



2018 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report  
For  
**The Cherry Valley and Rochdale Water District**  
Leicester, MA  
MassDEP PWS ID # 2151001

*Serving Cherry Valley, Rochdale and North Oxford with quality drinking water since 1910*

This report is a snapshot of the drinking water quality we provided last year. Included are details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to state and federal standards. The Cherry Valley and Rochdale Water District (CVRWD) is committed to providing you with this information because informed customers are our best allies.

**PUBLIC WATER SYSTEM INFORMATION**

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	Arthur E. J. Levesque	Clerk:	Cheryl Balkus
	Michael L. DellaCava, Sr.		

**WATER SYSTEM UPDATE:**

**UDF Hydrant Flushing**

Uni-directional Flushing (UDF) is a hydrant flushing method that is an extremely aggressive method of flushing the distribution system providing positive benefits by enhancing water quality, maintain chlorine residuals throughout the distribution system and verify proper operation of hydrants and valves. In 2018 the District Staff was able to complete system flushing both in the Spring and again in the Fall. Beginning in May of 2019 District Staff will be working to conduct system flushing bi-annually.

**Leak Detection**

As a result of purchasing water from the City of Worcester and knowing that the District pays for every drop of water measured by the interconnection's master meter, the District's staff has increased the frequency of the District Leak Detection program. The District's staff continues to conduct monthly hydrant to hydrant surveys and inspections to avoid wasteful and costly system water leaks.

**Unilateral Administrative Order (UAO)**

On November 22, 2016 MassDEP issued a Unilateral Administrative Order confirming that MassDEP prohibits the District from resuming use of Henshaw Pond as a Public Water Supply source until treatment is provided to assure compliance with MassDEP's Drinking Water Regulations. To be clear, a conservative estimate of the cost to construct a treatment facility to assure compliance with MassDEP's Drinking Water Regulations fell in the range of \$9 to \$9.5 million dollars. This cost was deemed by the Commissioners as being well beyond the ratepayers' ability to pay the long term debt associated with the project. Coupled with the fact that the facility would require a footprint of up to 20 acres to accommodate the construction of the treatment facility, the Worcester interconnection became the most affordable option.

**Apricot Interconnection/Booster Station**

At the May 2017 annual meeting voters approved \$437,000 to fund the automation of the Apricot Interconnection and the Booster Pump located at 148 Henshaw St. The project went out to bid in early 2018, unfortunately the project had to be rebid due to only 1 contractor bidding on the project and the price being

much higher than what was projected. After a second successful bid, the District signed a contract with PRIDE Environmental to complete the needed upgrades for the automation project. Construction began in late summer of 2018 and a new vault with a meter and automated valve was installed at the Leicester/Worcester line on Apricot St. The District was scheduled to go live with this new automated system no later than September 30, 2018 per our agreement with MassDEP. We did not meet that deadline due to some construction not completed and had to change the activation date to October 4<sup>th</sup> 2018. MassDEP was understanding of the delay. On October 4<sup>th</sup> the Automated system on Apricot St. and the Booster System located at 148 Henshaw St. went active and have been working well ever since. With the system being automated, it eliminates the need for the overtime that was associated with the manual operations that had extended until the Automation date. Having this system active the staff can now see and monitor flows, pressures, and consumption on a daily basis of what is purchased from the City of Worcester, and what is utilized in both service areas of the District. This information is crucial to our operations since we can trend the consumptions and determine if we have a leak or something out of the ordinary occurring in the Distribution system. Pride Environmental is going to be finalizing paving of the area on Apricot St. this spring.

### **Sanitary Survey 2016**

In September 2016, MassDEP conducted the District wide Sanitary Survey. The Survey is usually a day long review and inspection of all phases of operation and management. However, the Survey was cut short due to the pending activation of the Apricot Interconnection and construction of the Booster Station. On December 19, 2017 the MassDEP agent returned after the interconnection/booster system was in operation to review the original survey from 2016 in order to see what still applies to the District with the change in operation. On January 29, 2018 the District again met with Mass DEP to review and agree upon items to be addressed within the Sanitary Survey. The District is currently working with MassDEP to address these items in a timely manner. The items needing to be addressed from the 2016 Sanitary Survey were as follows, Inspect and clean West St. Storage Tanks before end of calendar year 2018, Inspect and clean Greenville Storage Tank by end of calendar year 2019, conduct a system Hydraulic Study, and remove old treatment chemicals from Henshaw St. facility. MassDEP will be back to conduct a new Sanitary Survey in 2019 as they are required to complete a survey every three years.

