



Town of Scituate

September 19 at 4:58pm · 🌐

Water System Update 9/19/16

Current status of the reservoir is -82.25" (33.15 feet) which equates to 21.2% Full. This is an increase of 0.25 inches.

To read the current Drought Advisory Status from the Department of Environmental Protection, visit http://www.scituatema.gov/.../scituate.../files/dep_advisory.pdf



Town of Scituate

September 16 at 11:38am · 🌐

Water System Update 9/15/16

The current status of the reservoir is -82.0" (33.17 feet) which equates to 21.36% full.

Below is an itemization of the water used by the Town comparing August 1-7 with September 1-7, 2016. This will allow you to follow how we are doing with supply and conservation.

This week's question: Why doesn't the Town charge residents with high use a higher rate than those who use less?

The Town already has a tiered billing system for just that. You can learn all about it by watching our latest Public Service Announcement posted on the Town's website (www.scituatema.gov) Facebook and cable access station or here at:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kUpXQOA6-YQ>

We have also had inquiries about private well users. Of the 125 wells in town only six are used for drinking supply. In order to restrict use of private wells the Town would need to have a bylaw in place regulating this. Based on extensive research by the Board of Health, we have found only a few communities that have actually done this.

Below are some of the latest suggestions to conserve water provided by you! Send your tips to conserve@scituatema.gov

Keep a bucket in the sink to catch water while we wait for it to warm up.

Place a displacement unit of some kind; bottle of water, jug, etc. inside your toilet tank in order to use less each time you flush. The water department has a limited supply of special, heavy duty plastic bags with clips on the side for this purpose.

When closing your pool, do not lower the water, but use that pool water to clean your filter. Normally, cleaning a filter with the hose takes at least 30 minutes, which wastes lots of water! Use a pump and a high pressure hose adapter to make it strong enough pressure to knock the old DE and dirt off of the filters.

Keep mini paper cups in the bathroom for teeth. Don't run the water over your brush, fill the cup (it's about 4 ounces) and dip your brush in before adding the toothpaste. Same water is used to rinse at the end.

Make a rain barrel out of a plastic trash can to catch rain. If you have one at each downspout at the 4 corners of the house where the biggest roof area ends, you will catch gallons of water, even with a very light rainfall.



Town of Scituate

September 13 at 6:20pm · 🌐

Water System Update 9/13/16

The Town's Drought Management Crisis Team met on Tuesday, September 13 for an update and projection on the Town's water supply and demand status.

The current status of the reservoir is -82.0" (33.17 feet) which equates to 21.36% full.

Forecast

Some rain is expected on Wednesday and scattered showers are predicted for the week-end. None of this rainfall will be in appreciable numbers to alter current strategies.

Water Supply

Since August 26 we continue to rely solely on water from our wells for water supply. No reservoir water has been used.

We are awaiting a Letter of Agreement from the Town of Cohasset Water Department to formalize the provision of water if the reservoir goes to 10%.

At Chief Murphy's request, the Fire Chief's Association of Plymouth County has sent a request to the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) to have a water tanker located in Scituate.

Water Usage

We experienced the anticipated drop in water usage after Labor Day. Total usage the week of August 30 to September 5 was 1,182,143 gpd. For the period September 6 to September 12 our usage was 1,131,286 gpd. This represents a water savings of 50,847 gpd or a total of 355,920 gallons for the week. This is great news. However, because we do not expect a change in the forecast, residents need to continue conservation measures and the total water ban remains in effect.

Future Resiliency

The Water Department has identified four wells for potential refurbishment and one well (#22) for a complete overhaul. The cost estimates are being completed for presentation to the Board of Selectmen.

Outreach and Education

Blue tabs for toilet testing are now available at the Senior Center at 27 Brook Street and at the Water Department (4 Old Oaken Bucket Road). Easy to follow instructions are provided.

The second Public Service Announcement explaining your water bill and how to calculate how much water you are using/conserving is now on cable access, our website (www.scituatema.gov) and Facebook. If every person can reduce his/her current daily usage to 55 gpd this will help our conservation efforts considerably. To find out how, please take 15 minutes to watch. Here is the link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kUpXQOA6-YQ>

We continue to receive conservation tips and will be posting the third installment later this week. The School Department is moving forward with



Town of Scituate

September 9 at 8:42am · 🌐

Water Conservation Tips#2

The current status of the reservoir is -81.25" (33.23 feet) which equates to 21.84% full. Yesterday it was 22%.

