

SWAG Meeting

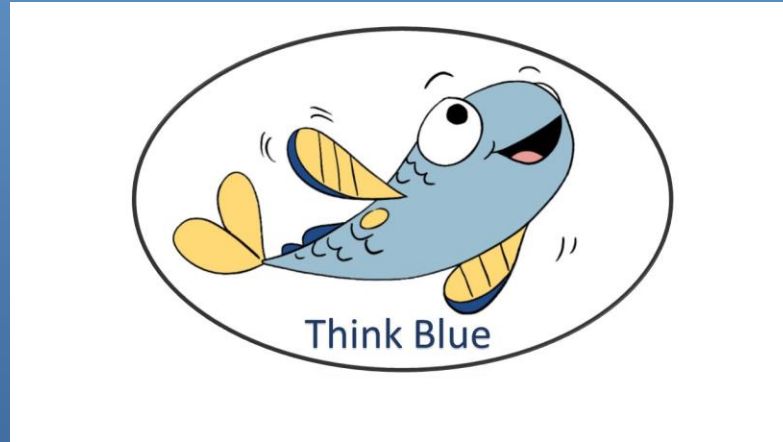
October 7, 2025 | 6:30-8:30pm

Hybrid Meeting: Portsmouth City Hall Conference Rm A and Zoom

Agenda

1. Welcome, Introduction & Approval of Minutes – Andrea Amico, SWAG co-chair
2. Quarterly Water Supply Update – Al Pratt, Water Resource Director & SWAG co-chair
3. Pease PFAS Health Studies Update - Dr Laurel Schaider, Silent Spring Institute
4. Seacoast Drinking Water Commission - NH State Representative David Meuse
5. Lead Update - Mason Caceres, Assistant Water Resource Manager
6. Water Main Flushing Program - Al Pratt
7. PFAS Update - Andrea Amico
8. Mission Vote - Andrea Amico
9. SWAG end of year summary/recommendations to City Council - Andrea Amico
10. Public Comment

