycle may take half the time of the normal cycle, it works by pumping more water through at a higher speed." Thanks for the tip! Send your water saving tips to conserewater@scituatema.gov.

to conserwater@scituatema.gov.

- Violations: There were no water ban violations this past week.

Future Resiliency

- Expansion of the Reservoir: Special Town Meeting on October 19th voted to fund the Town's \$39,000 portion of the project to continue engineering and permitting work to raise the Reservoir height. We expect to learn later this month if the Town's grant application was accepted for funding by the Commonwealth. (The project when completed will add 28 days supply of water storage.)
- Satellite Well: This project was funded at Special Town Meeting. An engineering firm is advising the Water Department on drilling the new well adjacent to Well 22 to enable this well field to return to its previous level of productivity.
- Dolan Well: The Engineering Department is preparing a Capital Request for consideration in April Town Meeting to fund the first steps in development of this new well field off Country Way near Hollett.

Outreach and Education

- Rain Barrels: The Transfer Station has sold 30 rain barrels at cost (\$55) to residents. You can purchase a rain barrel at the Town website www.scituatema.gov. (Click on the "On-line Services" icon in the box to the left side of the screen, then click on the \$-sign. Use your receipt to pick-up the rain barrel at the Transfer Station.)
 - Faucet Aerators: A big water saving (and money saving) opportunity exists for homeowners by installing aerators on kitchen and bathroom faucets. Aerators may enable you to reduce your daily household use by 25%, lower your water bill, and save about 20 gallons of water each day. The two hardware stores in the Harbor are offering discounts on aerators in the month of November.
 - Email updates: 2,487 email addresses are signed up to receive News and Announcements such as this Water Ban Update from the Town website. Suggest to your neighbors that they sign-up at www.scituatema.gov so they can stay informed.
-