These helpful suggestions to conserve water are provided by you! Keep them coming! Send your tips to conserve@scituatema.gov

- Use paper plates several times a week; it reduces the amount of dish washing
- Cook vegetables on the grill or microwave veggies which use very little water
- Keep a bucket in the sink to catch water while waiting for it to warm up
- Don't rinse dishes before loading the dishwasher
- Run a weekly series of water conservation informational columns in the Scituate Mariner, explaining how to sign up for automatic email notifications.

A great tip! Scituate Mariner weekly columnist Ann Finnie writes about conservation and how to sign up for web blasts in this week's paper—check it out and THANK YOU Ann!

•Water conservation tips are abundant on California web sites. They have real world experience.

<http://saveourwater.com/conservation-lifestyle/>

<http://saveourwater.com/conservation-lifestyle/virtual-tour/>

Check back frequently for more tips! Conservation is our best weapon!

Conservation Lifestyle - Save Our Water

The average Californian uses 196 gallons of water per day and 30-60% of their water outdoors. Here are some easy outdoor tips to reduce water use.

SAVEOURWATER.COM



Town of Scituate

September 8 at 3:23pm · 🌐

TOWN OF SCITUATE PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT 090816:
WATER SYSTEM OPERATIONS, USAGE AND CONSERVATION

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QkECfBgDMvM>



SCTV Water Information With Al Bangert 9-8-16

SCTV Water Information With Al Bangert 9-8-16

YOUTUBE.COM



Town of Scituate

September 7 at 1:51pm · 🌐

WATER SYSTEM UPDATE 9/7/16

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, September 6th.

The current status of the reservoir is -81.0" (33.25 feet) which equates to 22.0% Full. This is an increase of 0.25 inches.

Forecast

Light rain fell on September 1, 5 and 6. No significant rainfall is anticipated in the next two weeks.

Water Supply

- Over the past 11 days the Water Division has been able to supply the Town with water from the wells exclusively. All wells are online. No reservoir water has been used.
- Fire Chief John Murphy has established a plan for getting water tanker trucks from the Forest Service and MEMA in the event of a fire emergency.
- The Water Division has completed a connection with the Cohasset water system on Summer Street. The connection will be activated if the Reservoir drops to 10%.

Water Usage

- Through the continued efforts of residents and businesses, water usage has dropped from 1,600,000 gallons per day in the first week of August to 1,220,000 gallons per day in the past seven days, a 25% reduction! This is the single biggest factor enabling the Town successfully get through this extraordinary period of drought.
- As requested, local restaurants are not automatically serving water when customers sit down. They do provide water when requested.
- Conservation is working. 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 five days water ban violations occurred on Surfside Road and Central Avenue. One case resulted in a citation and fine. The second case was issued an advisory warning.
- Well owners need to be aware that the drought may affect their wells as well as overall groundwater. While the Town cannot regulate the use of private wells without a Bylaw passed at Town Meeting, we urge well owners to exercise caution when using their well water to avoid depleting their supply.
- The Fire Chief has warned that the drought is creating much drier conditions and increases the danger of fires. The Department has issued these advisories:
 - o Never leave a cooking grill unattended.
 - o If using charcoal, be sure it is thoroughly extinguished after cooking.



Town of Scituate

September 6 at 11:37am · 🌐

WATER SYSTEM UPDATE 9/6/16

The current status of the reservoir is -81.25" (33.23 feet) which equates to 21.84% full. There has been no change since our last update. The effects of Hurricane Hermine brought brief showers but had no major impact on supply.

We continue to strictly enforce the total water ban. Thank you for your patience and cooperation and continued water conservation efforts.



Town of Scituate

September 2 at 9:31am · 🌐

Water System Update 9/2/16

The current status of the reservoir is -81.00" (33.25 feet) which equates to 22.00% Full. This is an increase of 0.25 inches. Precipitation was 0.16 inches yesterday.