### **Annual Financial Audit**

The annual financial audit was conducted by the firm of Spinelli CPA, PC, for years ending June 30, 2017 and 2018. The audit concluded that the District continues to demonstrate excellent financial accountability. For your convenience and review the 2017 – 2018 Audited Statement of Net Assets, Revenue, Expenses, Changes in Net Assets and Cash Flows are published in the 109<sup>th</sup> Annual Report which can be viewed on our website at [www.cvrwd.com](http://www.cvrwd.com).

### **User Rates**

The Commissioners are aware of and understand the frustration and dismay from the District rate payers concerning the current rate structure. However, based on the new operations and functions of the District, along with the lack of hard data collection from the master meter at the site of the interconnection and additionally, the new items that were listed in the Sanitary Survey, the Commissioners decided to leave the current rate structure unchanged for the time being. With the now working master meter located at the Interconnection, the District is now receiving the hard consumption data we need in order to review the current rates. A rate study was originally planned on being conducted in October of 2019 after the District received 1-year worth of flow data. At the April 9<sup>th</sup> meeting the Commissioners voted to reduce the rates effective immediately. In coordination with this they will be conducting a rate study sooner than originally planned.

### **What we are doing to address the concerns of the District**

In conjunction with the Cherry Valley Sewer District, both Boards approved the first step in proceeding with participation in potential joint meetings with the other water and sewer districts located in the Town of Leicester. These joint meetings will be initiated and facilitated by Congressman Jim McGovern's Office, in hopes to resolve the ongoing issues faced by the water and sewer districts in the Town of Leicester in a comprehensive manner. If these meetings prove to be productive, the collective Districts could possibly

receive technical assistance and planning grants from the Department of Commerce Economic Development Administration to assist in the resolution. In the past year a great deal of information has come to light in regard to the water and sewer Districts throughout this town. With the Cherry Valley Sewer District facing impending insolvency, conversations between all town Water and Sewer Districts began to see what could be done to potentially help the Sewer District. We have since held meetings with State and Federal lawmakers to discuss if there is potential assistance from them as well. The collective group is working to look at what is best for our community moving forward. All districts have voted to participate in a feasibility study on a potential merger, until the time in which this is completed the group will continue to meet and brainstorm throughout the upcoming year working to find resolutions to the issues facing our community.

### **Opportunities for Public Participation**

If you would like to participate in discussions regarding your water quality, you may attend the Board of Water Commissioners' meetings on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of every month. In accordance with the new Open Meeting Law, please refer to official postings of future meeting agendas at your local Town Hall.

## **YOUR DRINKING WATER SOURCE**

Since October of 2016, the Cherry Valley and Rochdale Water District has been connected to and purchases water from the City of Worcester. Worcester obtains its drinking water from 10 surface water sources, or reservoirs, located outside of the City. The watershed for these reservoirs covers 40 square miles. These reservoirs, totaling a combined storage capacity of 7,379.9 Million Gallons (MG) are:

- Lynde Brook Res. (Leicester) 717.4 Million Gallons
- Kettle Brook Res. No. 1 (Leicester) 19.3 MG
- Kettle Brook Res. No. 2 (Leicester) 127.3 MG
- Kettle Brook Res. No. 3 (Leicester, Paxton) 152.3 MG
- Kettle Brook Res. No. 4 (Paxton) 513.7 MG
- Holden Res. No. 2 (Holden) 257.4 MG
- Holden Res. No. 1 (Holden) 729.3 MG
- Kendall Res. (Holden) 792.2 MG
- Pine Hill Res. (Paxton, Holden, Rutland) 2,971.0 MG
- Quinapoxet Res. (Holden, Princeton) 1,100.0 MG

In addition to these 10 active reservoirs, other sources of water supply remain inactive but could be used in the case of an emergency. These additional supplies include two wells and two reservoirs; the Coal Mine Brook Well on Lake Ave North in Worcester and the Shrewsbury Well off Holden Street in Shrewsbury the Wachusett Reservoir and the Quabbin Aqueduct.