Portsmouth and Pease Water Supply Update



Safe Water Advisory Group
October 7, 2025

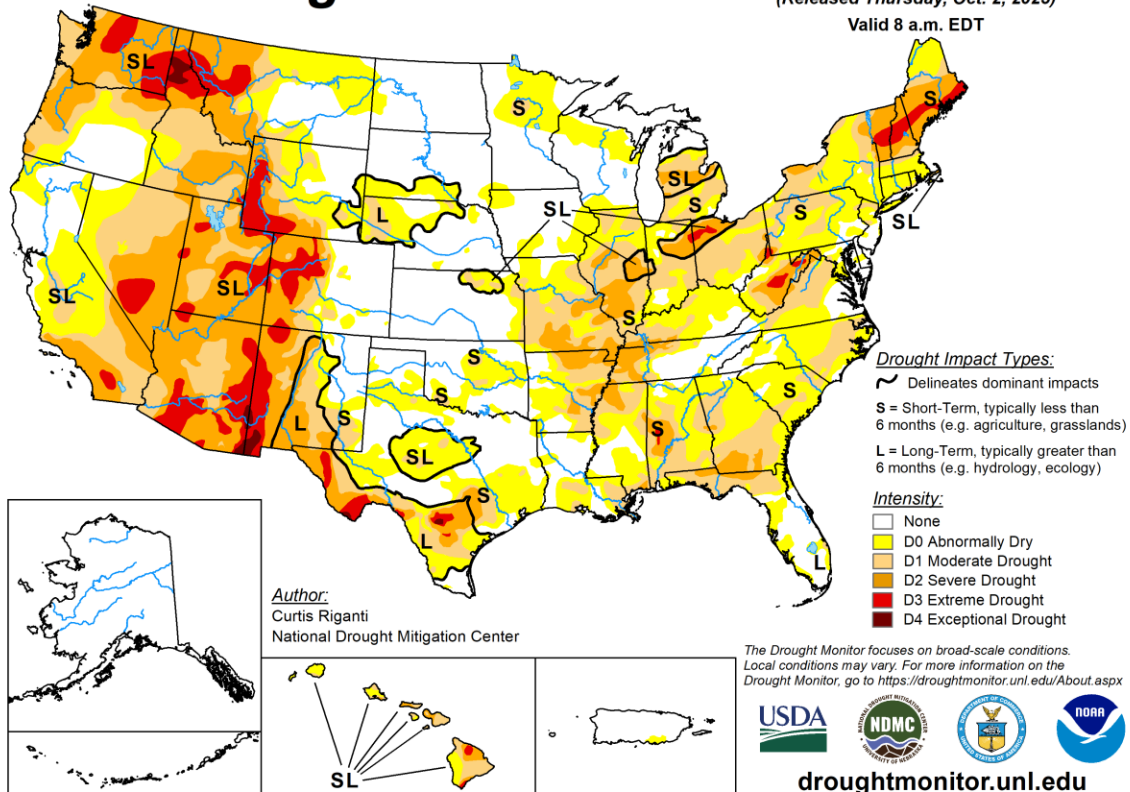
Drought Monitor

U.S. Drought Monitor

September 30, 2025

(Released Thursday, Oct. 2, 2025)

Valid 8 a.m. EDT



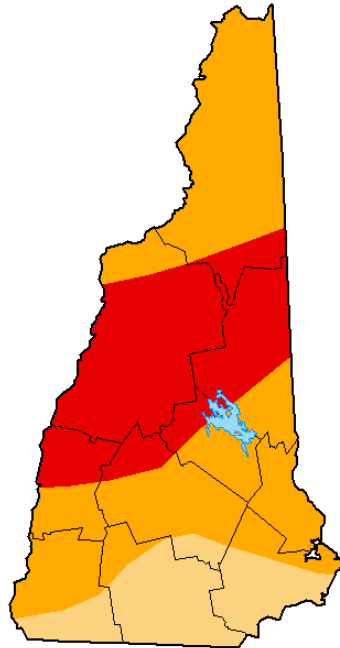
Drought Monitor

U.S. Drought Monitor **New Hampshire**

September 30, 2025

(Released Thursday, Oct. 2, 2025)

Valid 8 a.m. EDT



Intensity:

-  None
-  D0 Abnormally Dry
-  D1 Moderate Drought
-  D2 Severe Drought
-  D3 Extreme Drought
-  D4 Exceptional Drought

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. For more information on the Drought Monitor, go to <https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/About.aspx>