We expect rain late Sunday into Monday/Tuesday. Any measures you take to capture this rainfall will offset direct usage. This rain event is welcome; however it will not get us anywhere near to where we should be for this time of year in the reservoir – 74%.

Keep doing what you are doing. It is really helping. Thanks.



Town of Scituate

September 1 at 11:57am · 🌐

WATER SYSTEM UPDATE 9/1/16

*****CORRECTION*****

The current status of the reservoir is -81.25" (33.23 feet) which equates to 21.84% full. This is up from yesterday's status of 21.52%. We expect some rain on Sunday—please check your trees and limbs which have likely been weakened.

The Town continues to strictly enforce the total water ban. In the past five days eight violations have been written for Surfside, Mordecai Lincoln, Clapp, Moorland, Collier, Central Avenue, Kent Street and Village Lane.

Thank you for your great cooperation and the terrific tips you are sending in. It is making a real difference. Keep it up!



Town of Scituate

August 31 at 5:22pm · 🌐

WATER SYSTEM UPDATE 8/31/16

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 August 30 and addressed a multitude of items. John Clarkeson, Chair of the Water Resource Committee and Paul Donlan, Director of Finance and Administration for the School Department are recent additions to our workgroup.

Forecast

Resident meteorologist Tim Kelly informs us that no appreciable rainfall is anticipated in the next week. There is a 60/40 chance of some rain for Sunday. A number of tropical storms are also being watched. These storms are typically helpful because they supply good rain without harmful winds. Be aware that most trees root systems are stressed due to the drought, so they are vulnerable to high winds. Please take some time to check out any susceptible branches or limbs.

Supply

- As of Friday, August 19 we have been able to supply the Town with water from the wells exclusively and have not tapped the reservoir for any water. Well 17A has come back on line and is producing 170,000 more gallons per day (gpd) now that it's been refurbished.
- The Fire Chief is working with MEMA on providing a water tanker to be staged at a convenient location for use in an emergency by the Towns of Cohasset, Hingham, Norwell and Scituate. The Town is also looking at leasing two 9,000 gallon water tankers to have in Town for fire suppression should the reservoir get to 10%.
- We have received inquiries as to why the Town does not reduce the flow or pressure in the pipes to conserve water. This is not possible because the pressure needs to remain at a certain level to insure public safety.

Demand

- Through the good efforts of residents and businesses, demand has been reduced so that our needs are currently being met by the wells. Conservation is helping and if it is sustained we will not have to use the reservoir.
- The latest daily average of water usage is 1,260,000 gallons per day. 930,000 gallons are generated directly to the water system by the wells and 330,000 gallons are generated from the Water Treatment Plant that is being supplied by well 17A.
- The Harbormaster is installing low flow shower heads in the two maritime buildings.
- Phase 3 of the water replacement project will continue with the new pipes being left dry for now. Typically, the pipes are flushed with chlorine and water immediately after being installed. We can do this later once the water is stabilized.



Town of Scituate

August 31 at 4:53pm · 🌐

Water Conservation Tips

These helpful suggestions to conserve water have been provided by you! We have received many submittals and will continue to share each week. Send your tips to conserve@scituatema.gov

Collect shower water normally wasted during the "warm up" period. This captures 2-4 gallons.

Don't run the water while you are brushing your teeth.

Collect water from your dehumidifier in gallon water jugs and use it to water plants both inside and out.

When you refresh your pets' water bowl pour the unused water into a bucket and recycle it into the bird bath or elsewhere outside.

Purchase a rain barrel or two. It collects even small amounts of rain and also acts as a storage medium catchall for other small sources of water. A 55 gallon barrel collects quickly when it rains.

Check back frequently for more tips! Keep up the good work!



Town of Scituate

August 29 at 3:28pm · 🌐

WATER SYSTEM UPDATE 8/29/16

The current status of the reservoir is -81.75" (33.19 feet) which equates to 21.52% full.

We have brought the refurbished Well 17A on line. With this added flow rate we have closed the reservoir gates and are saving it for emergencies. This helps but does not change our current situation. Last year the reservoir was 74.2% full at this time.

The reservoir is not solely served by rainwater. Inflow also comes from Tack Factory Pond which is fed by First Herring Brook. There are also small brooks that feed from Country Way and around the reservoir.

