



City of Quincy, Massachusetts
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 Or see us on the web
<http://www.quincyma.gov>

Department of Public Works
InfoLetter
 2016 Spring/Summer

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2016 Spring/Summer
InfoLetter
 Volume 4 Issue 2



**Your Quincy Water:
 Providing Quality and Transparency**

At your Department of Public Works, doing our part to provide safe, clean water to all of our residents and businesses is among our highest priorities, and it always has been.

We are all aware of the recent events in Flint, Michigan regarding drinking water contaminated by extremely elevated levels of lead, and we wanted to use this newsletter to tell you a little about how your water is provided and describe the steps the City, together with our partner at the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority, takes to ensure that your water is among the cleanest and safest supply anywhere.

In April 2014, Flint switched its water supply from the Detroit River to the Flint River in an effort to save several million dollars a year. Almost immediately residents reported strange colors, bad smells and bad tasting water coming from the tap. Simple corrosion controls were not added to the water supply and experts agree that the “corrosive Flint River water caused lead from aging



carbon dioxide. These treatments provide primary, secondary and residual disinfectants, corrosion control, and promote dental health. Annual and monthly test results are posted on www.mwra.com. The MWRA also tests over 1,600 water samples per month, before reaching household taps. Lead is no longer used or installed in water distribution systems but it is still found in some older homes and buildings in many communities.

This Department and the MWRA value transparency and information sharing. Each year, Quincy collects water samples from 15 homes across the City and submits these samples to the MWRA for testing. Quincy consistently meets or exceeds testing criteria and requirements.

If you have any questions, or if you are concerned with the quality of your water, or if you notice a change in the taste or odor of your water please call 617-376-1910. We will inspect your water service line and provide you with information on how to get your water tested, and if necessary, information on how to have your water service line replaced.

We believe we have the safest, best tasting water in the country and we intend to keep it that way.

pipes to leach into the water supply, causing extremely elevated levels of lead.”¹

Quincy’s water is supplied by the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority which was created in 1985. The source is the Quabbin and Wachusett Reservoirs west of Boston. These reservoirs supply water to 51 communities providing a combined 200 million gallons a day of high quality water. The watersheds are naturally protected with over 85% of the water sheds covered in forest and wetlands. The streams and reservoirs are tested often and patrolled daily by the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR).

MWRA water is monitored by a state-of-the-art system, 24 hours a day, seven days a week to make sure it stays free of contaminants. Licensed treatment operators treat drinking water according to strict state and federal regulations. Treatment includes ozonation, ultraviolet light, chlorine, fluoride, sodium carbonate and



W/S/D Engineer Peter Hoyt and General Foreman Mark Vialpando receive the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) Drinking Water Program Public Water System Award for Outstanding Performance and Achievement from Department of Environmental Protection Commissioner David Cash and State Representative Bruce Ayers.

¹- Wikipedia: The Free Encyclopedia. Wikimedia Foundation, Inc. 2/27/2016. Web. 2/19/2016. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Flint_Water_Crisis.



Save energy and money by getting a free home energy assessment.

Contact www.HomeWorksEnergy.com/Quincy-Saves

or call HomeWorks Energy at (617)855-9889, or www.NextStepLiving.com/Quincy or call Next Step Living at (855)704-2992

POSTAL CUSTOMER

Please have your trash out by 7 am on your regular trash day. Pick-up times are subject to change without notice.

For curbside collection of appliances, TVs and monitors call 617-376-7556 at least 2 full business days before your regular trash day.



Dear Friends,

It looks like we may have escaped the winter with a below-average amount of snow fall. But I hope you’ll join me in knocking on wood – as we all know what New England weather can bring through March and even into April.

One thing that is certain is the Department of Public Works continues its commitment to the quality of life in Quincy. Every day, the men and women of the DPW work diligently to ensure that we have clean, fresh water, a healthy sewer network, safe streets and sidewalks and dependable trash service among other things. Also, there are many projects both planned and underway to improve and enjoy our great city.