To protect a surface water supply one must control the land within the watershed surrounding the supply. Worcester has maintained very strict control over the land it holds for water supply protection. However, not all of the land in Worcester's watershed is owned or controlled by the City. On some of those privately owned lands activities occur that could pose a threat to water quality in the reservoirs.

The potentially threatening land uses include: dairy farms, livestock operations, manure spreading or storage, pesticide storage and use, railroad tracks, aquatic wildlife, landfills and dumps, power line rights of way, storm water discharges, highways and roadways. Over-all, Worcester's water supplies are considered highly susceptible to contamination.

More information on watershed protection issues is available in the Source Water Assessment & Protection (SWAP) report prepared by MassDEP in 2002 and available from Worcester DPW&P Water Operations by calling 508-929-1300 or at [www.mass.gov/dep/water/drinking/2348000.pdf](http://www.mass.gov/dep/water/drinking/2348000.pdf).

Treatment will reduce the levels of contaminants to a safe range and can effectively eliminate some substances but will not remove all traces of all possible contaminants.

In calendar 2017, the Worcester Water Filtration Plant treated 7,615,645,000 gallons of water using the following processes:

- **Ozonation**—Generated on-site, ozone disinfects and breaks down organic matter making the water more efficiently filtered. This is the most effective disinfectant for the parasites giardia and cryptosporidium.
- **Coagulation & Flocculation using cationic polymer and alum** to make tiny particles in the water stick together to form larger particles, which can be better trapped in filters.
- **Direct Filtration**—This removes particles from the water using a coal and sand filter.
- **pH Adjustment**—Lime (calcium oxide) is added to make the water less acidic and less corrosive.
- **Disinfection with Chlorine** to kill bacteria and other microorganisms.
- **Corrosion Control**—A blended phosphate corrosion inhibitor is added to make the water less corrosive.

## SUBSTANCES FOUND IN TAP WATER

Sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally-occurring minerals, and in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity. Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

**Microbial contaminants** - such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.

**Inorganic contaminants** - such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, and farming.

**Pesticides and herbicides** - which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses.

**Organic chemical contaminants** - including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff and septic systems.

**Radioactive contaminants** - which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, MassDEP and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Massachusetts Department of Public Health (DPH) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that must provide the same protection for public health. All drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 800-426-4791.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and some infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidelines on lowering the risk of infection by cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 800-426-4791.

## IMPORTANT DEFINITIONS

**Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL)** – The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

**Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG)** –The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

**Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL)** -- The highest level of a disinfectant (chlorine, chloramines, chlorine dioxide) allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

**Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG)** -- The level of a drinking water disinfectant (chlorine, chloramines, chlorine dioxide) below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLG's do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

**Treatment Technique (TT)** – A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

**Action Level (AL)** – The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.

**90<sup>th</sup> Percentile** – Out of every 10 homes sampled, 9 were at or below this level.

**ppm** = parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/l)

**ppb** = parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (ug/l)

**pCi/l** = picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)

**NTU** = Nephelometric Turbidity Units

**ND** – Not detected; the contaminant value measured was not above the detection level of the test method.

**Level 1 assessment** – is a study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system.

**Massachusetts Office of Research and Standards Guideline (ORSG)** – This is the concentration of a chemical in drinking water, at or below which, adverse health effects are unlikely to occur after chronic (lifetime) exposure. If exceeded, it serves as an indicator of the potential need for further action.

**Secondary Maximum Contaminant Level (SMCL)** – These standards are developed to protect the aesthetic qualities of drinking water and are not health based.

**Unregulated Contaminants:** Unregulated contaminants are those for which EPA has not established drinking water standards. The purpose of unregulated contaminant monitoring is to assist EPA in determining their occurrence in drinking water and whether future regulation is warranted.

The water quality information presented in the tables is from the most recent round of testing done in accordance with the regulations. All data shown was collected during the last calendar year unless otherwise noted in the tables.

**Microbiological Contaminants:** Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially harmful, waterborne pathogens may be present or that a potential pathway exists through which contamination may enter the drinking water distribution system. Throughout the course of 2018 the District collected 129 samples for Microbiological Contaminants.