Please continue to conserve. It does make a difference. Five violations were issued over the week-end. We have been receiving great reports from residents of their household conservation efforts. If you want to share your tips we are collecting them and will be posting some on the Town's website (scituatema.gov). Send to conserwater@scituatema.gov.

Current status of the reservoir is -81.75" (33.19 feet) which equates to 21.52% Full.



Town of Scituate

August 26 at 10:56am · 🌐

WATER SYSTEM UPDATE 8/26/16

The current status of the reservoir is -80.25" (33.31 feet) which equates to 22.48% full.

Your conservation efforts are working! Please continue to observe the water ban. We are asking the 112 well owners to conserve as well. Humarock is also part of the total ban.

Enforcement efforts continue this week-end.

We expect the refurbished Well 17A to be on line this week end with a significantly increased flow rate. This helps but does not change our current situation. Please continue to conserve. Thank you!



Town of Scituate

August 25 at 8:50am · 🌐

Water Situation Update – 8/25/16

The Town's Drought Crisis Management Team met Tuesday. We are focusing on immediate short-term response to the drought in a two-pronged approach (supply and demand issues). We are also developing a program for long-term resiliency as a third prong.

Challenges:

- People have misinformation or not enough information about the ban and what they can and cannot do.
- People think the Town has "no plan."
- There is a public misconception that the reservoir is our only water source when, in fact, about 900,000 gallons per day is sourced from wells.
- Humarock is included in the ban despite receiving water from Marshfield
- The drought is going to last for a couple of months and residents will tire of the ban.

Rain Probability:

State meteorologist in a MEMA conference call on Friday predicts less than a 50-50 probability that significant rainfall will occur before November. Tim Kelly (NECN meteorologist and Scituate resident) informs us that in the next 28 days only $\frac{1}{4}$ " of rain is predicted.

What we are working on:

The objective is to match supply and demand so that the wells handle the everyday load and the reservoir is held in reserve for emergencies. This is attainable post Labor Day with added conservation efforts by residents and improvements to water production capability.

Supply:

- We received an inch of rain over the weekend. However, the current low humidity conditions this week result in evaporation from the surface of the Pond and Reservoir. Net, we saw only a $\frac{1}{4}$ " increase in reservoir level which is since evaporated. The reservoir is at 22.64% today.
- We are refurbishing well 17 off Tack Factory Road and expect this work to be completed by Friday. We estimate production from this well will increase from 100,000 gpd (gallons per day) to 300,000 gpd. This will assist greatly. Because of high manganese levels in this well, its water is discharged into Old Oaken Bucket Pond (OOB) and then passes through the Water Treatment Plant.
- The Widows Walk irrigation well has been rebuilt so the golf course no longer requires Town water for irrigation.
- We are exploring a system to ensure that water does not get lost over the OOB Pond spillway. This may involve pumping excess water from OOB back to the Reservoir.
- We are in regular contact with Marshfield, Norwell, and Cohasset about water. We are conducting chemical testing to ensure that the water from these towns is chemically compatible with ours (to avoid any corrosion



Town of Scituate

August 23 at 10:54am · 🌐

WATER BAN UPDATE 8/23/16

Today the reservoir reading is at 78.25" (33.48 feet) which equates to 23.84% full. The wells continue to work about 20% over normal use. Please be aware there is no washing of boats. Users should use salt water. No outside watering except after 5 and before 9 with a watering can. Limit showers, run dishwashers when full. Private well water users are asked to voluntarily conserve.



Town of Scituate

August 18 · 🌐

WATER BAN UPDATE 8/18/16

Today the reservoir reading is at 77.25" (33.56 feet) which equates to 24.48% full. Please continue to conserve. No outside watering except after 5 and before 9 with a watering can. Limit showers, no vehicle or boat washing. Private well water users are asked to voluntarily conserve as we all share the same water table.



Town of Scituate

August 12 · 🌐

WATER BAN UPDATE 8/12/16

Today the reservoir reading is at 76.25" (33.67 feet) which equates to 25.36% full. Please continue to conserve. No outside watering except after 5 and before 9 with a watering can. Limit showers, no vehicle or boat washing.

