# City of Portsmouth

Department of Public Works



## August 5, 2021 Portsmouth Water Supply Status Report

### **Voluntary Water Restrictions Lifted**

Over ten inches of rain fell on the Seacoast area of New Hampshire in July. This amount of rain has significantly reduced the 12-month annual rainfall deficit we had been experiencing so far this year. The weather pattern continues to show wet weather in the long-term forecast. This, coupled with the cooler weather, has reduced the water demand on the system. Additionally, the Pease Tradeport's drinking water system recently received approval to reactivate the Haven Well, which was brought into service on August 3, 2021. This well, now being treated through a brand new water treatment facility, is capable of producing 768,000 gallons of water a day, which increases the overall Portsmouth/Pease water system supply by ten percent.



The City of Portsmouth's Water | Sewer | Stormwater Divisions encourage residents to "Think Blue" and consider some of these water-saving measures you can practice at home:

www.cityofportsmouth.com/publicworks/water/water-efficiency-information

Other water efficiency tips can be found on the UNH Cooperative Extension and New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services websites at:

https://extension.unh.edu/blog/water-conservation-fundamentals-gardening-and-landscaping

https://www.des.nh.gov/climate-and-sustainability/conservation-mitigation-and-restoration/water-conservation

Water operations staff are continuously assessing our supply conditions and will provide additional updates as needed. Please check our City's website for the latest Water Supply Status Report:

www.cityofportsmouth.com/publicworks/water/supply-status

#### WATER QUALITY

Portsmouth Water Division routinely monitors water quality parameters and performs water quality sampling and analysis as directed by the Federal Safe Drinking Water Act and the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services. Water sources are monitored for radioactive, biological, inorganic, volatile organic, or synthetic organic contaminants. Critical water treatment parameters for turbidity, pH, chlorine, orthophosphate and fluoride are continually monitored and tracked by our system operators. The regulations require us to monitor for certain substances less often than once per year because the concentrations of these substances do not change frequently. In these cases, the most recent sample data are reported, along with the year in which the sample was taken. Annual Water Quality Reports for both water systems detail these efforts. The reports for 2020 were recently mailed to each water system customer. They are also available at:

cityofportsmouth.com/publicworks/water/drinking-water-quality

#### SAFE WATER ADVISORY GROUP

The City Council voted on October 5, 2020 to create a Safe Water Advisory Group. This group meets to gather advisory input from local stakeholders, scientists and activists focused on the PFAS (Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances) contamination that has impacted the City of Portsmouth with legislative, health advisory and fiscal changes. The next meeting will be held on September 1, 2021. Additional information, meeting schedules and archives can be found on the City's webpage at:

www.cityofportsmouth.com/citycouncil/safe-water-advisory-group

#### **Further Updates and Information**

If anyone needs additional information or has questions contact Al Pratt, Water Supply Operations Manager at 520-0622 or Brian Goetz, Deputy Director of Public Works at 766-1420.