We found coliforms indicating the need to look for potential problems in water treatment or distribution. When this occurs, we are required to conduct assessment(s) to identify any problems that were found during these assessments. During the past year, we were required to conduct one Level 1 assessment, which was completed. In addition, we were required to take one corrective action and we completed this action, which was a temporary increase in chlorine in the Rochdale section of the system. The Level 1 Assessment was triggered because two or more samples tested positive for Total Coliform in the month of September 2018. A level 1 Assessment is a self-assessment where the District inspects and reviews all aspects of the treatment system, distribution system, and sampling procedures to determine the reason that the samples tested positive for Total Coliform. There was no indication of a potential cause, and there was no threat to public health.

	Date(s) Collected	90 <sup>TH</sup> percentile	Action Level (AL)	MCLG	# of sites sampled	# of sites above Action Level	Exceeds Action Level (Y/N)	Possible Source of Contamination
Lead* (ppb)	Sept 2018	13	15	0	43	3	N	Corrosion of household plumbing systems
Copper (ppm)	Sept 2018	0.234	1.3	1.3	43	0	N	Corrosion of household plumbing systems

\* If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with home plumbing. The CVRWD is responsible for providing high-quality drinking water but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing and plumbing components. When your water is unused for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by running your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at [www.epa.gov/safewater/lead](http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead).

Regulated Contaminant	Date(s) Collected	Highest Result or Running Annual Average*	Range	MCL	MCLG	Violation (Y/N)	Possible Source(s) of Contamination
<b>Disinfectants and Disinfection By-Products</b>							
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs) (ppb)	Quarterly	60	42 - 80	80	-----	N	Byproduct of drinking water chlorination
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (ppb)	Quarterly	4.4	1.2 - 5.7	60	-----	N	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
Free Chlorine (ppm)	Monthly	0.81	0.28 - 1.28	4	4	N	Water additive used to control microbes
* Highest running annual average (RAA) is the highest average of four consecutive quarters. This value is used to determine compliance. TTHM and HAA5 compliance uses the highest locational RAA (LRAA).							

**CITY OF WORCESTER WATER QUALITY TESTING RESULTS**

Turbidity	Maximum Turbidity Measured	Lowest Monthly % of Measurements Below Turbidity Limits	Number of Measurements > 1.0 NTU	Turbidity Limits (Combined For All Filters)
Turbidity (Combined for all filters)	0.250 NTU	100%	0	Less than or equal to 0.3 NTU in 95% of monthly measurements; No measurement can exceed 1 NTU.
Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of water quality.				
*Monthly turbidity compliance is related to a specific treatment technique (TT). Our system filters the water so at least 95% of our samples each month must be below the turbidity limits specified in the regulations.				

Regulated Contaminant	Highest Result or Running Annual Average	Range	MCL	MCLG	Violation (Y/N)	Possible Source(s) of Contamination
Inorganic contaminants (IOC's)						
Barium (ppm)	0.014	----	2	2	N	Erosion of natural deposits;
Nitrate (ppm)	0.13	----	10	10	N	Erosion of natural deposits; fertilizer, wastewater
Radioactive Contaminants– 2016 Data – No Samples required in 2018						
Gross Alpha Activity (pCi/l)	0.56	----	15	0	N	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium (226 & 228) (pCi/l)	0.14	----	5	0	N	Erosion of natural deposits

Unregulated and Secondary Contaminants	Result or Range Detected	Average Detected	SMCL	ORSG or Health Advisory	Possible Source
Sodium (ppm)	17	----	----	20**	Natural sources; runoff from road salt; by-product of treatment process
Manganese (ppm)	12	----	50	300***	Erosion of natural deposits
** Sodium sensitive individuals, such as those experiencing hypertension, kidney failure, or congestive heart failure, should be aware of the sodium levels where exposures are being carefully controlled.					
*** US EPA and MassDEP have established public health advisory levels for manganese to protect against concerns of potential neurological effects.					

### Other Analysis

The compounds in this table are general measures of water chemistry. There are no established limits for these compounds since they are not recognized as having significant health effects at levels found in drinking water. These compounds are sometimes referred to as secondary contaminants. At certain levels some of these may discolor the water or create a bad taste. Many of these measurements are made as another way of tracking the effectiveness of Worcester's treatment processes.

