



# WHAT'S IN THE WORKS

Danvers Department of Public Works

Spring 2016



## PEAK SAVINGS PROGRAM WINS MASSACHUSETTS MUNICIPAL ASSOCIATION'S INNOVATION AWARD

Hot summer days lead to increased usage of air conditioners, swimming pool pumps, and other equipment to help you cool off. Over the last two years, Danvers Electric rolled out a "demand response" program to decrease energy use on peak days, which would ultimately result in savings for both the municipal utility and its customers. This



Danvers **Peak Savings Program** was recognized by the Massachusetts Municipal Association (MMA) as a recipient of their **Innovation Award** in February 2016.

Residents and businesses enrolled in the Peak Savings Program receive an email alert 24 hours before a projected peak use day in the summer. They opt-in by clicking "yes" in the email, and then receive tips on how they can reduce their energy usage during the day, from turning their air conditioning up 4 degrees to holding off on running the washing machine until after the peak event.

Residential participants who report taking at least two reduction measures get a **\$10 Amazon gift card** once their power reduction has been verified.

"Air conditioning, dehumidifiers and pool pumps are the biggest energy hogs during the summer", said Yrinee Michaelidis, the Town's Energy Efficiency Engineer. "Vampire loads" – like cable boxes, TVs and computers – also use electricity even when they're turned off. Peak electricity usage translates to capacity charges on the utility's bill, which Danvers Electric has seen increase.

Between the demand response program and solar production, **Danvers reduced its peak load last year from a forecast of 74 megawatts to 72.1 megawatts.**

Michaelidis attributed **\$80,000 in savings** directly to the Peak Savings Program.

For more information about the Danvers Peak Savings Program, call Danvers Electric at 978-774-0005, Option 2 or email [peaksavings@mail.danvers-ma.org](mailto:peaksavings@mail.danvers-ma.org). To sign up visit: [www.PeakSavingsProgram.com](http://www.PeakSavingsProgram.com).

## MIKE NELSON NAMED DPW DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS



With the retirement of Bob Lee, the duties of DPW Director of Operations are now in the capable hands of Mike Nelson. Mike will oversee day-to-day operations in several divisions including Street, Equipment, Building, Grounds & Forestry, Water & Sewer and the Water Treatment Plant.

Mike started as a Civil Engineer in the Danvers Engineering Division in June 2012. He has a Bachelor of Science Degree in Civil Engineering from UMASS Amherst, a Master's Degree in Civil Engineering from Northeastern University, and is a Registered Professional Engineer. Mike's knowledge of the Danvers infrastructure has allowed him to "hit the ground running" and he has already proven to be a welcomed addition.

## SPRING STREET PROJECTS

- Roadway paving will take place on Sherwood Avenue and Barbara Road.
- Chapter 90 work will include replacing sidewalks on Whitfield Road, Grapevine Road, Chapel Road, Morningside Drive, Shetland Road and North Shetland Road.
- The Massachusetts Department of Transportation's Liberty Street Project will restart in April. Settlement in the new causeway is being monitored and work will begin once geotechnical engineers have given the green light. The causeway will be shut down starting sometime in April through July to accommodate utility work and the reconstruction of the south side of Liberty Street from Popes Landing to the Port Corner. The roadway shutdown will be advertised in advance.

## DPW NOTES & EVENTS

- **Transfer Station** is open Monday through Saturday from 7:00 AM to 4:00 PM.
- **Protect your water supply from cross contaminants.** An unprotected cross connection (ex. lawn irrigation, pesticides attached to garden hose) could contaminate your drinking water and cause severe illnesses and injuries to you or neighboring properties. For more information, please visit the Water Division on the Public Works section of the Town's website.
- **Danvers' Earth Day Zero Waste Recycling Weekend** is Saturday & Sunday, May 14 & 15 from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM at the High School parking lot at 60 Cabot Road.
- **Yard Waste** collection will take place Town-wide on your trash/recycling day the weeks of April 10, April 24 and May 8.
- **Fix-A-Leak Week** is March 14-20. See the Town website and the Danvers DPW Facebook page for water saving tips.
- **Hydrant Flushing** will start March 28 as weather allows and last 4 weeks.
- May is **Electrical Safety Month!**
- Celebrate **Drinking Water Week** from May 1-7.
- **Public Works Week** is May 15-21. Stay tuned for more information.
- 2015 **Water Quality** Report will be available at Town offices and on the Town website in May.

