August 11, 2020

North Haven Water Department Customers

Re: Drought and Water Use

Dear Water Department Customers,

Please do what you can to limit your use of Town water.

The North Haven Water Department obtains its water from Fresh Pond. After filtering the water, we pump it into the Standpipe (water tank) where it flows by gravity and hydraulic pressure through the rest of the system to your homes and businesses. We operate four sets of filters and four separate pumps.

In a typical summer, we can shut down one or more pumps and use the downtime to clean the associated filters. This summer is different. We are in the middle of a drought, so people are relying on Town water to nourish their lawns, wash the dust off their cars, and water their gardens. And it seems the pandemic has more people growing their own food.

As a result of this increased use, we have been running all four pumps 24-hours a day without a net increase in the Standpipe’s water level. While the pumps are designed to withstand continuous use, we prefer to take them offline occasionally in a rotation. This allows us to check them for wear, perform any needed maintenance, and to clean the filters.

If we all take steps to limit our water use in some way, we can build up the storage level in the Standpipe and take care of the pumps and filters. Without a voluntary reduction in usage, we may be forced to impose restrictions. You are in a better position than the Town to determine how you can best conserve water. Please help us out.

Thank you.

Rick Lattimer
Town Administrator