

## Department of Public Works



I have completed my first year, in Duxbury as the new Director of Public Works and I would like to say that I am very impressed with the Town and the townspeople as a whole. Other Dept. heads, town staff, board members, and in particular my staff have been extremely welcoming and extremely helpful. I thank you all.

My first year brought record breaking snowfalls, tight budget constraints, and heavy rains. I hope these are not a sign of things to come. I commend the DPW crews for their efforts keeping our streets clear during this past winter with very little plow damage, minimal complaints and low comparable expenditures. I have heard many commendations for their efforts.

The DPW completed and took on many new projects. The Dept. finalized the renovation's within Town Hall. Many emergency projects were completed and without requesting reserve fund transfers, such as a new electrical service for the Wright Building, retort repairs along with fire prevention prompted renovations at the Crematory. The Dept. of Lands and Natural Resources and the Highway Dept. worked closely with citizens and the Recreation Dept. to complete the new Ellison Playground.

We are working closer with other Dept.'s on the review of private development projects, the future implementation of a Geographic Information System, a future drainage project in Snug Harbor, etc.

We are updating our construction specifications in order to be more consistent, efficient and up to date with industry standards. The Dept. issued 27 street opening permits this past year. With an aging fleet, The Vehicle Maintenance Division of the D.P.W. has had to deal with increased and more complex repairs to our vehicles. They are focussing on better tracking of costs and better specifications for our future vehicles.

The Dept. is working closely with the newly created Transfer Station Advisory Committee. The Committee is taking on the challenges of reviewing the solid waste rate structure, the applicability of the current rules & regulations, looking at new site layouts to improve traffic flow and efficiency, alternate recycling options, staffing levels, sticker fraud, increased site monitoring, etc. We estimate this past year that the Highway Dept. saved the Transfer Station budget over \$100,000 with their tub grinding efforts. The composting efforts of the Dept. continue to be a big hit as noticed by the number of and comments by residents that take our free compost. The Highway Dept. has also stopped out-sourcing our catchbasin cleaning program and have successfully committed to operate a better program for less cost in-house.

The Water & Sewer Division has taken over supervising operations at the new wastewater treatment plant at the High School. The Dept. saved significant dollars by bidding and hiring Weston & Sampson Services as the new contract operators for the new plant. The Water & Sewer Division should be commended for their efforts of running the new plant with in-house staff while we were in between contracted operators. We are currently in design to update all of the pump stations at the Saint George Street school complex with new pumps, alarms and telemetry equipment.

There have been many new faces this year within the Dept. We are very pleased with their attitudes, job performance and welcome them aboard.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Thomas E. Daley, P.E.  
Director of Public Works

**Department of Lands  
and Natural Resources**



The Town of Duxbury was awarded the Tree City USA Award by the National Arbor Day Foundation and the United States Department of Agriculture Forest Service for the twelfth consecutive year.

The Department of Lands and Natural Resources is currently building a new multi- purpose athletic field on Keene Street next to the existing field and playground. This project was made possible with the use of Community Preservation Act funding. The complex is roughly 50% complete. Excellent progress has been made in the first year of the two-year time frame for completion. The field will be operational by the Fall of 2004.

After the Bay Road shared septic system was brought on line, Wadsworth Field was renovated and an irrigation system was installed. This entire project is one we can all be proud of.

The department continues its efforts to serve the people of Duxbury by working with the Conservation Commission, Coastal Resources Department and Garden Club to ensure that our public lands, open spaces, facilities and ways remain beautiful and are a source of pride for the entire community.

