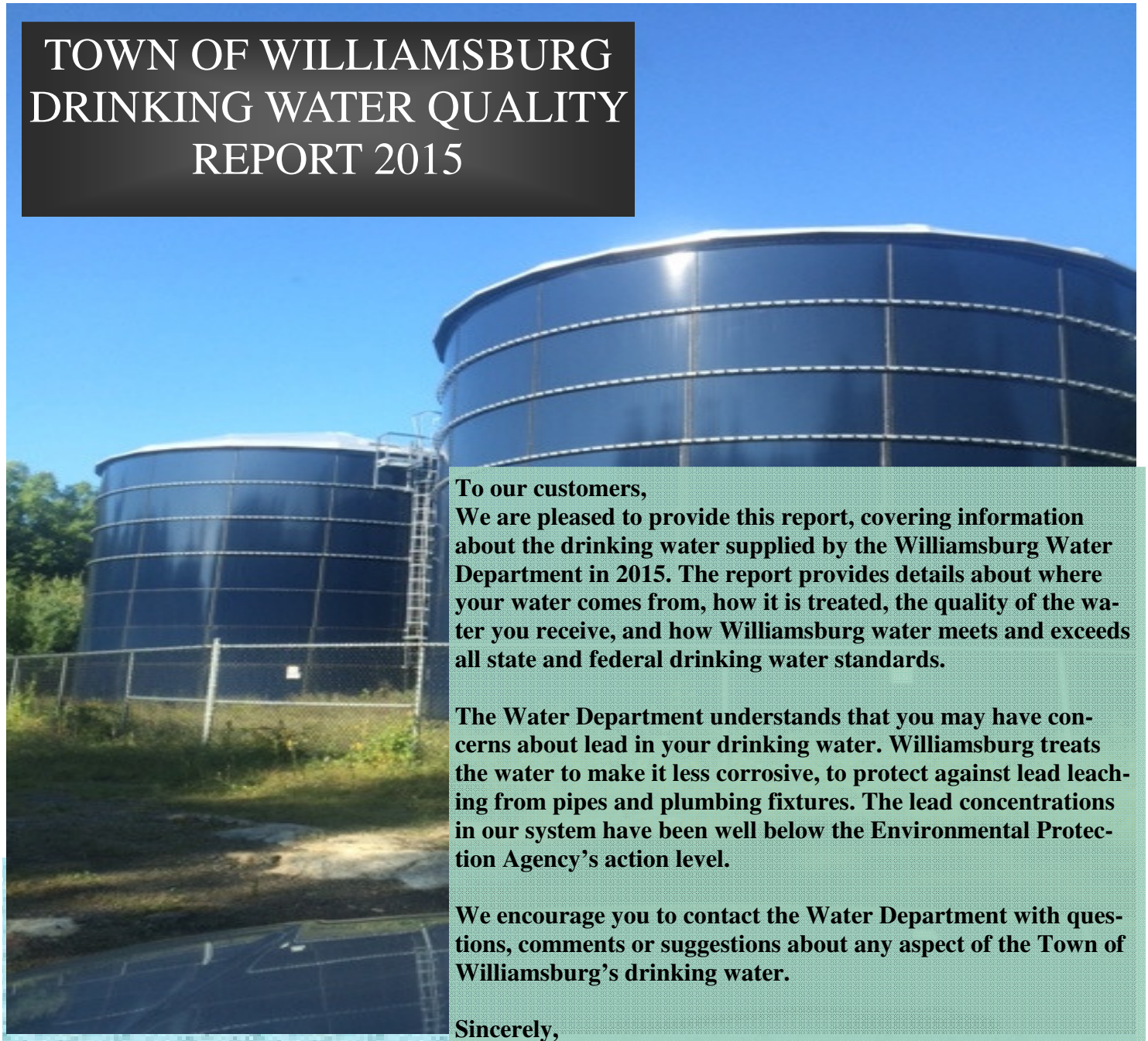
TOWN OF WILLIAMSBURG DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT 2015



To our customers,
We are pleased to provide this report, covering information about the drinking water supplied by the Williamsburg Water Department in 2015. The report provides details about where your water comes from, how it is treated, the quality of the water you receive, and how Williamsburg water meets and exceeds all state and federal drinking water standards.

The Water Department understands that you may have concerns about lead in your drinking water. Williamsburg treats the water to make it less corrosive, to protect against lead leaching from pipes and plumbing fixtures. The lead concentrations in our system have been well below the Environmental Protection Agency's action level.