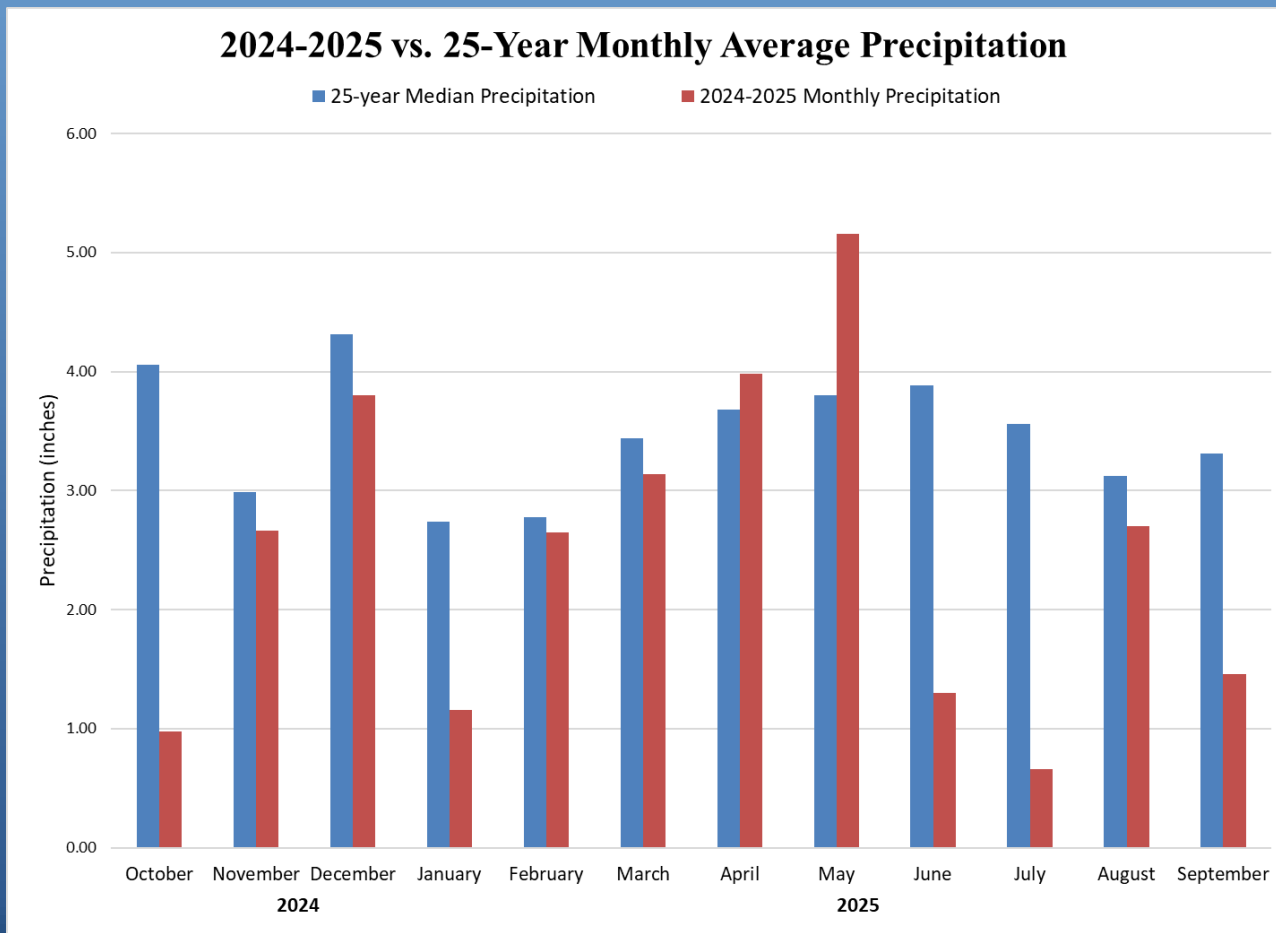
Author:

