

Water Use Update

Franklin, MA

Robert “Brutus” Cantoreggi
Public Work Director

Franklin Council June 24th, 2020

Drought Task Force Meeting

- The Drought Task Force met this afternoon and after reviewing current conditions and the forecasts for less than normal precipitation and higher than normal temperatures, the Task Force is recommending to the Secretary of EEA that a Level 2 (Significant Drought) be declared

Weather Update

- Year to date (since January) rainfall in Massachusetts, down 5 inches, (43 inches normally) so we are 24⁰% down.
- Mild winter no snow pack, i.e. not much groundwater recharge.
- June only 1.6 of rain, normally 3.74, so off by 58%. One of the events was a "flash tropical storm". Which one inch of rain fell quickly and most "ran-off" and did not saturate the soil and recharge the groundwater.
- "Drought Management Task Force" met today due to the severity statewide on the issue.

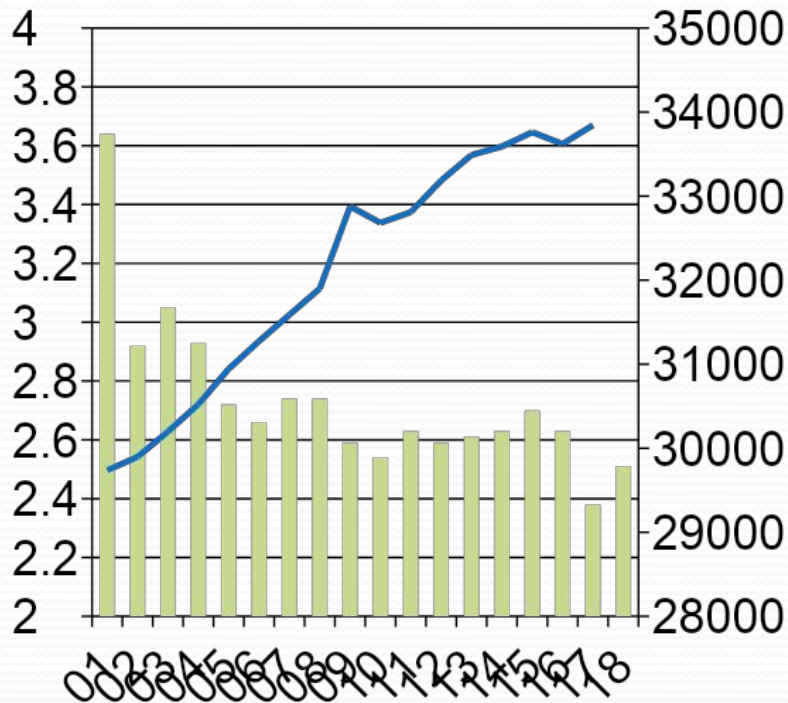
Well Pumping 2020

We have been pumping (in millions of gallons) the following per month:

- Jan 68.5
- Feb 55.9
- Mar 60.0
- Apr 60.0
- May 75.2
- Jun 86.8 (estimated on monthly use so far)

Average daily pumpage (MGD)

■ Water Usage
— Population



Avg daily use

2020:

- Jan 2.20
- Feb 1.99
- Mar 1.93
- Apr 2.00
- May 2.42
- Jun 2.89 (very high)

System Concerns

- All our wells that can be operated right now are running at permitted limits, but we are not keeping up with demand.
- Tank levels are low, particular at Forge Hill Tank. Normally we want to be at 35 feet and we were at 13.6 feet this morning.
- Each foot represents 110K gallons so we are down 2.5 Million gallons of water in this tank alone!
- Low water pressure is starting to affect some properties. This is not just a lawn water issue, but a fire control issue.

Well Information

- Well #6 is off, due to Iron and Mg issues, could be on when the new plant is on line. ***This is a loss of 720K of water a day by itself.***
- Well #3 is on only pumping 315 gallons per minute (GPM) even though permitted 500 GPM because of Iron and Mg issues, could be running full when new plant is on line
- Well #8 is on only pumping 100 GPM, not 350 GPM because casings need to be cleaned (is scheduled)
- Well #9 can only pump 200 GPM not 500 GPM because of low aquifer

Questions?