Respectfully submitted,

Peter Buttkus  
Manager of Buildings and Grounds  
Tree Warden

## Highway Department



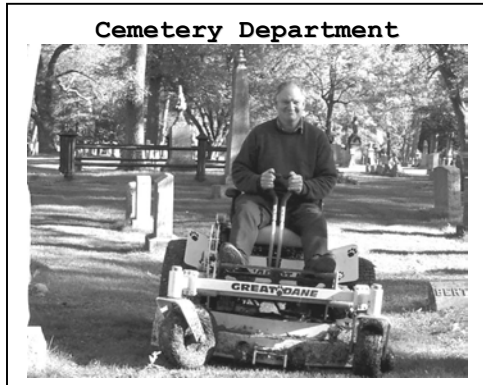
As the old saying goes, if you don't like the weather just wait a minute and it will change. Last winter proved this to be true. Winter operations started on November 26<sup>th</sup> with 1 1/2' of snow and ended on March 13<sup>th</sup> with the year's last operation. We received 65" of snow doubling the average snowfall we normally receive. In Duxbury, this winter also produced the most snowfall in a 24 hour period. I commend the DPW crew for a job well done.

When the winter finally ended, crews started sweeping roads, correcting drainage problems, constructing and repairing catch basins, repairing and replacing street signs and painting traffic lines. Along with our day to day work we also completed the sidewalk on Chestnut Street, constructed and paved the parking lot at the Senior Housing on Chestnut Street, completed site work and preparation of the new playground located beside the library. We are continuing with the road maintenance program with the paving Powder Point Avenue, Wadsworth Road, Herring Weir Road, Old Colony Road and the parking lot at the North Hill Country Club.

As always, I would like to thank all the people of Duxbury for their cooperation and support and the crew of the Highway Department for their dedicated work.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul Balboni  
Operations Manager DPW



In my position as Cemetery Superintendent I suppose that it is only natural that I would pay particular attention to the condition of other cemeteries as I travel about the region. I am often disheartened at the deteriorating conditions that I see in many of these facilities, both municipal and private. Leaning stones, unkempt grounds, overgrown shrubbery and neglected "old sections" are common in the cemeteries of our neighboring communities. I suppose that this is inevitable in this age of "fiscal responsibility" and shrinking budgets. This is not the case in Duxbury. Our cemeteries continue to be an appealing and ever improving testament to civic pride. I would attribute much of this to a small, yet knowledgeable and industrious crew, a caring Board of Trustees and a conscientious management structure that understands the importance of a cemetery to the community.

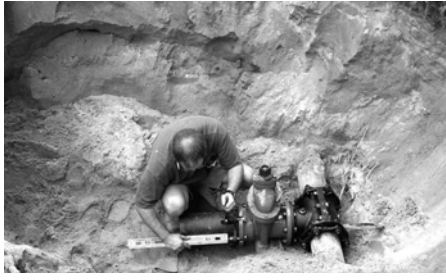
I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge certain groups that, all too often, do not get enough credit for the contributions that they make to the cemeteries. The Duxbury American Legion, aided by the Town's Scouting groups puts a tremendous amount of time and effort into honoring our veterans with their Memorial Day Program and the placement of geraniums and flags at each veteran's grave. Groups such as the D.A.R., the Alden Society and Duxbury Rural and Historical Society sponsor tours and lectures that educate and cultivate an interest in the rich historical background of our cemeteries. There is one group that gets little recognition, yet play an intricate role in making our cemeteries among the best in the area. This would be the individual lot owners. As I walk about the cemetery, I am often overwhelmed by the work, devotion and pride that are taken in the upkeep of these lots in honoring the memory of departed loved-ones.

In more business related matters, we have seen an 11% increase in the number of cremations and anticipate that this figure will continue to increase. A preliminary study was conducted in regard to renovating and expanding the current facility as opposed to building a new crematory. Although no decisions have been made, initial indications are that the footprint of the current building would not support the kind of improvements that we feel are necessary for our current and future needs. A number of improvements were made to the building during the past year to bring it up to current fire and safety codes, buying time until new directions for the future of our crematorium are finalized.