Curtis Riganti
National Drought Mitigation Center

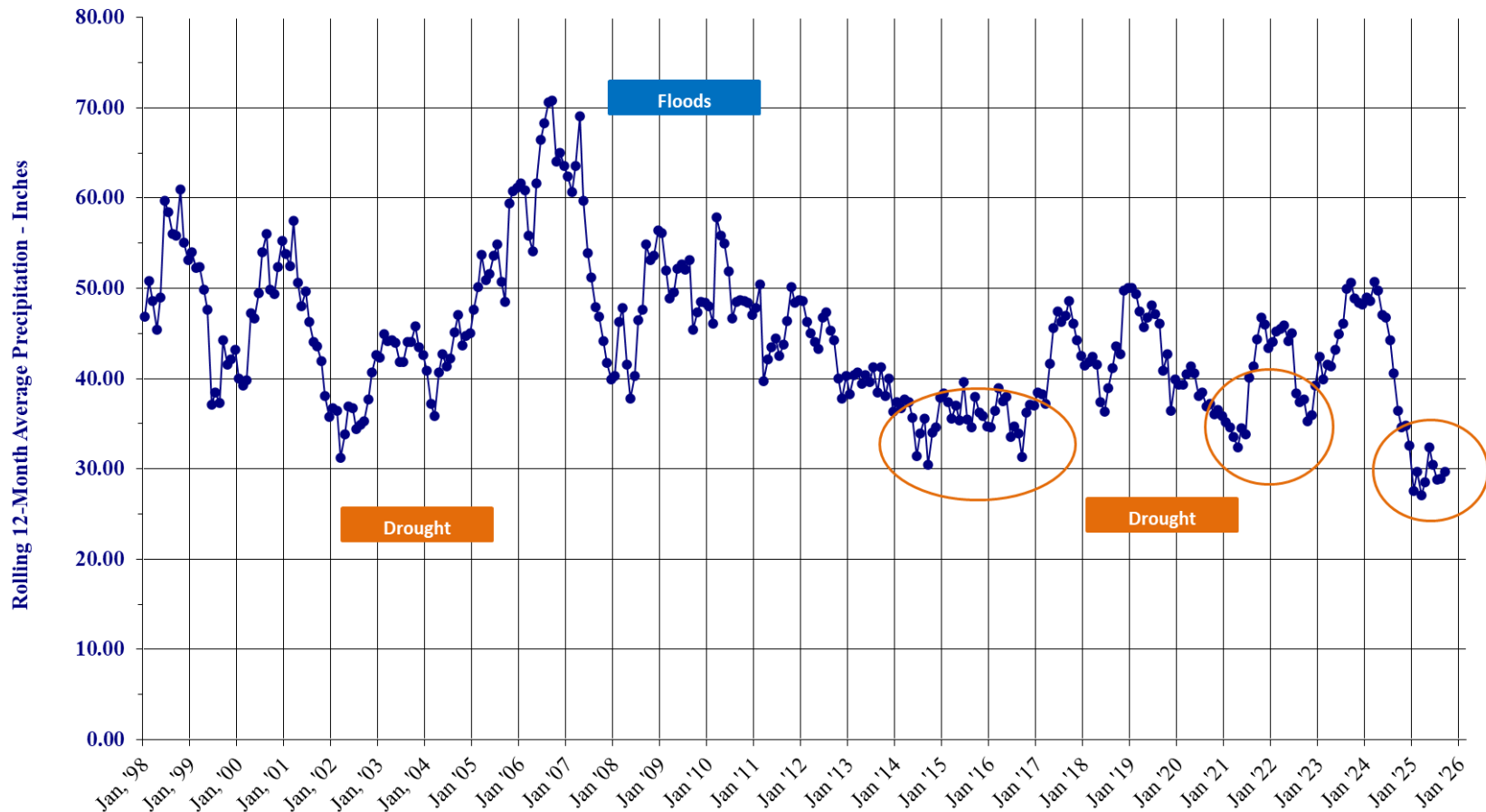


