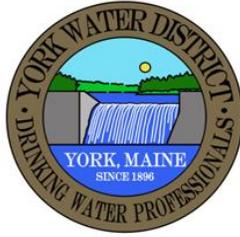


Trustees
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Frank Witham, Treasurer
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Andrew Belliveau, Trustee
Karen Arseneault, Trustee



Administration
Donald D. Neumann Jr., Superintendent
Gary E. Stevens, Resource Prot. Manager
Ryan Lynch, Treatment Plant Manager
Patrick M. Desrosiers, Financial Manager

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February 5, 2018

York Water District

Notice to Our Customers

Project Update: Kittery and York Water Districts Collaborative Water Sharing Program

This is an update to the October 2017 press release titled “Kittery and York Water Districts Advance Water Sharing Program.” The previous press release outlined KWD and YWD collaborative efforts to improve customer service, reduce risks, and reduce vulnerability through increased cooperation and integration of water resources.

Since that time, each district has been putting plans into action to complete necessary upgrades that will allow seamless exchange of finished waters between utilities. In March of 2018 York Water District is scheduled to start transition from a Silicate based corrosion inhibitor to a Phosphate based corrosion inhibitor (a Blended Phosphate). The new Phosphate based corrosion inhibitor, which KWD uses as well, will in part allow water sharing between districts. The phosphate is approved by NSF International for use in drinking water and has been commonplace in drinking water treatment for over a century. Certification by NSF (a third-party certification organization) demonstrates that a product complies with all standard requirements for safety, quality, and performance. The full transition process will take several months and has been approved by the State of Maine Drinking Water Program.

Major infrastructure upgrades will be completed by both YWD and KWD in 2018. Preparation work has already begun for the Southside Rd. main extension (YWD project) and the Beech Ridge Rd. extension (KWD project). Site work has also been started for the new booster station to be located on Old Beech Ridge Rd. These upgrades are necessary to allow partner utilities to provide water to KWD while they overhaul their existing treatment facility. In the future, these upgrades will greatly improve water quality and fire flows in the surrounding areas.

What you can expect short-term

The distribution system will be completely flushed to ensure consistent water quality throughout. As is common with distribution flushing, brief discoloration and/or dirty water may be experienced in some areas but should clear quickly. This flushing is a necessary inconvenience as it is essential to maintain high water quality. Typical notifications will be completed prior.

What you can expect long-term

- Most will not notice any change in water quality.
- Expect little to no change in taste and odor. Like Silicate, Phosphate does not impart a taste or odor.
- Total Alkalinity; a measure of water’s ability to resist or buffer changes in pH will be improved from 10 mg/L as Calcium Carbonate to around 16 mg/L. This increased resistance to change in pH will help maintain good water quality in the distribution system.
- Slight reduction in average drinking water pH from pH 8.8 to 8.6 but this will not be noticeable.
- Total Hardness; a measure of the level of ions or minerals that can interfere with processes such as cleaning and creating soap lather will remain unchanged. Hardness will remain at about 7 mg/L or <1 grains per gallon which is considered “Soft” water.

We ask customers that use our water in food or beverage production to use this information to ascertain whether any slight adjustments in their processing may be necessary. Please contact our main office with questions at 363-2265.