SUBSTANCE	AVERAGE	RANGE DETECTED	TYPICAL SOURCE
Alkalinity	9.0 ppm	6.5-13.9 ppm	Naturally occurring. Buffering capacity of water.
Aluminum	0.076 ppm	0.029-0.634 ppm	Natural sources and water treatment processes.
Calcium	9.5 ppm	7.6-16.8 ppm	Natural Sources and water treatment processes.
Chloride	29 ppm	27-35 ppm	Natural and manmade sources.
Conductivity	163 umhos/cm	140-196 umhos/cm	An indirect measure of dissolved solids.
Hardness	29 ppm	23-47 ppm	Naturally occurring.
Iron	0.103 ppm	<0.005-2.152 ppm	An indirect measure of Calcium and Magnesium. Natural sources and old water mains.

Orthophosphate	0.547 ppm	0.342-0.959 ppm	Added to water during treatment as corrosion inhibitor
pH	7.4 units	7.04-9.95 units	Measure of the acidity or basicity of water.
Sulfate	11.3 ppm	6.9-15.3 ppm	Natural sources and water treatment processes.
Temperature	14 0Celsius	3-29 0Celsius	Natural processes.
Total Organic Carbon	1.8 ppm	1.74-2.91 ppm	Natural sources.
Total Phosphate	0.94 ppm	0.74-1.3 ppm	Added to water during treatment as Corrosion inhibitor.
Zinc	0.005 ppm	<0.001-0.020 ppm	Natural sources and some galvanized plumbing material.

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION

### Cross Connections

A cross connection is a connection between a drinking water pipe and a polluted or non-potable source. Fluctuation in water pressure can cause water to be siphoned or sucked backwards through pipes and hoses. Hoses are the most common extension of a plumbing system and the item most likely to cause an accidental poisoning of your water. Hoses are often connected to swimming pools, laundry sinks and lawn chemical sprayers. Water flowing backwards into your home will bring contaminants or poisons with it. To prevent this from happening, every hose faucet connection should have a device called a **Hose Bib Vacuum Breaker**. These are inexpensive and are available from your local plumbing contractor or supplier. As required by Massachusetts Drinking Water Regulations, 310 CMR 22.22 (3) (b), the District has an approved Cross Connection Program Plan. This means that all cross connections in Cherry Valley and Rochdale Water District's businesses that are supplied by public water are surveyed by a certified backflow tester on an annual basis. For additional information on cross connections and the status of CVRWD's cross connection program, please contact us at (508) 892-9616.

Please see an example of a cross connection below:



#### Typical Residential Cross-Connections

- ◆ Hose Bibs
- ◆ Lawn Irrigation
- ◆ Jacuzzis
- ◆ Swimming Pools
- ◆ Toilet Ball-cocks

### Mandatory Water Ban - May 1, 2019 until September 30, 2019

The Board of Water Commissioners voted on May 1, 2018 to create Article X Outdoor Water Use Regulation which mandates water use restrictions effective **May 1, 2019 until October 1, 2019**. The new Regulation is in response to the **ANNUAL** conservation conditions set forth in the District's Water Management Act Permit issued by MassDEP. The purpose of the Regulation is to protect, preserve and maintain public health, safety, welfare and the environment by ensuring an adequate supply of water for drinking and fire protection and to protect the quality and quantity of water in local aquatic habitats such as ponds, rivers and wetlands. A copy of this notice was distributed to all building occupants, tenants and water users.

### Water Use Restrictions

Mandatory conservation which prohibits the following non-essential outdoor activities from occurring between the hours of 9:00 AM and 5:00 PM.

a). irrigation of lawns via automatic lawn sprinkler systems; b). washing of vehicles except in a commercial car wash; and c). washing of exterior building surfaces, parking lots, driveways or sidewalks, except as necessary to apply paint, preservatives, stucco, pavement or cement.

### Definitions

Automatic sprinkler system shall mean any system for watering vegetation other than a hand-held hose or bucket.

Any person violating this by-law shall be liable to the District in the amounts listed below:

- |                                       |  |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| 1). First violation: Written warning, | 2). Second violation: \$200.00                 |
| 3). Third violation: \$300.00,        | 4). Fourth and subsequent violations: \$500.00 |

Each day of violation shall constitute a separate offense. Fines shall be recovered by complaint before District Court, or by non-criminal disposition in accordance with section 21D of chapter 40 of the general laws. For purposes of non-criminal disposition, the enforcing person shall be any police officer of the town or the water superintendent or the superintendent's designee. If a State of Water Supply Emergency has been declared the water Commissioners may, in accordance with G.L. c 40, s. 41A, shut off water at the meter or the curb stop.