So, please enjoy the spring and summer seasons ahead and feel free to call the DPW or my office anytime for any reason at all.

Sincerely,

Mayor Thomas P. Koch



The Earth Machine composter is available for purchase at the DPW rear yard M-F from 7:30 am to 3 pm and on Saturdays through December 10, from 7:30 am to 2:30 pm (weather permitting).

Through a grant from the state Department of Environmental Protection the cost is only \$50 each.



The Great American Rain Barrel Company of Hyde Park, MA is taking orders for this year’s distribution at the DPW parking lot at 55 Sea St., on May 10, 2016 from 5 to 7 pm. Rain Barrels are \$79 each and orders must be in

by 5 pm on May 3, 2016. For more information call **800-251-2352**.

The Perfect Recycling Barrel

Get a coupon worth \$10-off the Perfect Recycling Barrel at Danny’s or Curry Hardware by e-mailing recyclequincy@quincyma.gov or calling 617-376-1953.



Important Numbers

24-Hr. Emergency.....617-376-1910
 Commissioner Raymond.....617-376-1959
 Legal Counsel.....617-376-1525
 Water Billing.....617-376-1918
 Water/Sewer/Drain.....617-376-1910
 Waste and Recycling.....617-376-1953
 or, recyclequincy@quincyma.gov
 Sunrise Scavenger.....617-376-7556
 Engineering.....617-376-1950
 Traffic Engineer.....617-376-1962
 Street Sweeping.....617-376-1957
 Pot Hole Hotline.....617-376-1914
 DPW Related Claims.....617-376-1525



Recycling

Curbside collection of Single Stream Recycling is provided every week to residents of buildings with 8 units or less. The City does not distribute recycling containers. Put a free, blue Single Stream recycling sticker on any existing barrel. Single Stream stickers and a coupon worth \$10 towards the purchase of the Perfect Recycling Barrel are available at the DPW and City Hall. Call 617-376-1953 or e-mail, recyclequincy@quincyma.gov to have them mailed to you.

PAPER	PLASTIC	GLASS	METAL
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All paper and cardboard (paper clips and staples OK) Mail and envelopes (with windows OK) Magazines and catalogs Paperback books Shredded paper in clear plastic bags 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Soda, juice and water bottles Shampoo bottles Milk and juice jugs Detergent, bleach and softener bottles Clean yogurt and food containers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All colors Condiment jars Wine, beer and soda bottles Fruit and sauce jars Baby food jars Vinegar bottles 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aluminum and tin cans Aluminum pie plates and serving trays Clean tin foil Empty aerosol cans
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Milk and juice cartons Paper bags Fax and computer paper Cereal boxes Toilet paper cores Egg cartons Frozen food boxes Soap boxes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Soda, juice and water bottles Shampoo bottles Milk and juice jugs Detergent, bleach and softener bottles Clean yogurt and food containers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All colors Condiment jars Wine, beer and soda bottles Fruit and sauce jars Baby food jars Vinegar bottles 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aluminum and tin cans Aluminum pie plates and serving trays Clean tin foil Empty aerosol cans
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Paper towels, facial tissues, towelettes, and napkins Wax paper Hard cover books (Bring all books, cassettes and video tapes to DPW yard) Rigid plastic Plastic bags, food wrap Cellophane Dry cleaning bags Styrofoam Broken glass, cups, dishes and plates Windows Ceramics Mirrors Light bulbs Coat hangers Bring propane tanks to Curry Hardware Store Bring scrap metal to DPW yard 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Soda, juice and water bottles Shampoo bottles Milk and juice jugs Detergent, bleach and softener bottles Clean yogurt and food containers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All colors Condiment jars Wine, beer and soda bottles Fruit and sauce jars Baby food jars Vinegar bottles 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aluminum and tin cans Aluminum pie plates and serving trays Clean tin foil Empty aerosol cans

