

Dennis Water District

Board of Water Commissioners

Paul F. Prue, *Chairman*
Peter L. McDowell, *Vice Chair*
Robert M. Perry

Main-Line News

www.denniswater.org

Appointed by Water Commissioners

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

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NEW!

WELCOME TO OUR CUSTOMER PORTAL!

We have exciting news for our customers! The District has partnered with *Muni-Link* and *Invoice Cloud* to provide our customers and staff with enhanced customer access and data management. With the implementation of new water billing software, we can now provide a customer portal that is easy to use. Set up your account with Dennis Water District and receive billing notifications, review and print your water bill or request a change of address. There are so many ways to make payments using our new portal. Use your checking account, debit or credit card, PayPal from your PC or mobile device. You can now pay over the phone! The processing fee for e-checks has been increased from 50¢ to \$1.25, but we are confident that this increase will be worth the enhanced service options. As always, there is no cost to process your paper check when sent by mail and you are always welcome to use our 24/7 Payment Dropbox at our office location.

To access the customer portal, visit the District's website at www.denniswater.org.

ROBERT M. PERRY Elected Water Commissioner

On May 10, 2022, voters elected "Bob" Perry for a three-year term as Water Commissioner. Bob previously served as a member of the District Finance Committee having been first appointed in 2016.

Bob lives in East Dennis and is enthusiastic about engaging with the customers of the Dennis Water District. He is a civil engineer with a natural interest in understanding land use, drinking water treatment and distribution and its management, and working with the dynamics of the Cape Cod coastal environment while assisting residents with their projects and properties. Bob and his wife Nancy enjoy gardening, cooking, traveling, hiking, and experiencing wilderness areas and open spaces.

CONGRATULATIONS BOB

Due to an editorial oversight, this announcement was omitted from the August 2022 newsletter.



Dennis Water District

the many
benefits of
eBilling



CUSTOMER PORTAL

The Customer Portal provides you with the opportunity to access your account information and activity. In addition you will be able to pay your bills using the portal.

- Create your own account through self-registration
- Sign up for eBills
- View or print your bills
- View your billing and payment history
- View your usage history
- Pay your bills electronically

Go Green, Save a Tree

If every American household used eBills and online bill pay, it could reduce solid waste in US landfills by more than 800,000 tons a year and help curb the release of greenhouse gasses by 2.1 million tons, according to Javelin Strategy and Research. This could save an estimated 18.5 million trees a year!



the CONVENIENCE of
RECEIVING
VIEWING
PAYING YOUR BILL
ONLINE

No more waiting for the mail. Make your life easy by receiving your bill online. Our eBill is a secure way to receive and view your bill online. By enrolling in eBilling, you'll conveniently receive an email whenever your bills are ready to view online.

Say goodbye to paper bills and *hello* to convenience and less clutter!

sign up today

go to <https://denniswater.authoritypay.com>
and click on **Set Up Online Access**

2023 WATER CONSERVATION

It is never too early for all of us to think about outdoor water conservation. With the spring and summer watering season right around the corner, the District continues to evaluate where groundwater levels are and what it may look like for the next high-pumping season. In 2022, we recorded 45.8" of rainfall at the District. This is 6.4" below our average annual of 52.2". Current well levels indicate that we are below our annual average, but actually slightly above last year's water levels. The water table levels are quickly heading up as it normally does this time of year due to the abundance of rainfall this January. The twelve inches of rain that fell this January is nearly 23% of our rainfall for an entire year. Last year at this time, groundwater levels were not recovering as they trended flat or slightly downwards.

With that said, we have not received sufficient precipitation to be safely clear of the significantly low groundwater conditions of the past few years. All of our customers are strongly urged to practice good outdoor water conservation. Watering lawns is by far the largest non-essential consumption of Dennis' drinking water and puts a strain on the system during the peak demands of the summer season. Managing pumping during low ground water conditions has to be done carefully so as not to damage pumps and equipment. *It is critically important that consumers heed both mandated and voluntary odd/even outdoor watering schedules in order to control the demand for non-essential use of water.*

To mitigate excess demand and preserve our pumping systems and equipment, customers must adjust their lawn irrigation use by limiting their watering schedules to no more than every other day, no matter what the ground water conditions. Customers should evaluate their needs and be proactive in adjusting their watering as conditions dictate. Remember, shady areas need less watering than sunny spots and watering during the shoulder seasons is not nearly as necessary when these days are cooler, weather is wetter and days are shorter.

This year's budget proposal, currently under consideration by the Water Commissioners, includes funding for a water and services rate study. One component of the study will be to evaluate the need for higher-tiered rates for customers that irrigate their lawns. Higher rates is considered another tool to promote water conservation. This may displease some customers, but ultimately it will be up to our customers to manage their usage closely in order to have green grass and reasonable water bills. Controlling the cost of their water will be in the hands of customers.

WaterSense Labeled Controllers

Residential outdoor water use in the United States accounts for nearly 8 billion gallons of water each day, mainly for landscape irrigation. Experts estimate that as much as 50 percent of this water is wasted due to overwatering caused by inefficiencies in irrigation methods and systems.

WaterSense labeled irrigation controllers can significantly reduce overwatering by applying water only when plants need it. WaterSense labels two types of irrigation controllers that can help homeowners and businesses make their irrigation scheduling more water-efficient: [weather-based irrigation controllers](#) use local weather and landscape conditions to tailor watering schedules, and [soil moisture-based irrigation controllers](#) monitor moisture levels in the soil to prevent irrigation when water is not needed. Both technologies allow watering schedules to better match plants' water needs. With proper installation, programming, and maintenance, homeowners and businesses can use WaterSense labeled controllers instead of clock-based controllers on their irrigation systems. WaterSense label, irrigation controllers are independently certified to meet specific criteria for efficiency and performance. Search the EPA Website for more information about how you can more efficiently water your lawn at: www.EPA.gov

Old Bass River Tank Painting Project Underway

If you've driven on Old Bass River Road lately, you have likely noticed the pipe staging surrounding the water tank. Erecting the staging is the first step in a project to paint the interior and exterior of this 1.2 million-gallon tank this spring. This is the framework for the containment system that is necessary to collect paint and control dust during the sandblasting process. The old Nextel® cell phone antennas have also been removed, leaving T-Mobile® as the only cell phone carrier on this tank.



The tank still has its original first layers of paint and primer from 1966 when it was built. It has had several recoats over the years, but it still has the original applications on its bones.

Inspection reports indicate the tank is structurally sound, but mostly in need of a new coating system and some repairs to minor pitting to the steel. This project will also include enlarging the telecommunicating cabinet and the replacement of the required perimeter lighting system. The work will begin as the weather improves early this spring and must be completed so that the tank can be back in service before June 1st. A quick turn around by the contractor is a must for this project, in order to be able to meet the pumping demands of summer. While this tank is out of service the Hokum Rock Tank will be the only tank servicing the Northside of town.

Hazardous Waste Collection Day

Saturday, June 3rd

9:00am to 1:00 pm, Tony Kent Arena

Sponsored by the Dennis Water District
For Information on items for disposal visit
www.denniswater.org

