

Dennis Water District

Board of Water Commissioners

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Main-Line News

www.denniswater.org

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New Water Conservation Measures Pending

All Cape Cod public water suppliers are permitted for their water withdrawal in accordance with the Massachusetts Water Management Act. Currently, all Cape suppliers are in the permit renewal process. The Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) is the agency that oversees the permitting and review process. A new provision of the permit renewal will be the inclusion of water conservation measures that all suppliers will have to implement in an effort to protect the water supply during drought conditions. The specifics of the drought management requirements were negotiated through the Barnstable County Water Utility Association with DEP and are expected to be finalized shortly.

The new measures will require water use restrictions based on existing conditions. The basics of the program require monitoring groundwater levels. As levels rise or fall through the historical recorded levels, certain conditions will trigger varying degrees of restrictions on water usage. In the case of Dennis, these restrictions may be ones that we have not experienced previously.

To meet the anticipated requirements of the water use restrictions, a declaration for water usage would be in accordance with the following scheme:

Normal	No Restrictions
Advisory	Voluntary Restrictions
Watch	Mandatory Restrictions (ex: odd/even watering days)
Warning	Mandatory Restrictions (two days per week outdoor watering maximum)
Emergency	Mandatory Restrictions (total ban on non-essential outdoor use)

Customers will be notified of the status of the water use restriction level through a variety of ways. Examples of such are the District's newsletter and website, newspapers and radio announcements. These announcements may not be specific just to Dennis but apply to several communities as DEP treats suppliers within certain areas as a single group.

See *Restrictions*

CODE RED™ Emergency Communication Made Easy.

Welcome to CodeRED a public emergency notification system used to send critical information to all or part of a community by phone. The system is also known as *reverse 9-1-1*. The Dennis Water District and Town of Dennis have partnered to provide this service. This emergency communication system is the fastest way to send important notifications directly to the residents, visitors and businesses of Dennis.

The intended use of this system is to notify you of water related emergencies, weather alerts, missing persons, evacuations and others. The Town first implemented the system in anticipation of Hurricane Earl last September and was used to communicate about extended power outages during an early winter storm.

The system is flexible and calls can be customized to accommodate specific circumstances. Notices can be sent town-wide, to specific areas or just to certain streets.

The District's primary responsibility is water quality. It is possible that someday it may be necessary to notify customers of a "boil water order" due to contamination. The District operates two separate water distribution systems, a Northside and a Southside. In all likelihood, if a "boil water order" event ever happened in Dennis, it would be in one system or the other, not both. Customers and residents of the affected system would be notified, not the entire town.

Reverse 9-1-1 calling services are provided by CodeRED. It is our new, most efficient, most cost effective way to communicate with customers regarding the water system but, it is not the only means. As required by regulations, newspapers, radio and television notices and ads would also be used.

See *CodeRED*

Restrictions continued...

Customers should be prepared and watch for updates as the program is finalized and more specific information is made available. Under certain drought conditions, water use restrictions will have a significant impact on how customers manage their outdoor usage.

CodeRED Continued...

The CodeRED system can notify affected customers more precisely than other methods. You may wonder why you did not receive a call, it is because your immediate area was not impacted by that particular water emergency or event.

How does CodeRED know you received the call or that our information is correct? CodeRED tracks the calls made, how many times each number was dialed and whether or not it left the message on an answering device.

While the system uses the best information publicly available to build the data base of customer phone numbers, it is not perfect. Customers and residents are encouraged to verify and update their own contact information with their personal preferences such as adding a cell phone, off-Cape number, text and email information. Reviewing and editing your CodeRED calling information can be done through the Dennis Water District or Dennis Police Department websites. If you do not have internet access, please feel free to contact the Dennis Water District or the Dennis Police Department for assistance.



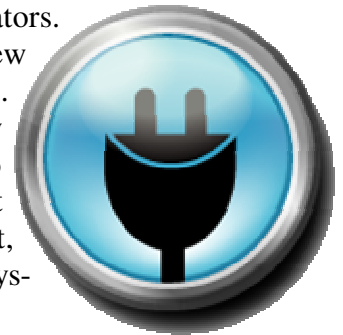
Updating your information is easy and the best way to build a more effective data base. The information is secure and is not sold for any other purpose. Simply click on the CodeRED link button and follow the instructions. If you do not want to be notified of Town or District emergencies, follow the instructions for being placed in the "Do Not Call" data base.

UPDATE:

EMERGENCY POWER PROJECT

A review of the District's capacity to pump water during prolonged power outages was identified as needing significant improvement to ensure adequate water supply and quality. To accomplish this, the District began a two-phase program to replace old standby pump drive systems with electric generators.

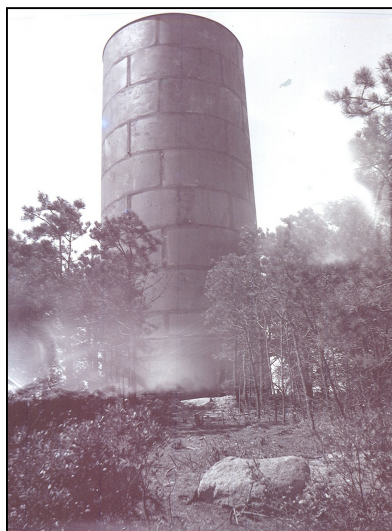
During the first phase, five new generators were installed. They are designed to not only provide sufficient power to meet pumping demands but will also power the treatment, calibration and recording systems in the stations.



While the older standby units are still in working order, they are not automatic causing delayed responses, extraordinary labor costs and the inability to operate treatment systems which were not part of the system when the standbys were originally installed. With the completion of the first phase, the automatic pumping capacity in the Northside system is now 3,050 gallons per minute (gpm) where it previously had none and the Southside system increased from 700 gpm to 1,400 gpm.

The second phase, will add two generators increasing our capacity by another 1,400 gpm. Approval and funding for the second phase is anticipated to be voted on at the Annual District Meeting to be held April 24, 2012.

OLD BASS RIVER WATER TANK GETS MAKEOVER



Original tank replaced by Old Bass River Tank in 1960

This spring the District will continue with a multi-year water tank maintenance program that began last year. The standpipe on Old Bass River Road will be out of service for the winter while work is undertaken.

The tank is 90' tall, 50' in diameter and holds 1.3 million gallons. The overflow is 244' above sea level. While it is not the tallest tank on the Cape, its elevation is the highest of all surrounding towns.

This year the tank's exterior will be power washed. Hundreds of stone bruises, areas of paint failure and rust spots will be power brushed and primed followed by two coats of paint. The interior will be inspected and any worn valves on the filling system will be replaced. The interior walls and floor of the tank will be power washed and disinfected prior to being put back in service for the summer season.

District Doings 2012

April 24
Annual District Meeting

May 15
**Annual Town & District
Election**

Early June
**Household Hazardous
Waste Collection Day**