



Water Restriction Press Release

July 28, 2016

In July 2016, the Massachusetts Secretary of Energy and Environmental Affairs issued a Drought Watch for the Central Drought Region (in which Northbridge and Sutton are located) based on advice from the Massachusetts Drought Management Task Force. A drought watch is the third highest of five levels of drought conditions. More details of this drought watch declaration can be found at

<http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/dcr/water-res-protection/water-data-tracking/drought-status.html>.

In Northbridge, we started the year with a 7.5” precipitation deficit (below average) from last year. So far in 2016 we are an additional 5.8” below average for precipitation. That is more than 13” below average for the past year and a half. Most notably, the past two months have been extremely dry. We received a total of only 1.98” for all of June and so far we have only received 1.8” in July. During this dry spell, we have been pumping higher than normal volumes of water. Because of the current drought conditions, the Whitinsville Water Company is issuing a Stage 1 Water Restriction to customers on the Whitinsville Water Company and Town of Northbridge water systems. The water restrictions will be effective Friday July 29th. A Stage 1 Water Restriction entails a voluntary restriction on all non-essential outdoor water to odd/even days. This means that if your house number is an even number (ends in 0,2,4,6,or 8) , we would ask that you only water on even dates either before 9am or after 5pm on that day. And if you house number is an odd number (ends in 1,3,5,7 or 9), we would ask that you only water on odd dates either before 9am or after 5pm on that day. If you have a shared irrigation system, we ask that you set the timer to run only on even days either before 9am or after 5pm. Further details of the Stage 1 Water Restriction can be found at the Whitinsville Water Company website under the Announcements tab.

Sincerely,
WHITINSVILLE WATER COMPANY