



Water Talk



October 2009
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Winterport Water District - 34 Sampson Street - Winterport, Maine 04496
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Sewer System Repair Project Moves Forward

By Steven Long, Chairman Board of Trustees

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Earlier this year the Winterport Water District received funding under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 to help fund EPA mandated repairs to its sewer system. A total of \$1,895,379 has been awarded to the District under this program. Of this amount, \$1,645,379 is in the form of grants and principle forgiveness. These monies will not have to be paid back by the District's ratepayers.

Eight very favorable bids for the project were recently opened and the District has awarded the 6,100-foot sewer rehabilitation project to S.E. MacMillan Co. of Bangor, Maine. MacMillan submitted the low bid for the project in the amount of \$900,000. The project is slated to start mid fall beginning on North Main Street. Construction will break for the winter after the sewer rehabilitation is completed on North Main Street. The construction project will resume in the spring of 2010 with Dean

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Stimulus Funds Received for Emergency Well

By Steven M. Lane, Superintendent

The Maine Drinking Water Program notified the District that it has qualified for stimulus funding for a redundant well supply project. The DWP has awarded the District \$128,000 to develop a backup well for mechanical redundancy. Of the \$128,000 awarded to the District, 45% of that amount or \$57,600 will be in the form of principle forgiveness (does not have to be paid back) with the remaining amount to be a 0% interest loan.

In 2008 a Comprehensive System Facilities Plan identified a material weakness in the District's water system. Given that the District is supplied by a single well the water system is susceptible to interruption of service due to either mechanical pump failure or other well-related problems. This project will help correct that deficiency and provide support for future needs, such as painting of the District's water tower.



Winterport receives additional stimulus grant funding for back up water supply.

Saying Goodbye

By Steven M. Lane, Superintendent

Scott Clukey honored by Trustees for years of service to the District.



Trustees L-R Barbara Economy | Donna Gilbert | Brian Richardson
Employee Scott Clukey | Steven Long, Chairman | Douglas Ronco, Treasurer

Longtime District employee Scott Clukey was honored by the District's Board of Trustees for his service in protecting Maine's precious water environment. During the June BOT meeting of the Scott was presented a plaque in recognition of his tireless efforts of service to the District over many years. Scott & wife Cheryl have left Maine to be closer to grandchildren Evan and Owen in Pennsylvania.

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Street, Ferry Street, Oak Street and Whig Street undergoing rehabilitation of those sewer lines.

The District will keep its customers informed of what to expect during construction on the scheduled streets. This will be communicated through customer letters and neighborhood meetings, where there will be opportunities to discuss details of the project.

Customers with any questions about the sewer system rehabilitation project that cannot attend any of the neighborhood meetings should contact the District's office at 223-5028.



Water – Our Greatest Resource.

Did you know you could pay monthly on your water and wastewater bill?

By Margaret Crossman, Assistant Treasurer

Currently the Winterport Water District sends utility bills to its customers at the beginning of January, April, July, and October. Each quarterly bill you receive is for the usage of the previous 3 months. Your utility bill is due 30 days after it is issued.

Following 30 days the bill is considered past due. At this point interest starts to accrue on any account balance. Once the bill is past due, unless you call the District office to set up a payment arrangement, a 14-day disconnection notice can be issued.

To avoid a disconnection notice and additional fees, please contact the office if you cannot pay your bill in full. We will work with you to analyze your account and help you to set up a manageable payment schedule.

If you are interested in breaking your bill into monthly payments please stop by the District office or call our office at 207-223-5028 and ask for Margaret.

Monthly installments can help you with paying your quarterly utility bill.

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John Doe
 12 Main Street
 Winterport, Maine 04894

Account #	Billing Date	Curr Meter	Curr Sewer
38	10/01/2006	000	111.85

Account	Name	Location	Billing Period
38	John Doe	12 Main Street	10/01/2006 to 10/31/2006

Rate Class	Meter Reading		Rate Meter Read	Consumption
	Present	Previous		
RESIDENTIAL	111	00/01/2006		2

Water		Sewer	
Description	Amount	Description	Amount
Regular	74.55	Regular	117.85
Credit	74.55	Special	0.00
Total Due	0.00	Total Due	117.85

20% Annual interest on unpaid balances 12% Annual interest on unpaid balances

Water			
Account	Bill Due	Amount Due	Amount Paid
Name	11/01/2006	0.00	
Location			

Return this bill with payment

Sewer			
Account	Bill Due	Amount Due	Amount Paid
Name	11/01/2006	117.85	
Location			

Return this bill with payment

Double-Walled Home Heating Oil Tanks

By Thomas Porter, Assistant Operator

Replacing your old oil tank? Building a new house and going to heat with oil? You should be aware of a new law that may affect you.

As of July 1, 2009, all new and replacement home heating oil tanks within the wellhead protection zone of community drinking water wells must be double-walled or have secondary containment. Community drinking water wells can be closer than you think.

What is the wellhead protection zone of a community drinking water well? The wellhead protection zone of a community drinking water well is the greater of the: area within 1,000 feet of the well; or source water protection area of the well mapped by the Department of Health and Human Services as described under Title 30-A § 2001 sub§ 20-A.

How do I find out if my building is within the wellhead protection zone of a community drinking water well?

Call the water district and the Maine Drinking Water Program at 287-2070. Once any nearby wellhead protection zones are identified near your property, you will be able to contact the district and discuss the locations of the wellhead protection zone.

*Who do I call for more information?
 Contact Peter Moulton or David McCaskill at the DEP's Bureau of Remediation and Waste Management at 287-2651.*



Frozen Pipes – A Winter Check List

By Steven M. Lane, Superintendent

As cold weather approaches we begin to think about things like the price of fuel oil and getting our heating systems cleaned and prepared for the cold weather season. We would like to offer the following tips to help our customers begin thinking about protecting their internal water piping from freezing as well. A little time addressing some basic components of the water system in your home can help make a smooth transition from the summer months to the cooler fall and winter times.

Before This Upcoming Winter:

- Patch cracks and holes near pipes. When temperatures approach zero, wind through a small opening can freeze nearby pipes, even though the room temperature is 70 degrees.
- Insulate pipes in unheated areas such as crawl spaces and garages. Check insulation. Wet insulation freezes fast, making it worse than no insulation at all.
- Make sure heat can circulate around pipes. Plumbing in an enclosed area such as a closet will freeze.
- Pay attention to basement piping. Older furnaces lose enough heat to warm basements. Newer energy efficient models do not. If necessary, consider UL approved heat tape.
- Find and tag your inside shut-off valve, and make sure it works BEFORE an emergency arises. This will limit water damage should your inside pipes burst.
- Disconnect and drain outdoor faucets, and shut them off inside.

A Note from your Board of Trustees

The Winterport Water District's Board of Trustees is pleased to present the October 2009 edition of Water Talk, our new newsletter. We hope our customers will use this newsletter and our Web site (www.winterportmaine.org) to learn more about our operations. We continue to be appreciative of the support of our customers, the Winterport Town Council, and the daily efforts of the District's 3 employees. The Board meets the second Monday of each month at 6:00 p.m. in the Town Office at 20 School Street. The public is welcome.

Steven Long, Chairman | Douglas Ronco, Treasurer | Barbara Economy, Clerk | Brian Richardson | Donna Gilbert



District announces new Meeting Dates and Hours of Operation

The WWD hours of operation have changed to 7:00 am to 3:30 pm beginning June 1. These new hours also include our office schedule. The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Trustees is now the second Monday of each month. These new changes will help increase the overall efficiency of our operations as well as provide cost saving measures for our customers.

"Winterport Water District – Water without the Bottle"