The Town's water supply is supplied by a combination of wells and the reservoir. The normal reservoir capacity is approximately 155 million gallons. Our daily usage is typically around 1,860,000 gallons per day. Conservation has resulted in about 1,560,000 per day (882 gallons from wells, 678 gallons from reservoir). This is significant. The wells are being drawn about 20% over normal capacity. Private well water users are asked to voluntarily conserve as we all share the same watershed.



Town of Scituate

August 11 · 🌐

WATER BAN UPDATE 08/11/16

Today the reservoir reading is at 76" (33.67 feet). This equates to 25.36% full. The water ban is working, this week saving approximately 300,000 gallons. Thank you for your compliance. We will keep you posted.



Town of Scituate

August 5 · 🌐

IMPORTANT WATER BAN NOTICE

The Town of Scituate Water Department has put a total water ban in place. The reservoir has fallen below the 28% threshold which initiates a total ban on outdoor water usage. Nonessential outdoor water use is no longer allowed. This includes all hand held hoses for irrigating lawns, filling pools or washing boats/vehicles. Watering of shrubs, flowers or vegetable gardens is allowed with a watering can only but before 9:00 a.m. and only after 5:00 p.m. Please be conservative in your water use. Violators will be fined. For more information please go to the Water Department website at <http://www.scituatema.gov/water-division>.

For beautiful & healthy yards that protect our water, click here!



We are a Greenscapes Massachusetts partnering community!

Water Division | Scituate MA

Responsible for the operation and maintenance of the water treatment plant, six water wells, two booster stations, two water storage tanks, four corrosion control stations, three surface water supplies, 300 acres of watershed, 124 miles of water distribution

SCITUATEMA.GOV



Town of Scituate

July 28 · 🌐

DEP Drought Watch/Drought Advisory Status



Town of Scituate

July 27 · 🌐

TOTAL BAN ON ALL NONESSENTIAL OUTDOOR WATER USE

As a result of the lack of rain and high heat with no anticipated relief the Town's water levels are at historically low amounts and there is no outside use of water whatsoever between 9 and 5. We are strictly enforcing this. For more information please visit our website at <http://www.scituatema.gov/.../total-ban-on-all-nonesential-o...>

TOTAL BAN ON ALL NONESSENTIAL OUTDOOR WATER USE | Scituate MA

SCITUATEMA.GOV



Town of Scituate

July 8 · 🌐

TOTAL BAN ON ALL NONESSENTIAL OUTDOOR WATER USE

As a result of high seasonal water usage and a lack of significant rainfall, the level in our reservoir has fallen significantly. Per the Department of Environmental Protection, when the reservoir falls to a level of 36 feet we must implement a total ban on all nonessential outdoor water use. For more information please visit our website at <http://www.scituatema.gov/.../total-ban-on-all-nonesential-o...>. Thank you in advance for your cooperation with this matter.



Town of Scituate

May 31 · 🌐

Please Help Us Conserve Water

During summer months the Town experiences extremely high demand for water use placing a strain on our wells and water treatment plant. In the past we occasionally found ourselves with reduced capability to supply water in the event of an emergency or equipment failure.

Lawn irrigation systems place a great strain on our water system. To reduce the demand they create, the Town implemented limitations on the use of our public water supply for lawn irrigation purposes.

For the period of May 1st through September 30th, the use of lawn irrigation systems connected to the municipal water supply is restricted to one day per week based upon the voting precinct in which the property is located.

Properties in Precinct 1 may irrigate lawns on Monday

Properties in Precinct 2 may irrigate lawns on Tuesday

Properties in Precinct 3 may irrigate lawns on Wednesday

Properties in Precinct 4 may irrigate lawns on Thursday

Properties in Precinct 5 and 6 may irrigate lawns on Friday

Violation of this irrigation system restriction may result in fines of up to \$100 per day (Scituate Code of General Bylaws, Section 30660).

Property owners with private wells supplying their irrigation systems may go to the Water Department office next to the 3A roundabout to register the well and pick-up a sign to install at the entrance to the property.

If you have an irrigation system connected to the Town's water supply, please adjust the timer program to water your lawn only on the assigned day from May 1st to September 30th.

If you are not sure of your precinct, a map is available at Town Hall in the Clerk's office, at the Water Department office next to the 3A roundabout and on the Water Department page on the Town Website.