We encourage you to contact the Water Department with questions, comments or suggestions about any aspect of the Town of Williamsburg's drinking water.

Sincerely,
William Turner, Acting Chairman
Williamsburg Water & Sewer Commission

TOWN OF WILLIAMSBURG
PWS# 1340000
DISTRIBUTED: JUNE 2016

Where Does My Water Come From and How Is It Protected?

Our water supply comes from ground water at the South Street pumping station. At our South Street site, we have two wells, treatment facilities, and storage tanks. We treat water with sodium hydroxide to adjust the pH to help make the water less corrosive to the distribution system and to the plumbing in the homes. We own all the land in the Zone #1 area and a large portion in Zone #2. This helps to protect your water supply from contaminants. The Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) has prepared a Source Water Assessment Program (SWAP) Report for water supply source(s) serving this water system. The SWAP Report notes the key issues of the activities in the Zone 1, Residential uses, transportation corridors, agricultural activities and Comprehensive Wellhead Protection Planning in the water supply protection area. The SWAP Report recommends beaver control, prohibiting all non-water supply activities, ensuring that all residents upstream are aware of Best Management practices with respect to household hazardous materials and lawn chemicals, and no storage of pesticides, fertilizer or road salt within Zone 1. Williamsburg Water & Sewer Commission plans to address the protection recommendations by working on educating the residents to BMP, monitoring the beaver activity, monitoring the livestock on neighboring properties, and working on a Comprehensive Wellhead Protection Plan. Residents can help protect sources by: practicing good septic system maintenance, supporting water supply protection initiatives at the next Town Meeting, taking hazardous household chemicals to hazardous materials collection days, limiting pesticide and fertilizer use and using buffer strips to prevent animals from accessing Unquomonk Brook and prevent pasture runoff. The complete SWAP Report is available at the Town Clerk's Office or online at www.burgy.org If you have any health concerns relating to the information in this report, we encourage you to contact your health care provider. For more information about this report, or for any other questions relating to your drinking water, please call William Turner Chairman, at (413) 268-8405 or (413) 268-8430.

TABLE 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.

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, which a water system must follow.

Total Coliform - Five (5) bacteria samples were taken each month.

90th Percentile - Out of ten (10) homes sampled, nine (9) were at or below this level

ppm - parts per million

ppb - parts per billion

Cross Connection Information

A "cross connection" is a connection between a drinking water pipe and a polluted source. The pollution can come from your own home. For instance, you're going to spray fertilizer on your lawn. You hook up your hose to the sprayer that contains the fertilizer. If the water pressure drops (say, because of fire hydrant use in the Town) when the hose is connected to the fertilizer, the fertilizer may be sucked back into the drinking water pipes through the hose. Over half of cross-connection incidents involve unprotected garden hoses.

Here are some simple steps that you can take to prevent cross-connection hazards:

- Never submerge a hose in soapy water buckets, pet watering containers, pools, tubs, sinks, drains, or chemicals.
- Install a hose bib vacuum breaker on every threaded water fixture. This inexpensive device is available at most hardware stores and home-improvement centers, and the installation is as easy as attaching a garden hose to a spigot.
- Buy appliances and equipment that come with a built-in backflow preventer.

MCL VIOLATIONS

We are committed to providing you with the best water quality available. However some contaminants that were tested last year did not meet all applicable health standards regulated by the state and federal government. We were required to install and operate a disinfection system due to repeated exceedances of the MCL for total coliform bacteria. We chose the disinfection system and chose to reduce the level of chlorine in the system prior to this MCL exceedance. Due to contaminant violations of total coliform bacteria during the month of June 2015 and our system took the following corrective actions: We also failed to collect a sufficient number of repeat samples in July 2015 following the detection of total coliform in June 2015. We were required to collect five samples and only collected four samples. The repeat samples taken were within sampling guidelines.

- We collected additional samples.
- We announced public notification by newspaper, posting notices etc.

Our water system and Mass DEP monitor and record the effectiveness of actions taken in response to contaminant violations. The health effect statement for this contaminant is listed below.

Health Effects Statements

Total Coliform: Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other potentially harmful bacteria may be present. Coliforms were found in more samples than allowed and this was a warning of potential problems.

Drinking Water Violations

Monitoring and Reporting Violations

We failed to complete required sampling in a timely manner, which is a monitoring and reporting violation. Because we did not take the required number of samples, we did not know whether the contaminants were present in your drinking water, and we are unable to tell you whether your health was at risk during that time. The contaminants for which monitoring was not done are listed in the table below, with the period during which samples should have been taken, the number of samples each contaminant required, the number taken, and when the required sampling was conducted.
In addition to sampling for these contaminants, our system announced public notification upon awareness of the violation.

