

## Georgetown Water Department

1 Moulton St.
Georgetown, MA 01833
978-352-5750
GeorgetownWater.org

#### To our valued customers,

I want to update you on some of the important work we're doing throughout our water system.

Many of you have noticed the storage containers at our West Street Plant. These are part of our ongoing filter refurbishment work. We are in the process of replacing the materials (media) that do the work of filtering water at the plant. This is an extensive process that includes removing current filtering media and replacing it, as well as cleaning and refurbishing the interior. This work is being done on two filters, and its completion timeline is dependent on both overall usage and weather.

In addition, we've received a grant to support our gate valve program. This will be a significant upgrade, as it will enable the department to replace infrastructure that will isolate future water main breaks. These properly functioning gate valves will significantly reduce disruptions to our service when these main breaks occur.

The funding comes from multiple sources, including surplus state revenue and American Rescue Plan funds.

#### **Subscribe to News & Pay Bills Online**

You can stay up to date on all Georgetown Water Department news by subscribing to our website!

Our page is updated regularly with news about ongoing projects, flushing information, service impacts and more.

To subscribe, visit GeorgetownWater.org and look for the subscribe feature at the very bottom of the page.

You can also pay your bill easily online using a credit card. Look for the "Register Now and Pay Online" button on the homepage.

#### **Well Now You Know**

Before Marshall's Well -- named for our first water superintendent, William Marshall -- we had a tubular well and the Metcalf Well, the latter named after Water Commissioner Robert F. Metcalf who served from 1933-1958. Both were abandoned due to capacity and quality concerns. The original Marshall Well went into service in 1964 and was replaced in 2019 by a new well bearing the same name.

To satisfy Georgetown's growing water needs, the Commissioner's Well was constructed in 1980 and used as a "summer well."

The Duffy's Landing Well, which is officially named for William Marshall's son, Ronald, was constructed in 1997. Ronald served the town in myriad ways, including with the Water, School, Police & Fire Departments. The "Duffy's" nickname comes from its location on property once owned by the Duffy family.

#### **Flushing Update**

We are working to determine our flushing schedule for the spring. We had to abstain from fall flushing because of last year's drought, making the coming system flush all the more urgent. With the ongoing work on our treatment plant, we are still working to determine the appropriate time to flush, given the significant water needs. Whether or not we move toward drought conditions will also affect flushing. Stay up to date by visiting GeorgetownWater.org.



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#### **Staff Spotlight**

We are excited to welcome our newest team member, Samuel Opont-Durogene, who has joined the department as a laborer. Samuel joins us after working in shipping logistics in Connecticut and as a project management assistant for a construction company in Amesbury.

He holds a bachelors degree from Endicott College and is currently working toward completing training and earning his certification to become a Drinking Water Operator. In his new role, he'll be supporting our daily operations.



### **Contribute to Conservation Through Smart Irrigation**

With the summer months coming up, now is a great time to start thinking about how you can contribute to our water conservation efforts.

Each summer, we can count on drought conditions and the resulting need to restrict water use. Spring and summer water irrigation have a significant impact on our overall water supply and so we want residents to be mindful of how they can contribute to conservation.

If you utilize an irrigation system, or plan to, the EPA recommends designing a custom system that accounts for our local climate and your landscape. In addition, you should consider what your irrigation equipment needs are and ensure proper scheduling of your irrigation system to ensure it's performing as efficiently as possible. Finally, make sure you test your system to audit its efficiency.

An irrigation pro can be very helpful with this work. You can find a WaterSense certified contractor online using lookforwatersense.epa.gov/pros/. You can earn up to a \$50 rebate from GWD for upgrading to a smart controller. Learn more at georgetownwater.org/rebate-program/.