Posted on: October 5, 2016 - 9:12am

Please note that this update and all future updates will contain new information and does not repeat information already provided in previous updates

The Drought Management Crisis Team met on Tuesday, October 4th.

Water Supply

- The Water Department continues to supply the Town's water needs exclusively from the wells. The 2 inches of rainfall over the weekend edged up the Reservoir level to minus 78.00", this equates to 24% full. It is nice to see the level increasing, but we have a long way to go before we reach water levels typical for this time of year.(Last October, the Reservoir was at 62% full.)
- The ground water levels at the wells remains depressed, and the Water Department is carefully monitoring well operation, water tank levels, and system pressure to ensure we don't over-pump the aquifer.

Water Usage

- Daily water consumption in the past seven days was 2% higher than the previous week.
 The average daily usage was 1,143,857 gallons per day, equivalent to 64 gallons per
 person per day. Conservation by our residents and businesses remains the single
 biggest factor that will enable us all to get through this extraordinary period of
 drought.
- Helpful water saving tips sent in by fellow residents are posted on the Town's website. Send yours to conservewater@scituatema.gov
- Violations: In the past week 5 water ban violations were issued to residents on Sea Gate Circle, Indian Trail, Greenfield lane, Central Ave and Front Street.
- This time of year people begin to haul boats out of the Harbor. Remember, do not use potable (municipal) water to wash down the hauled vessel.
- Want to reduce your water usage further? Here are a couple of helpful tips: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Vq0Ma0WP5O4

Future Resiliency

- <u>Expansion of the Reservoir</u>: We expect to hear in late October if the Town's grant application for funds to advance the project to increase the Reservoir is approved.
- <u>Dolan Well Field</u>: An engineering firm has been contacted to help the Town conduct testing and obtain permits to develop the Dolan well field. While this will be a 2-3 year process, the prospects of the well being productive are good.
- <u>Satellite Well:</u> DPW met with the DEP and discussed the requirements for installing a satellite well at Well 22. This well had a partial collapse last year and was redeveloped but due to the collapse the well yield is only 130 gallons per minute, far below the design

yield of 330 gpm. The addition of a satellite well will allow the extraction of this added capacity of water. This is on the special town meeting for funding.

Outreach and Education

- The Transfer Station will soon have rain barrels for resale to residents at cost.
- The Department of Environmental Protection plans to launch a Drought Crisis Management Task Force this week. We will link to their website to learn additional conservation tips and water supply management ideas.