Contaminant	Monitoring Period	Number of Samples Required	Number of Samples Tested	Date Sampling Conducted	Health Effects
Total Coliforma Bacteria	7/1/2015-7/31/2015	5	4	7/21/2015	Unknown
Radionuclides	7/1/2015-9/30/2015	1	0	11/23/2015	Unknown

Water Usage Table

Type	Normal Use	Conservation Use
Shower	water running - 25 gallons	wet down, soap up, rinse off - 4
Tub Bath	full- 36 gallons	minimal water level - 10 to 12 gallons
Washing hands	tap running - 2 gallons	fill basin - 1 gallon
Brushing teeth	tap running - 10 gallons	wet brush, rinse briefly - 1/2 gallon
Shaving	tap running - 20 gallons	fill basin 1 gallon
Toilet flushing	depending on tank size 5-7 gallons	using tank displacement bottom 4-6 gallons
Dishwashing	tap running - 30 gallons	wash & rinse in dishpan or sink - 5 gallons
Automatic Dishwasher	full cycle - 16 gallons	short cycle - 7 gallons
Washing machine	full cycle, top water level - 60 gallons	short cycle - minimal water level - 27 gallons
Outdoor watering	average hose - 10 gallons per minute	lowest priority - eliminate

Substances That Could Be in Water

To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) 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. The sources of drinking water (both tap 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 mineral, and in some cases, radioactive material. It can pick up substances resulting in 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 storm water runoff, Industrial, or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.

Pesticides and Herbicides-which may come from a variety of sources such as agricultural, urban storm water 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 storm water runoff, and septic systems.

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

HOW TO DETECT A WATER LEAK

If your water usage is higher than you believe it should be, please check the following steps:

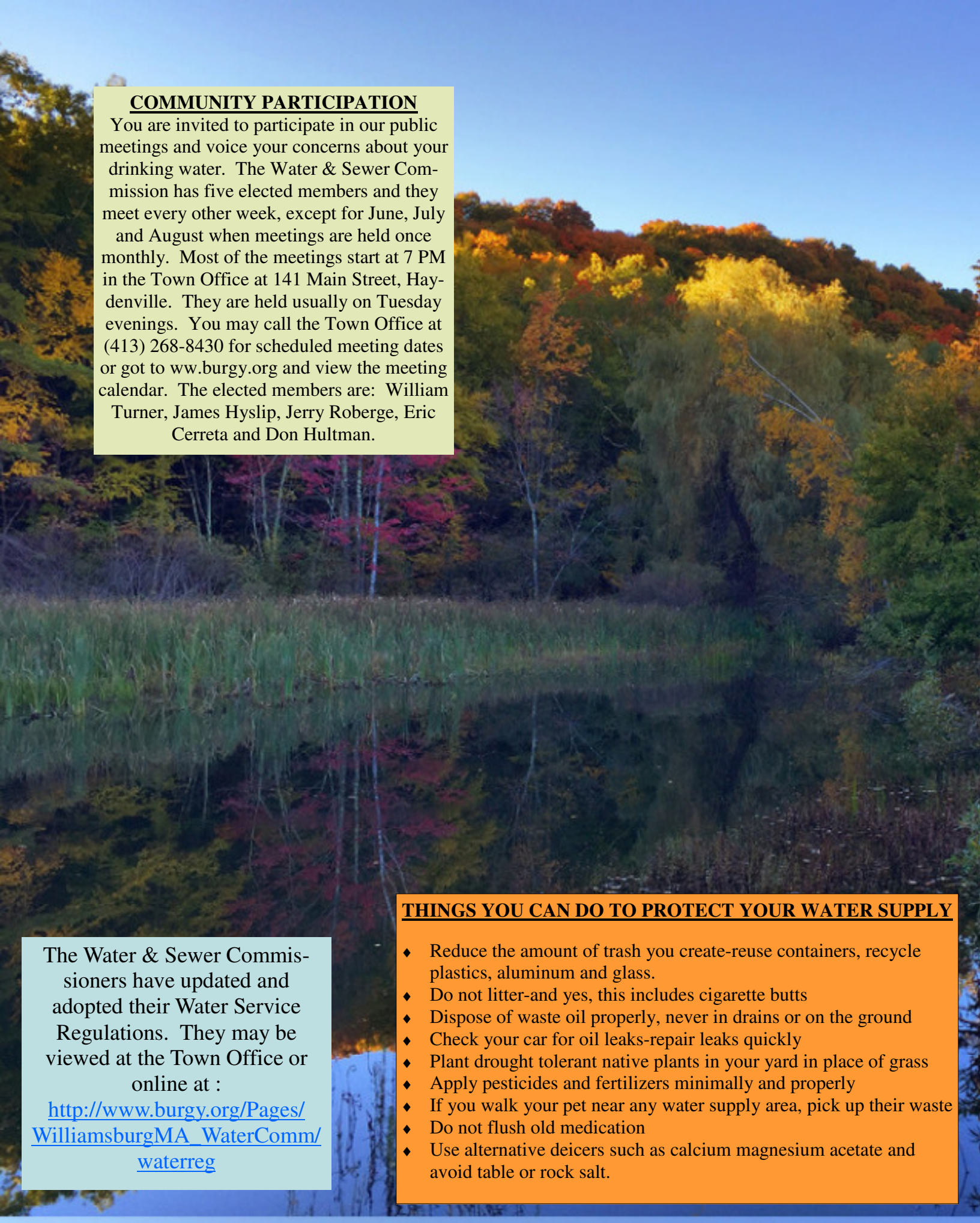
1. Check all toilets for leaks by putting household blueing, found in the laundry section of the supermarket, or food coloring in the back of the toilet storage tank. This should be done the last thing in the night. If any color appears in the bowl in the morning, you have a leak. Check the rubber stop in the back of the storage tank for cracks and replace.
2. Check all faucets for drips or leaks
3. Check any hoses (washing machine, dishwasher, outdoor) for leaks
4. If you have any outbuildings connected to your water make sure you do not have a leak or a broken underground pipe.
5. Call a plumber

