Currents

September/October 2026

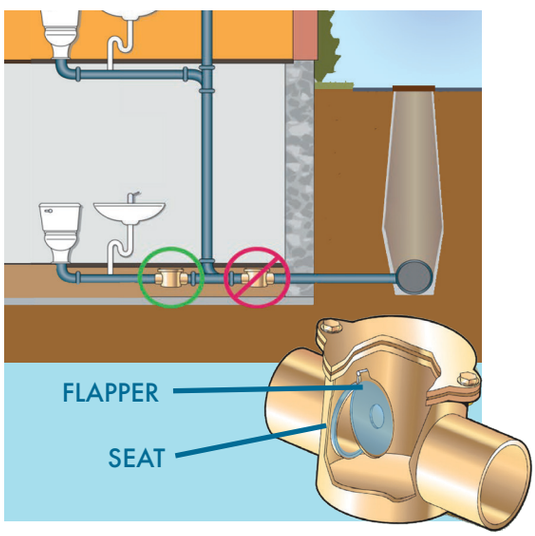
BWSC @ WORK

BWSC FLUSHING PROGRAM IS UNDERWAY

Each spring through fall BWSC conducts a water main system flushing program to keep our award-winning tap water sparkling clear. The Unidirectional Flushing Program helps rid the system of any sediments that might have settled in pipes over time. Flushing is conducted overnight, and targets of this year's program include Back Bay/Beacon Hill, East Boston, Hyde Park, Mattapan, and Central Boston (Downtown). If residents in those neighborhoods notice tap water is slightly cloudy following flushing, just run the tap for a few minutes and clarity will quickly be restored. To find more information go to bwsc.org.



Sewage Backups are Preventable!



No Valve = No Protection!

If your home has plumbing fixtures in the basement, like a toilet or sink, a backwater valve will prevent sewage from flowing into your home during heavy rains or sewer backups.

Maintenance Matters!

Without a properly installed and maintained valve your basement is vulnerable to costly and hazardous sewage backups.

Simple Maintenance Requirements:

- Inspect regularly, especially before storms.
- Wear protective gloves and eyewear.
- Remove debris from valve seat and flapper with water and gentle scrubbing.

Keeping Catch Basins Clear

Boston is especially beautiful during the fall. but those colorful leaves can create a problem when they pile up on the city's catch basins. Leaves, and other debris, can block rainwater from entering into the storm drain system,increasing the risk of flooding in our neighborhoods. Residents can help BWSC and the Department of Public Works keep catch basins clear of debris. A few minutes of cleanup is all it takes to prevent bigger problems.





How You Can Help

- Use gloves when clearing leaves and other debris from the top of catch basins in your neighborhood.
- 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.
- To report catch basin flooding call 617-989-7900.

Leaf and Yard Waste Collection

Leaf and yard waste collection continues through the first week in December. For more information, call the DPW at 617-635-7573 or visit their website at boston.gov/trash-day-schedule. On the website, you can view the dates for your designated collection and drop off days.



Imagine a Day Without Water

What would your day look like if you suddenly had no water? On October 15, 2026 we invite you to stop and think about just how important water is in our every day lives. From drinking and cooking to keeping our communities clean and our environment healthy, we depend on reliable access to clean water.

Want to learn more? Visit bwsc.org to discover how our water distribution system works through educational materials and our educational program. Sign up for a presentation for your school or group at www.bwsc.org/environment-education. You can also visit https://thevalueofwater.org/imagineaday to learn more and find ways to get involved.