## EARTH DAY ZERO WASTE RECYCLING WEEKEND

On Saturday and Sunday, **May 14 & 15**, Danvers will hold a weekend long recycling event in the High School Parking Lot at 60 Cabot Road from 9:00 AM—1:00 PM. Bring **clothing, shoes, linens, paper to shred, CDs, DVDs, audio books, records, electronics, rigid plastics and metal**. Cub Scouts will be collecting redeemable **bottles and cans**. Please check our website closer to the event date for more details. Danvers Residents only.



**Compost Bins** (\$30) and **Rain Barrels** (\$30) will also be available for on-site purchase by residents with a check made payable to the Town of Danvers. Limited number, first-come, first-served, no pre-orders, NO CASH.



## WATER MAIN FLUSHING

The Water Division will be conducting its annual **flushing program** of the water distribution system beginning on Monday, March 28 as weather allows. Flushing is done every spring to remove sediment which has settled and collected in the system. Over a 4 week period, hydrant flushing will occur both during the day and evening. You may notice some discoloration of the water when first used. Please run your cold water to clear out any discoloration. If your water does not clear up on its own within 1 hour, please contact the Water Division at 978-762-0230.



## HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC FIELDS UPDATE

The completed turf field at the High School Stadium looks fantastic, and if you drive by you will notice the progress made on the bleacher construction. The full work crew will be mobilized to the site in early spring, and we are hopeful that the 2016 graduation will take place in the new stadium. Work on the restrooms and all remaining site work will continue through August. The Athletic Field Committee is still working on the naming rights to the stadium - if you know of a interested party, please contact the Town Manager's office.

## STORMWATER MANAGEMENT

The Town of Danvers has a stormwater management plan, and much of the routine work that the DPW does contributes to keeping our waterways, as well as our streets clean for residents.



Stormwater is rain and snow that runs off roadways and sidewalks and flows into storm drains in the street. This water then drains into the Ipswich River and other local water bodies. Unlike water that goes into the sewer and gets treated at a plant such as water from your sink or shower, stormwater is not treated before it enters our waterways. Anything that goes down the storm drain flows directly to our water resources.

What more can you do to prevent stormwater pollution in Danvers?

### **1. Let the professionals wash your car.**

The best way to wash your car is to bring it to a professional car wash. These facilities have infrastructure to deal with excess amounts of waste water. If you want to do it at home, try washing in a place where the water will flow into a permeable surface. Also try using biodegradable/non-toxic soaps.

### **2. Environmentally friendly fertilizer can make a difference.**

Do some research! There are many sources about what type of fertilizer is the most environmentally friendly, but you must consider what is best for your garden and lawn. Always check the weather forecast to avoid applying fertilizer before a storm in order to give the fertilizer a chance to absorb into the ground. Also, cutting your lawn at the tallest grass height setting helps significantly with stormwater runoff collection.

### **3. Consider using rain barrels this year.**

Rain barrels are a great way to reduce stormwater runoff and save you money. In 2016 you can pick up rain barrels at our Earth Day Zero Waste Recycling Weekend Event.

### **4. Please pick up after your pet. Thank you!**

Pet waste contains bacteria that can cause diseases in humans and threaten wildlife. Pets, children and adults who swim in local waters, play outside or garden are at higher risk for infection from bacteria found in pet waste.

If you have any questions regarding the DPW Programs or Events listed in this newsletter, please contact the DPW at 978-777-0001 x3011

**Town of Danvers/DPW**  
1 Sylvan Street  
978-777-0001

**Public Works**  
95 Hobart Street  
978-762-0231

**Business & Electric Divisions**  
2 Burroughs Street  
978-774-0005

**Transfer Station**  
East Coast Road  
978-774-5172