Regulated Contaminant (Units)	Date(s) Collected	Highest Result or Highest Running Average Detected	Range Detected	MCL or MRDL	MCLG or MRDLG	Violation (Y/N)	Possible Sources of Contamination
Nitrate (ppm)	11/23/15	0.66	n/a	10.0	10.0	N	Animal Waste Fertilizer Septic Systems
Sodium	12/29/14	3.9 mg/L	n/a	20**		N	Natural Sources, high-way treatment with salt, by product of treatment process
Perchlorate	9/5/14	.08	.08	2.0	n/a	N	Rocket Propellants, Fireworks, Munitions, Flares
Magnesium*	4/16/14	ND	ND	0.0020	0.05 SMCL		Naturally Occuring

* This was a baseline test for our system **DEP established limit, no current MCL

	ACTION LEVEL	90TH PERCENTILE	NUMBER OF SAMPLES	NUMBER OVER LIMIT	TEST DATE
LEAD	**0.015 mg/L**	**14 ppb**	**10**	**0**	**8/25/14**
COPPER	**1.3 ppm**	**15 ppb**	**10**	**0**	**8/25/14**

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 service lines and home plumbing. The Town of Williamsburg Water Commission is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to two minutes before using water for cooking or drinking. 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 http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead



COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION

You are invited to participate in our public meetings and voice your concerns about your drinking water. The Water & Sewer Commission has five elected members and they meet every other week, except for June, July and August when meetings are held once monthly. Most of the meetings start at 7 PM in the Town Office at 141 Main Street, Haydenville. They are held usually on Tuesday evenings. You may call the Town Office at (413) 268-8430 for scheduled meeting dates or got to ww.burgy.org and view the meeting calendar. The elected members are: William Turner, James Hyslip, Jerry Roberge, Eric Cerreta and Don Hultman.

The Water & Sewer Commissioners have updated and adopted their Water Service Regulations. They may be viewed at the Town Office or online at : http://www.burgy.org/Pages/WilliamsburgMA_WaterComm/waterreg

THINGS YOU CAN DO TO PROTECT YOUR WATER SUPPLY

- Reduce the amount of trash you create-reuse containers, recycle plastics, aluminum and glass.
- Do not litter-and yes, this includes cigarette butts
- Dispose of waste oil properly, never in drains or on the ground
- Check your car for oil leaks-repair leaks quickly
- Plant drought tolerant native plants in your yard in place of grass
- Apply pesticides and fertilizers minimally and properly
- If you walk your pet near any water supply area, pick up their waste
- Do not flush old medication
- Use alternative deicers such as calcium magnesium acetate and avoid table or rock salt.