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph Ziobro  
Cemetery Superintendent

**Water and Sewer  
Department**



**WATER PUMPED**  
**JULY 2002-JUNE 2003**

Jul. 82,387,945	Jan. 33,501,502
Aug. 81,063,942	Feb. 27,332,341
Sep. 44,427,504	Mar. 32,634,960
Oct. 37,633,161	Apr. 32,845,696
Nov. 31,163,431	May 41,091,410
Dec. 33,096,387	June 46,434,479

**TOTAL: 523,612,758**

NEW SERVICES ADDED TO THE WATER SYSTEM: 18

TOTAL SERVICES: 5,426

NEW MAINS ADDED TO THE WATER SYSTEM:

- Valley St.
- Pratt Circle
- Amado Way
- Freeman Farms

IMPROVEMENTS TO THE WATER SYSTEM INCLUDE:

Installation of new water mains to replace existing vinly-lined asbestos cement water mains in the following streets:

- Bravender Rd.
- Off Parks St. (191)
- Brick Hill Ln.
- Settlers Path
- Conservation Ln.
- Trout Farm Ln.
- Pettibush Ln.

Installation of a new water main in Harden Hill Rd replaced the existing undersized main.

MAINTENANCE OF THE WATER SYSTEM INCLUDED:

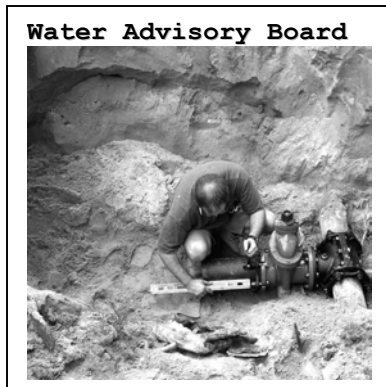
- Replacement of 3 damaged, broken or aged hydrants
- Repair of 2 leaking hydrants
- Repair of 3 broken water mains
- Renewal of 39 service connections
- Repair of 7 leaking service connections

IMPROVEMENTS TO DUXBURY'S SEWER SYSTEM INCLUDE:

- Completion of the new wastewater treatment facility at the High School Complex
- Installation of a new lift station at the Elementary School.

Respectfully submitted,

Carl Hillstrom  
Water/Sewer Superintendent



Although we have continued to monitor the levels of MTBE at the Mill Brook Well, we are now concerned that low levels of this product is being found at the Lakeshore Well as well. Levels at both wells are in the single numbers with the Lakeshore Well demonstrating slightly higher levels than the Mill Brook Well. Levels at both wells are significantly below regulatory limits, levels at which taste and odor would be noticed, and levels at which a health effect would be of concern. This product is inserted into gasoline sold during the summer months in order to improve the burning efficiency, and reduce the pollution created during the heat of the summer in response to EPA requirements. It would be found wherever gasoline is found including the small motors in lawn mowers, chain saws, boat motors using gasoline, etc. When deposited into the aquifer, it attaches to the water

molecule in such a way that causes the natural breakdown process to halt. The other components of gasoline seem to break down over time thereby not appearing on the testing reports. In sum, MTBE is all that may remain of the original gasoline spill given travel time and distance.

The filter media at the Evergreen Treatment Plant was replaced this year in order to restore its capability. This is the first replacement since its construction in 1998, and it was successful.

The Delano property has been purchased during the summer of 2002, and surveys completed to allow for the transfer of a portion of this property to the Water Department. As noted last year, this site is a future well site for good quality water during peaking periods.

Unlike last year, temperatures were cooler and rainfall significantly more. For the twelve months ending June, this fiscal year has rainfall significantly higher than the average over the last six years, and higher than the last four years reversing a recent downward trend. The chart below demonstrates the average and total rainfall for six twelve month periods.

We also must note that vinyl lined AC water mains on 7 streets representing 3,805 feet were replaced in the spring of 2003 for a total to date of 54 streets representing 59,013 feet. Levels of PCE are now below detection levels in the majority of the remaining areas, and all streets with bleeders have had their mains replaced and bleeders shut down. As of this date, the program to replace all vinyl lined AC water mains which show reportable levels of PCE is very close to being completed.

Respectively Submitted

George D. Wadsworth, Chairman  
Freeman Boynton, Jr., Clerk  
Robert K. Keagy

# Town of Duxbury

## Twelve Months Ending June Rainfall

