**Cape Cod & The Island Drought Information**

The declaration of a Drought Advisory indicates a level of dry conditions where ground water supplies are below normal for 3 consecutive months. Due to these regulations, the Cotuit Water Department implements the following voluntary water conservation actions to help preserve our current water supply.

- Avoid all outside water use between the hours of 8:00 AM and 6:00 PM.
- Residents living on the odd number sides of the streets are asked to water lawns and gardens on odd numbered days only and residents residing on even numbered sides of the street are requested to water lawns and gardens on even numbered days only.
- Install rain shutoff devices on automatic irrigation systems and monitor for any leaks.
- Run dishwashers and washing machines will full loads only.
- Turn off the tap while brushing your teeth or shaving.
- Install low flow shower heads and fixtures.

Conservation actions to help preserve our current water supply.

**FREE Indoor and Outdoor Conservation Kits** are available at our office.

**Where Can I See The SWAP Report?**

The complete SWAP report is available at the Water Department Office and Board of Health. For more information, call Superintendent Chris Wiseman at 508-428-2687.

**Residents Can Help Protect Sources By:**

- Practicing good septic system maintenance
- Taking hazardous household chemicals to hazardous materials collection days at the Barnstable Transfer Station.
- Limiting pesticide and fertilizer use, etc.

**Crushing It - Don’t Flush It**

Medications that are flushed down the toilet can and do find their way into our aquifer every day. Here are four safe steps toward proper disposal:

1. Pour medication into sealable bag. If medication is a solid, crush it or add water to dissolve it.
2. Add cat litter, sawdust or coffee grounds to the plastic bag.
3. Seal the plastic bag and put it in the trash.
4. Remove and destroy all identifying personal information from all medication containers before recycling them or throwing them in the trash.

**Cross Connection**

Cross connection is the interconnection of a potable (drinkable) water line with non-potable piece of equipment or piping. Examples of non-potable equipment may include fire protection systems, lawn irrigation systems, air conditioning or cooling systems as well as high pressure boilers. Through the implementation of our cross connection program, commercial businesses have been surveyed and proper backflow devices have been installed. These devices are tested as regulated.

Check valves have been installed as part of meter installations in residential homes since the late 70’s. The department highly recommends using a licensed plumber, as they are knowledgeable with check valve operation.

**Meeting Schedule**

The Board of Water Commissioners meets on the third Wednesday of each month at 6:00 PM at Freedom Hall. Meetings are subject to change and are posted at the Town Hall, Freedom Hall, Facebook and the District website (www.cotuitfiredistrict.org).

**Board of Water Commissioners**

Donald Campbell, Chairman
Victor Mastro
Tom Hoppensteadt

**Cotuit Water Department**

**Drinking Water Quality Report**

**2017**

**Public Water Supplier ID # 4020003**

**System Maintenance and Improvements**

- Annual leak detection program was completed.
- Continued meter replacement program.
- All storage tanks and well pumps were inspected.
- Began chemical safety upgrade project at all five stations.

**Flushing Program**

The water mains are flushed every Spring as part of a preventive maintenance program to ensure that the water quality is not being compromised. Flushing notices are published in the Barnstable Patriot and posted on the District website. Daily flushing locations are also posted on the District website and on Facebook.

This report contains very important information about your drinking water. Please translate it, or speak with someone who understands it.
In 2017, over 500 water quality tests were conducted for drinking water compounds. These tests confirmed that your drinking water far exceeded all Federal and State regulations.

### 2017 Water Quality Information Table

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Regulated</th>
<th>MCL</th>
<th>MCLG</th>
<th>Highest Level Detected</th>
<th>Range of Detection</th>
<th>Violation</th>
<th>Major Source of Contamination</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nitrate (ppm)</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>2.8</td>
<td>1.6 - 2.8</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gross Alpha activity (pCi/L)</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2.6</td>
<td>.13 - 2.6</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>Erosion of natural deposits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Combined Radium (pCi/L)</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1.1</td>
<td>1.8 - 1.1</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>Erosion of natural deposits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barium (ppm)</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>.048</td>
<td>.048</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>Erosion of natural deposits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Haloacetic Acids (HAAS) (ppb)</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>.93</td>
<td>.88 - .93</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>By product of drinking water disinfection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Trihalomethane (THM) (ppb)</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>2.6</td>
<td>2.2 - 2.6</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>By product of drinking water disinfection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sulfate (ppm) (data from 2018)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>250</td>
<td>6.62</td>
<td>5.9 - 7.6</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>Naturally occurring</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sodium (ppm) (data from 2018)</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>15.2</td>
<td>12.8</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>Naturally occurring salt deposits; storm water runoff</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manganese (ppm) (data from 2018)</td>
<td>.3</td>
<td>.05</td>
<td>.07</td>
<td>.019 - .14</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>Erosion of natural deposits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chloriform (ppb)</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>.39</td>
<td>0 - .75</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>Naturally occurring</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lead &amp; Copper</td>
<td>Action Level (AL)</td>
<td>MCL</td>
<td>90th Percentile</td>
<td>Sample sites above the AL</td>
<td>Corrosion of household plumbing</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lead (ppb) (data from 2018)</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>.14</td>
<td>2 out of 20</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>Corrosion of household plumbing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Copper (ppm) (data from 2018)</td>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>.61</td>
<td>0 out of 20</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>Corrosion of household plumbing</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Microbiological Contaminants

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MCL</th>
<th>Highest % of positive Samples</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Coliform*</td>
<td>&gt;5% of samples</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E. coli**</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Human and animal fecal waste</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

** Terms & Abbreviations**

- ppm = Parts per million, or micrograms per liter (mg/l)
- ppb = Parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (µg/l)
- AL = Action Level - the concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
- MCL = Maximum Contaminant Level - the level of a contaminant that is established to protect the public health. The MCLs are enforceable standards.
- MCLG = Maximum Contaminant Level Goal - the level of a contaminant in drinking water to which people can be exposed daily over a lifetime without an appreciable health risk.
- MRDL = Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level - The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRLs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.
- MRDLG = Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal - The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.
- Unregulated Contaminants - Unregulated contaminants are substances without MCLs for which EPA requires monitoring. For some of these substances, the Massachusetts Office of Research and Standards (ORS) has developed state guidelines or secondary MCLs.
- ORSLG = Massachusetts Office of Research and Standards Guidelines - This is the concentration of a chemical in drinking water, at or below which, adverse health effects are unlikely to occur after chronic (lifetime) exposure, with a margin of safety, if it exceeded it serve as an indicator of the potential need for further action.
- Secondary maximum contaminant level - standards are developed to protect the aesthetic qualities of drinking water and are not health based.
- pCi/L - Picocuries per liter - Measure of radioactivity of water.
- 90th percentile - out of every 10 homes tested, 9 were at or below this level.

### Lead in Drinking Water

- The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it can acquire naturally occurring minerals, in some cases, radioactive material, and substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

### Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

- **Microbial contaminants**, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.
- **Inorganic contaminants**, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or result from stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharge, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.
- **Pesticides and herbicides**, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses.
- **Organic chemical contaminants**, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, or septic systems.
- **Radioactive contaminants**, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the DEP & EPA prescribes regulations limiting the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and the Mass Dept. of Health regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health.

### SPECIAL HEALTH INFORMATION

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be at particular risk from infections. These people should seek advice from their health care providers. EPA/Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.