A complete copy of Article X- Water Use Restriction of the CVRWD Rules and Regulations can be viewed at the district's web site [www.cvrwd.com](http://www.cvrwd.com)



### Water Conservation Public Outreach Information Tips and Useful Links:

Water conservation is an important way to protect our drinking water by ensuring that we don't diminish our resource. As much as 97% of the world's water is salt water, leaving 3% freshwater, two-thirds of which is stored as icecaps or glaciers. This leaves 1% of the world's water for drinking. Needless to say, water conservation will help all us sustain the precious 1%.

CVRWD water conservation public outreach information, tips and useful links to other water conservation web sites will be published and updated on [www.cvrwd.com](http://www.cvrwd.com)

### Other Conservation Links:

- <http://www.wateruseitwisely.com/100-ways-to- conserve/index.php>
- [http://eartheasy.com/live\\_water\\_saving.htm](http://eartheasy.com/live_water_saving.htm)
- <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wr/ws/wtrcnsv.html>

### Water Conservation Tips for Residents

#### Outdoors

- When mowing your lawn, set the mower blades to 2-3 inches high. Longer grass shades the soil improving moisture retention, has more leaf surface to take in sunlight, allowing it to grow thicker and develop a deeper root system. This helps grass survive drought, tolerate insect damage and fend off disease.
- Apply mulch around shrubs & flower beds to reduce evaporation, promote plant growth and control weeds.
- Collect rainfall for irrigation in a screened container (to prevent mosquito larvae growth).
- Use a commercial car wash that recycles water - Let Mother Nature wash your car when it rains.
- Always use a broom to clean walkways, driveways, decks and porches, rather than hosing off these areas.
- Install covers on pools and spas and check for leaks around your pumps.
- Winterize outdoor spigots when temperatures dip below freezing to prevent pipes from leaking or bursting.

#### In the Kitchen

- When cooking, peel and clean vegetables in a large bowl of water instead of under running water.

- Collect the water you use for rinsing fruits and vegetables, then reuse it to water houseplants.
- Fill your sink or basin when washing and rinsing dishes.
- Soak pots and pans instead of letting the water run while you scrape them clean.
- Only run the dishwasher when it's full - When buying a dishwasher, select one with a "light-wash" option.
- Only use the garbage disposal when necessary (composting is a great alternative).

***In the Bathroom***

- Shorten your shower by a minute or two and you'll save up to 150 gallons per month.
- Turn off the water to brush teeth, shave and soap up in the shower. Fill the sink to shave.
- Repair leaky toilets. Add 12 drops of food coloring into the tank, and if color appears in the bowl one hour later, your toilet is leaking.
- Upgrade older toilets with water efficient models.
- Install a toilet dam, faucet aerators and low-flow showerheads.
- Run full loads of laundry - When doing laundry, match the water level to the size of the load.
- When purchasing a new washing machine, buy a water saving model that can be adjusted to the load size.

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

**Important Information about Leaks**

Hole Diameter in Inches	Water wasted per month (gallons)	Water wasted per month (cubic feet)	Added cost to homeowner per month *
○ 1/4	393,833	52,651	\$10,854.47
○ 1/8	98,666	13,190	\$2,630.80
○ 1/16	24,666	3,297	\$569.10
○ 1/32	6,166	824	\$119.65

\*Based on CVRWD current rates

**Having difficulty paying your bills?**

We understand that due to the high water rates and current economic status, many people are facing difficult decisions and are struggling to make ends meet. We want to inform the CVRWD customers, that if you are having difficulty paying your monthly water bill, we ask that you contact the District office at 508-892-9616 to communicate your situation. We are more than happy to help you to establish a payment plan or provide you with conservation suggestions that could reduce your future water bills. Again, we understand that everyone is experiencing hardships and we want to express our willingness to assist you.

**Save time, Pay online!!**

Since July of 2014, CVRWD has been accepting online payments at [cwrwd.com](http://cwrwd.com).

"This institution is an equal opportunity provider, and employer."