droughtmonitor.unl.edu

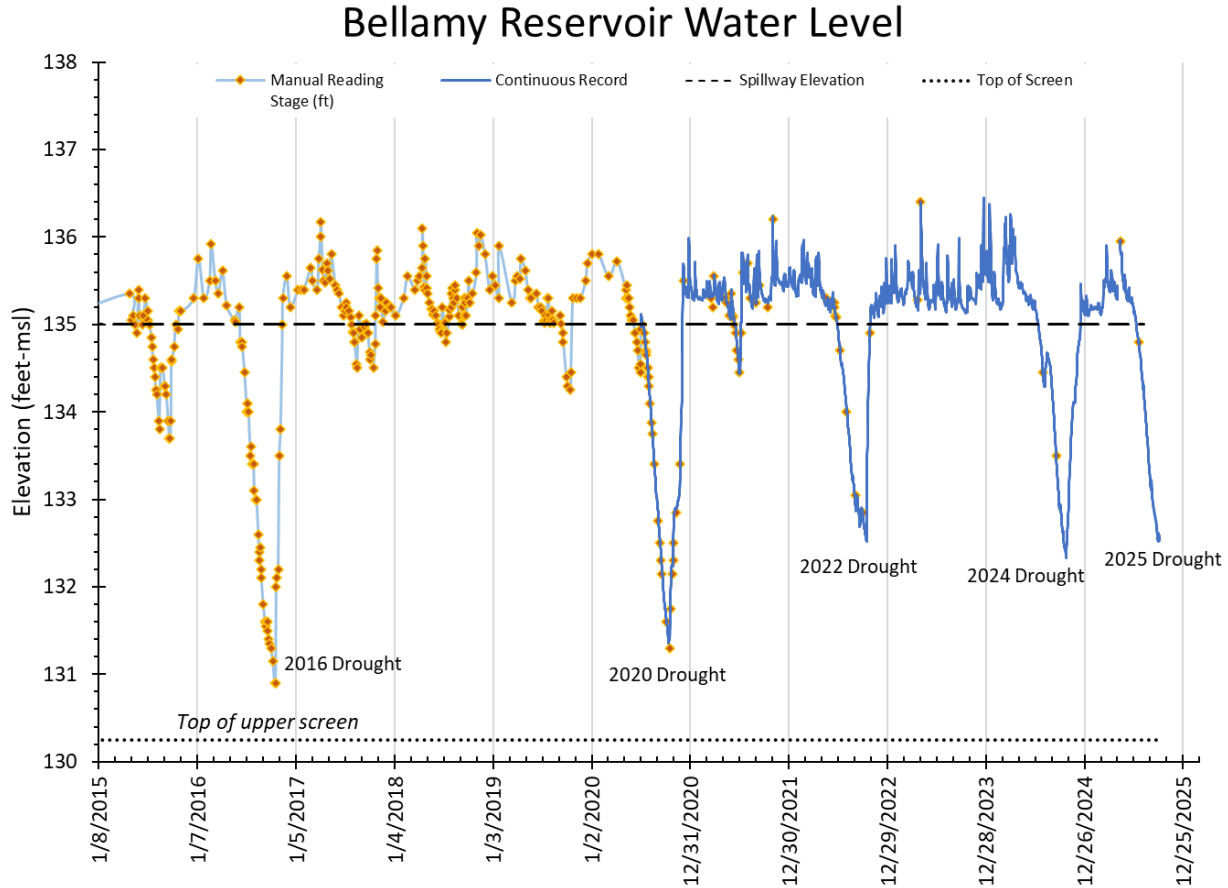
Precipitation – 29% Below Normal Annual Average



