

COVID Update, July 31, 2023

1. Water update. Reservoir is at +2” same as last week. Tack factory Pond is at +2”. This is the highest level in the reservoir at this time of year that the water department can remember. Average daily demand was at 1.442, last week was at 1.425 MGD. At this time last year, the reservoir was -27.75” and tack Factory pond was at -13.5”

Rainfall over the last 7 days was .42” measured at the Plant.

The Town is currently under our annual water conservation measures. These started May 1. Between May 1-September 30 all outdoor watering must occur before 9 AM and after 5 PM. Automatic irrigation systems may be used one day per week based on voting precincts. This is a ban imposed by the state based on water usage in the aquifer region that Scituate belongs to. Go to the water department web page for information on when your precinct may use irrigation systems.

2. Residents will begin receiving their new water bills shortly. Please be advised that the base rate and usage rates were increased by 2% for fiscal year 2024. The differential between Tier 2 and Tier 3 was increased from 60.6% to 100% and the differential between Tier 3 and Tier 4 was increased from 40.0% to 100%. Households that have consumption over 3,000 CF will see a material increase in their bill. To help offset that increase, the Appliance Rebate program is now available to reimburse residents \$150 or \$250 for changing out their toilets, washer or dishwasher to water efficient models, as detailed in the program flyer. The more efficient appliance will also lower consumption and the overall water bill for the household. Practicing water conservation measures such as using rain barrels, restricting outdoor watering and not leaving faucets running during washing will also reduce consumption. Starting July 1, Scituate residents who purchase a new, qualifying, energy efficient washing machine or dish washer or a qualifying SmartSense toilet will be eligible for a rebate from the Town of Scituate of up to \$250 for a washing machine or dish washer and \$150 for a toilet. Applications and links to eligible projects are available on the water department page of the Town web site.
3. Lighthouse renovations: Demolition/Existing Conditions – The demolition/rebuild process has been delayed due to the poor condition of the masonry infill within the tower. The original design intent was to remove the existing cap structure, leave the existing brick “2 wythe” veneer installed in 2005 and re-build the inner wall assembly down approximately 4’-6” with cast in place concrete. When the cap assembly was removed, it was obvious that the internal/core masonry conditions and the construction of the 2005 brick veneer were not suitable to support the intended re-build. Therefore, the contractor was directed to remove the top 4’-6” +/- of masonry tower in its entirety to just above the internal platform section of the lighthouse for further evaluation with the hopes that the condition of the internal/core masonry improved. This additional demolition was completed the week of June 25th and the contractor installed several helical type ties into masonry internal/core for testing purposes which were not favorable. The structural

engineer and architect reviewed the results and existing conditions and recommend continuing removal down an additional 4'-0" +/- to the level of the existing window heads for future evaluation and it may be necessary to continue the removal down an additional 5'-3" +/- down to the point where the granite base transitions into the brick tower. Attached is a diagram which better illustrates the condition. The contractor is currently assembling the costs for the additional demolition aspect and the team recommends proceeding with the demolition/exploration while the architect develops the drawings for the reconstruction of the brick tower and for contractor pricing. WE WILL BE MEETING ON TUESDAY to get an update on moving forward.

Lantern Room – The lantern room structural frame fabrication is complete, and the contractor will be erecting the frame in his shop for test fitting and verification before the frame is deconstructed and sent out for galvanization.

Schedule – The schedule has been impacted by the discovery of the unforeseen conditions of the internal/core masonry. We are attempting to move forward as efficiently as possible with the additional demolition and investigations and as soon as the team has a better handle on the solution the overall schedule will be updated.

4. DPW paving this week.
The DPW is installing a speed table behind the high school near the in-line skating rink. This is being installed at the request of the School Department to slow down vehicles traveling behind the high/middle school. There is a large amount of foot traffic in that area going from the schools to the athletic fields and people need to use caution in that area. Paving crews will also be working on Foam Road, Country Way at First Parish, and Tilden from the intersection of Egypt Beach Road up to the vicinity of Elaine Court. Gas company work continues on Jericho Rd.
5. The contractor doing the sewer department I&I work will be working this week as follows: Monday-Seamore and Maple, Tuesday- Harbor View and Allen Place and Wednesday-Otis Place.
6. National Grid will be in Town starting on Wednesday doing tree work to clear primary lines. They will be starting on OOB, so please use caution when traversing OOB starting on Wednesday.
7. The contractor for the Route 3A water main work has completed installing erosion control along corridor. Actual construction on the pipes has begun. This is the beginning of the project to install a new raw water line from the OOB reservoir to the site of the new treatment plant at Steans Meadows. When the plant is completed, water from the pond will be pumped to the plant for treatment before entering the distribution system. The contractor will also be replacing the service main on 3A that serves the homes and neighborhoods adjacent to that portion of 3A.
8. The Town is looking for volunteers to sit on various town boards and committees. The Select Board office is accepting applications for the following:

- a. BOH
- b. By Law Review Committee
- c. COA
- d. Public Building Commission
- e. Recreation Commission
- f. Bicycle Committee
- g. Shellfish Advisory
- h. Veterans Advisory
- i. Widows Walk and
- j. ZBA

Applications are due to the Select Board Office by July 31, 2023. They are available in the office or the Town web site. If you have questions contact the office at 781-545-8740 or email Lorraine at ldevin@scituatema.gov

- 9. The BOH releases the weekly beach testing results every Friday. Based on last week's tests, all Scituate beaches are open.
- 10. We have a request from the Scituate Food Pantry for donations. The Scituate Food Pantry is deeply indebted and extremely grateful for the generosity of its donors. The Pantry's numbers have been increasing each and every week. The Pantry is asking, if you are able, to please consider picking up one or more of the following "Most Needed Items" when you do your own grocery shopping.

The following is a list of the "Pantry's Most Needed Items":

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|---------------------|-------------------------|
| Olives | Canned Clams |
| Pickles | Canned Crabmeat |
| Relish | Salsa |
| Microwave Popcorn | Cold Healthy Cereal |
| Large bottled juice | Jell-O and Pudding Cups |

Donations can be dropped off at the Pantry during Client Hours on Tuesday Mornings 10:00 -12:15 and Thursday afternoons from 3:00 - 5:15. Donations can also be left in the two white covered wooden containers outside the Pantry as well as at the Library, the Village Market and Shaw's.