Currents

NEWS FROM BOSTON WATER AND SEWER COMMISSION
September - October 2018

Martin J. Walsh, Mayor

Henry F. Vitale, CPA, Executive Director/ Treasurer

BWSC@Work
Notable events from Boston Water and Sewer Commission

Getting the Lead Out!
BWSC’s Lead Incentive Replacement Program provides grants to assist property owners with lead service line replacements to their home to reduce exposure to lead in drinking water. If you live in the City of Boston, and your property has a lead service line, this program may be for you!

Mayor Martin J. Walsh urged BWSC to double the financial incentives offered by the program. Qualified property owners receive a credit of up to $2,000.00 toward the cost of the replacement AND any remaining costs for the work can be paid over a 48-month period, interest free. For more information, call the Lead Hotline at 617-989-7888.

11th Annual Boston Greenfest
Boston Water and Sewer Commission joined many of our partners in participating in the 11th Annual Boston Greenfest! Our water truck and educational team enjoyed sharing information about Boston’s water, sewer, and drainage systems. Educating the public on these systems and how they work helps create a better understanding of our shared responsibility in protecting Boston’s environment.

School is in!
Students and teachers are gearing up for another adventurous school year. BWSC’s educational staff provides year-round, interactive presentations for students of all ages. The program is part of our outreach to schools interested in learning more about how Boston’s water, sewer, and storm water systems work.

Save the date!
Imagine a Day Without Water is October 10!
Follow us on social media to see why Boston Water and Sewer Commission values water each day. Visit imagineadaywithoutwater.org to see how you can get behind the cause too!

Contact BWSC’s Communications Dept. at 617-989-7349 to coordinate a visit to your school or neighborhood association.

Boston Water and Sewer Commission
Headquarters is open:
Monday - Friday, 8 AM - 5 PM · Wednesdays, 8 AM - 7 PM
980 Harrison Avenue, Boston, MA 02119
(617) 989-7000 · www.bwsc.org

WE ARE ALL CONNECTED
Let’s Protect Boston’s Waterways
Giving Water A Way

Autumn is a beautiful season to be in Boston. However, leaves that fall can collect on top of the city’s catch basins, also known as storm drains. These leaves, and other debris, can block rainwater from entering into the storm drain system, potentially causing flooding in our neighborhoods.

To prevent local flooding Boston Water and Sewer Commission and the Department of Public Works perform year round maintenance to keep catch basins clean and free of debris, but there are ways Boston residents can help too. All that’s needed is a rake, shovel, broom and receptacle.

How You Can Help

- Use gloves or other protective gear.
- Clear leaves and other debris from catch basins in your neighborhood or near your business.
- Put leaves and other yard debris in large paper bags or open barrels labeled “YARD WASTE”.
- Place barrels, bags and branches curbside by 7 AM on your neighborhood’s designated recycling day.

How Can I Find My Neighborhood’s Storm Drains?

BWSC’s Hydrant and Catch Basin Locator Map can help you find them - visit www.bwsc.org.

Fixing Car Leaks Protects Our Waterways

Cars require different types of fluids. When cars have a leak, these fluids fall onto the road, wash into catch basins and end up polluting Boston Harbor and other local waterways.

Let’s work together to protect Boston’s waterways.

1. Check your car for drips or leaks regularly. See or smell something unusual? Get it fixed!
2. Put a drip pan or waterproof cloth under your car if you have a leak or are doing engine work.
3. Treat motor oil and other automotive fluids as household hazardous waste. Dispose of them at the next Boston Household Hazardous Waste Drop-Off (or Paint and Motor Oil Recycling Day Drop-Off) Day.

Leaf and yard waste collection continues through the first week in December. For more information, call the DPW at 671-635-4900 or visit their website at boston.gov/trash-day-schedule.

Neighborhood Site Locations

- Pay your water bill with a check or money order -- no cash.
- Talk about any problems you may have with your bill or service.
- Find out how much water is being used on your property.
- Plan to make payments on bills that are past due.
- Receive help applying for a senior or disabled persons’ discount.

The next Boston Hazardous Waste Drop-Off Day is Saturday, October 27! Drop off your paint, electronics, etc. from 9 AM - 2 PM at the DPW Central Facility located at 400 Frontage Road.