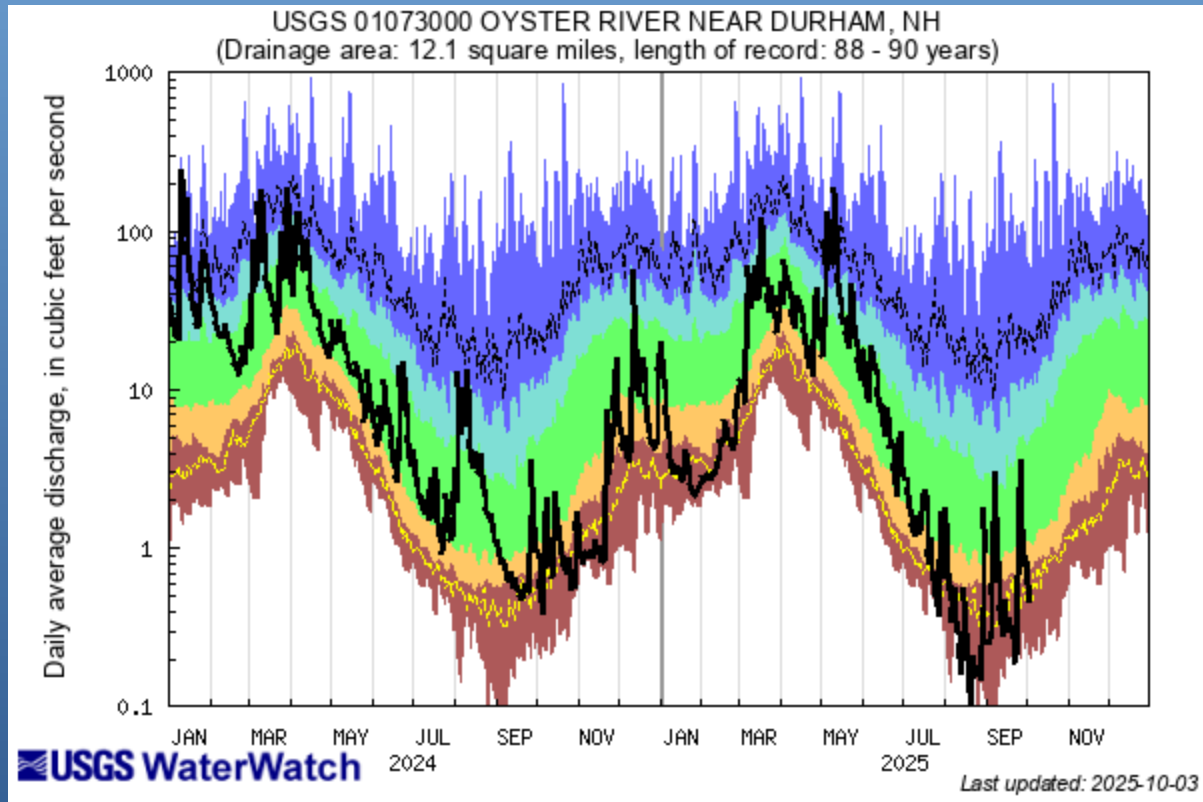
Precipitation - Portsmouth, NH - 1998 to 2025



