

CITY OF PORTSMOUTH



PRESS RELEASE

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IMMEDIATE
RELEASE**

June 2, 2016

Portsmouth Encourages Efficient Water Use Due to an Unusually Dry Spring

PORTSMOUTH, NH – The Department of Public Works – Water Division is issuing the attached Water Supply Status Report to inform Portsmouth Water Division customers of the current water supply conditions. As the Report details, the New Hampshire Seacoast has received a small volume of precipitation this spring despite all the rainy days we have experienced.

According to Al Pratt, the City’s Water Resources Manager, “The combined precipitation for April and May 2016 totaled just over three inches. Normal precipitation for these months is just over eight inches.” According to data tracked by the City’s water operations staff, river levels are low for this time of year and the reservoir is also lower than normal. “The City’s water resources include more than just the reservoir,” states Brian Goetz, Deputy Director of Public Works. “We have eight wells that we have been resting over the winter, therefore, groundwater levels are in pretty good shape. This helps make up for the lack of surface water flow right now, however, if we don’t get some rain fairly soon we may see those levels drop too.”

Currently there are no restrictions for water use, however, the City would like to stress that customers be as efficient as possible. Attached is a flyer that was distributed in April which provides water efficiency tips for the summer. Customers can also read the full report and details behind the current supply status at: www.Cityofportsmouth.com/publicworks (click on “water”).

For more information, please contact Al Pratt, Water Resources Manager at 520-0622 or Brian Goetz, Deputy Director of Public Works at 766-1420.