

## **Weekly Video Update August 23, 2021**

Hurricane Henri, turned tropical storm, was a no show in Scituate over the weekend. However, in preparation for what officials thought would be impacts, the town's emergency response teams were ready to go.

Town Administrator Jim Boudreau said while it was good that Henri passed Scituate by—going west, not east—preparing for the storm was an excellent exercise. Town officials also want to find a way to contact summer residents, who might not be aware of what's going on, when a storm approaches.

The Scituate Select Board meets Tuesday, Aug. 24<sup>th</sup> to discuss committee appointments, Special Town Meeting articles, sewer connections, selling the Minot Fire Station, and more. Visit [Scituatema.gov](http://Scituatema.gov) for the agenda.

On Sept. 8 and Sept. 9, the Select Board and School Committee will meet jointly to fill the School Committee vacancy created by the resignation of Michael Hayes.

Connecting homes on Utility Road to the new water main is almost complete. Residents there will see a good increase in water pressure. The road is in rough shape due to the water main work and will get a basecoat later in the fall.

The wet summer had kept the reservoir full and kept water usage down. Recent water usage, at 1.49 million gallons a day, is well below normal for this time of year. Scituate will conduct robust hydrant flushing this fall.

The town is still part of a water ban enacted by the state that affects the water basin that serves Scituate. The daytime water ban runs from the spring through fall.

The rainy weather is causing the manganese levels to rise and could result in discoloration of tap water. Notify the water department if this is the case so that town can track the discoloration.

The seven-week pilot water testing program at the treatment plant in Greenbush is about halfway through. The program will resume in the winter to test the water when it's cold. The tests will help determine the best treatment for Scituate water when the new plant is built.

There were 24 new Covid cases over the past week, down two from the previous week. The town's positivity rate is 2.93 percent. The town will share information on potential booster shots when the CDC issues guidelines.

The Delta variant mainly affects those who are not vaccinated. There have been some break-thru cases with vaccinated folks but those cases have been mild and rarely require hospitalization.

Boudreau said the CDC reports 99 percent of recent deaths were unvaccinated people and 97 percent of recent hospitalizations.

Construction of a sidewalk on First Parish Road from Country Way to the new Senior Center is underway. There will also be a sidewalk from Central Park to First Parish Church where a crosswalk to the Senior Center will be installed.

Police will be conducting radar and enforcement on First Parish Road after surfacing is complete. Boudreau said when roads are newly paved, traffic speed picks up.

Work on the PJ Steverman inline skating rink at the high school is progressing. Asphalt will go down this week and has to sit for 14 to 21 days before the final surface can be added.

Scituate Well 17A has a new filtering system that is being tested. The DEP will conduct a final inspection next month. The well is expected to add 250,000 gallons a day to the water system. The well water will be free of manganese and iron.

Work on the clubhouse at Widows Walk is well underway. A basecoat has been laid on the parking lot. The large concrete basin behind the 18<sup>th</sup> green will house wash water from Well 18. Once the sediment in the water settles, the water can be used for the golf course. It's expected the basin can provide 10,000 gallons a day.

Work on the Humarock Fire Station is also well underway.