

# Dennis Water District

Board of Water Commissioners

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Paul F. Prue, *Chairman*  
Charles F. Crowell  
Peter L. McDowell

## Main-Line News

[www.denniswater.org](http://www.denniswater.org)

Appointed by Water Commissioners

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David Larkowski, *Superintendent*  
Sheryl A McMahon, *Clerk & Treasurer*  
James Ritchie, *Asst. Superintendent*

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### SAMPLING ROUNDS RESULTS IN “NO DETECTIONS”

The 1996 Safe Drinking Water Act amendments required the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to establish monitoring criteria for new unregulated contaminants, and to identify 30 new contaminants every five years and is largely based on the Contaminant Candidate List. As a result the Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR) was developed and requires all public water suppliers to monitor for these contaminants. EPA uses the UCMR program to collect data for contaminants suspected to be present in drinking water, but do not have health-based standards set under the Safe Drinking Water Act.

As required, all of our 22 groundwater wells and various points in the distribution system were tested during the spring and fall sampling rounds under the UCMR program during 2009. The cost to the District for this testing program was \$27,992.

The contaminants we tested for were compounds like explosives, flame retardants and insecticides. We are pleased to report that all of our test results found no detection. For further information on the UCMR you can visit the EPA website at:

<http://www.epa.gov/safewater/ucmr/index.html>

### DISTRICT ELECTION

In an effort to make the annual District election process more convenient to the public, the District and the Town voted this past spring to file special legislation that would combine the two elections and that it be held the same day as the Town election. Considering that the registered voters for the District are essentially the same as the Town, it just didn't make sense to have voters go to the polls twice within two weeks.



The new legislation, already passed by the House and awaiting final passage in the Senate, is expected to be in place for

this spring's annual election. For information on the Annual District Meeting (April 27) and the Annual Election (May 11) please visit the District's website.

### NEW TREATMENT PLANTS GO ON LINE



**South Side  
Plant  
Friends Lane**

**North Side Plant  
Old Bass River  
Road**



In October, the District held an open house and dedication for our new Iron and Manganese Removal Plants. The facilities were dedicated in honor of Edward A. Crowell having served as Water Commissioner for forty-two years and for his unwavering commitment to providing the best water quality possible to the citizens of Dennis.

The combined treatment capacity of the two plants is eight million gallons per day and will remove approximately 68% of the iron and manganese from the distribution system. The plants are a pump-thru design and identical to each other. The facilities were operating fully at the end of summer and yielding excellent results.

Despite a couple of change orders to the construction contract, the plants were completed on-time and under budget by approximately \$9,700. During these past winter months, District staff has been fine tuning the process for optimal performance at the least operational cost.

The project was financed through the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Water Pollution Abatement Trust Drinking Water Program as administered by the Department of Environmental Protection and made possible by the rate payers of the Dennis Water District.

## HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION DAY

**Saturday, June 5, 2010**

**Tony Kent Arena from 9 am to 1 pm**

**PROTECT OUR WATER SUPPLY**

**NEVER pour HHW products down the sink,  
toilet or on the ground.**

The free collection and disposal of residential HHW is an environmentally important service provided to the citizens of Dennis. Please continue to act responsibly. Save your HHW materials and bring them to our HHWC Day.

Residents are reminded that latex paints, water-based stains and water-based products are not hazardous and will not be accepted at the collection site. Residents are urged to open these items and allow the liquid to dry, or pour the



paint into a box of kitty litter to absorb the liquid. When the liquid is dry or fully absorbed, put the box in your household trash. You can also recycle used or unopened paints at the Transfer Station's paint shed.

This is a drive-in—drop-off service. District employees will be on-hand to remove the unwanted products so you don't even have to get out of the vehicle. If you have any questions regarding Household Hazardous Waste or the Collection Day you can call us at the office at 508-398-3351 or go to our website at:

[www.denniswater.org](http://www.denniswater.org)

## Pay On Line Update

The District has made a change to the way customers input their bill information when using the *Unipay Gold* on-line bill paying service. The on-line payment option is accessed from the District's website.

Paying on-line through our website requires the use of a unique identifier along with the water account number. The number is printed in the text box just above the remittance advice and is unique to each water bill even though you may have more than one account.

Save time and postage by paying your water bill online. Use your checking account and pay no fees or use your credit card for a nominal fee.

## BOARD LOOKS AT DEVELOPING WIND ENERGY

Over the years, the Board of Water Commissioners has discussed the possibility of developing alternative energy sources such as wind and solar. Historically, the financial incentives have not been favorable. In 2009, significant changes were made to the state's "Net Metering Law" which will now make it possible to offset our energy costs by developing wind energy.

The District uses approximately 1.25 mega watts of electricity annually to run our well pumps, treatment facilities and offices in order to supply approximately 1.1 billion gallons of water per year to our customers. The cost for that power consumption is estimated to be \$280,000 for the FY 2011 operating budget.

A preliminary review, utilizing wind maps readily available through the Massachusetts Technology Collaborative, indicates that there is sufficient wind in an area between Airline Road and Old Chatham Road to consider developing a wind energy project. The District owns more than 300 acres of well field and watershed property in this area.

The next step in determining if this resource is worth developing is to undertake a Wind Power Feasibility Study. The study would be conducted by a professional consulting firm and provide a more detailed review of the potential energy production, identify zoning, regulatory and environmental issues, provide an economic analysis to ensure financial viability and an outline of suggested next steps in developing a wind project.

The Board of Water Commissioners has placed an article on a warrant calling for a Special District Meeting to

be held on Thursday, February 25, 2010 to request a transfer of \$75,000 from available funds and to authorize the District to undertake this Feasibility Study. The meeting will be held at the Dennis Senior Center at 7:00 PM. For more information please visit our website or call the District office at 508-398-3351.