Surface Water Conditions

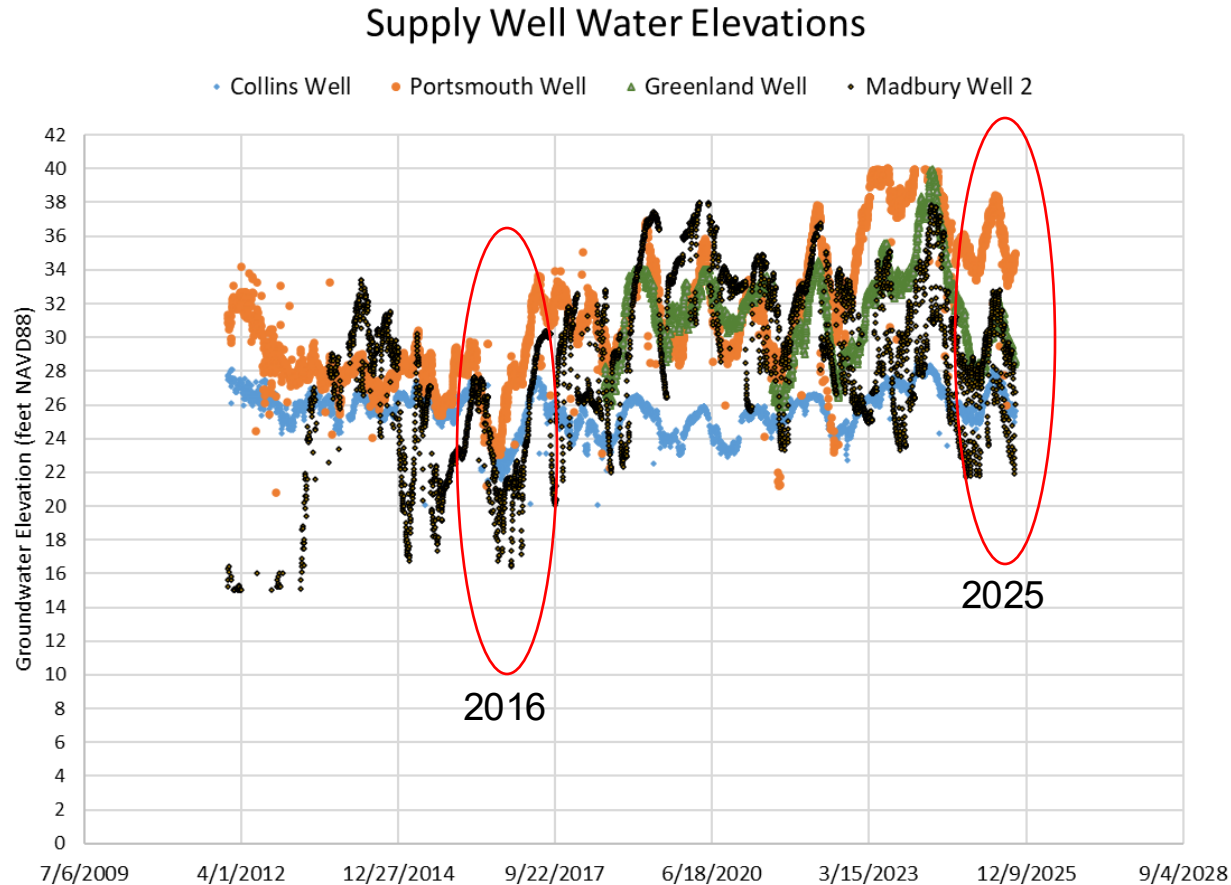


Stream Flow



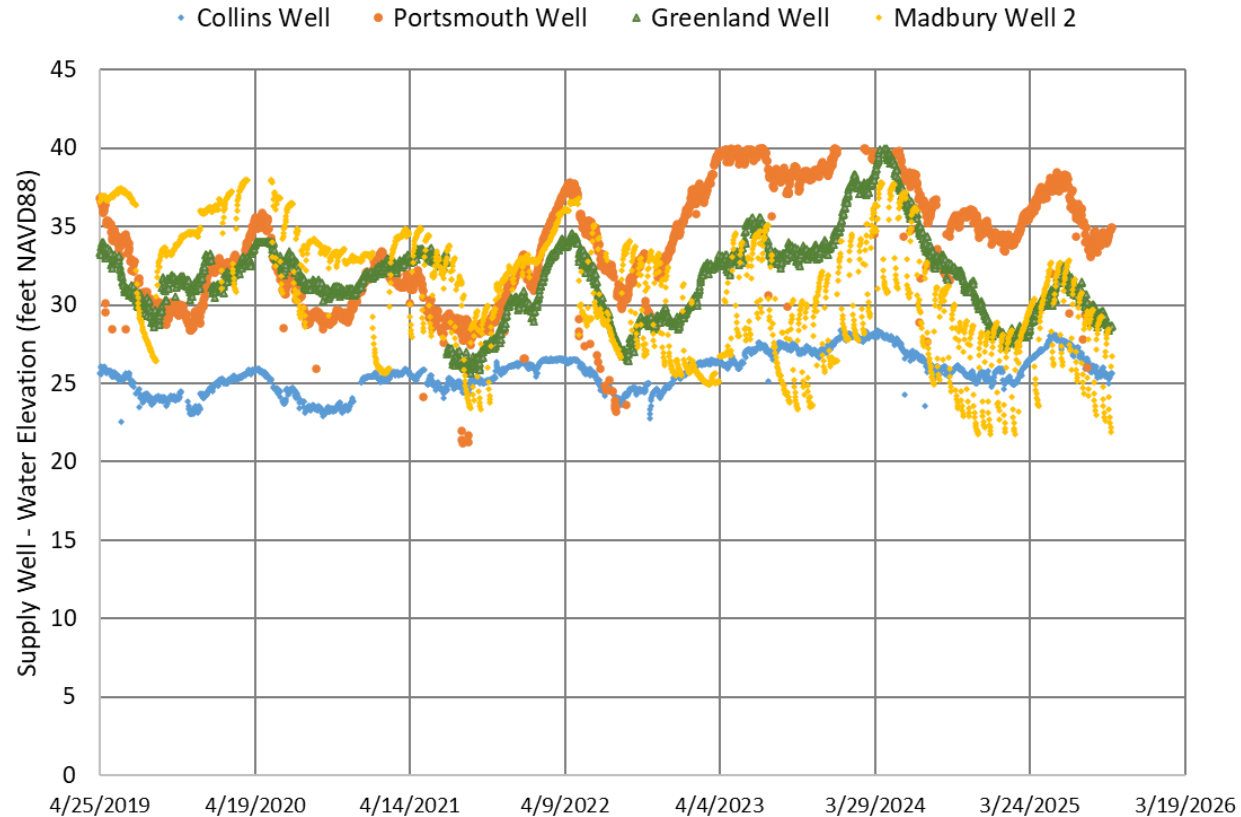
Explanation - Percentile classes						
						
lowest-10th percentile	5	10-24	25-75	76-90	95	90th percentile - highest
Much below Normal	Below normal	Normal	Above normal	Much above normal		Flow

Groundwater Levels

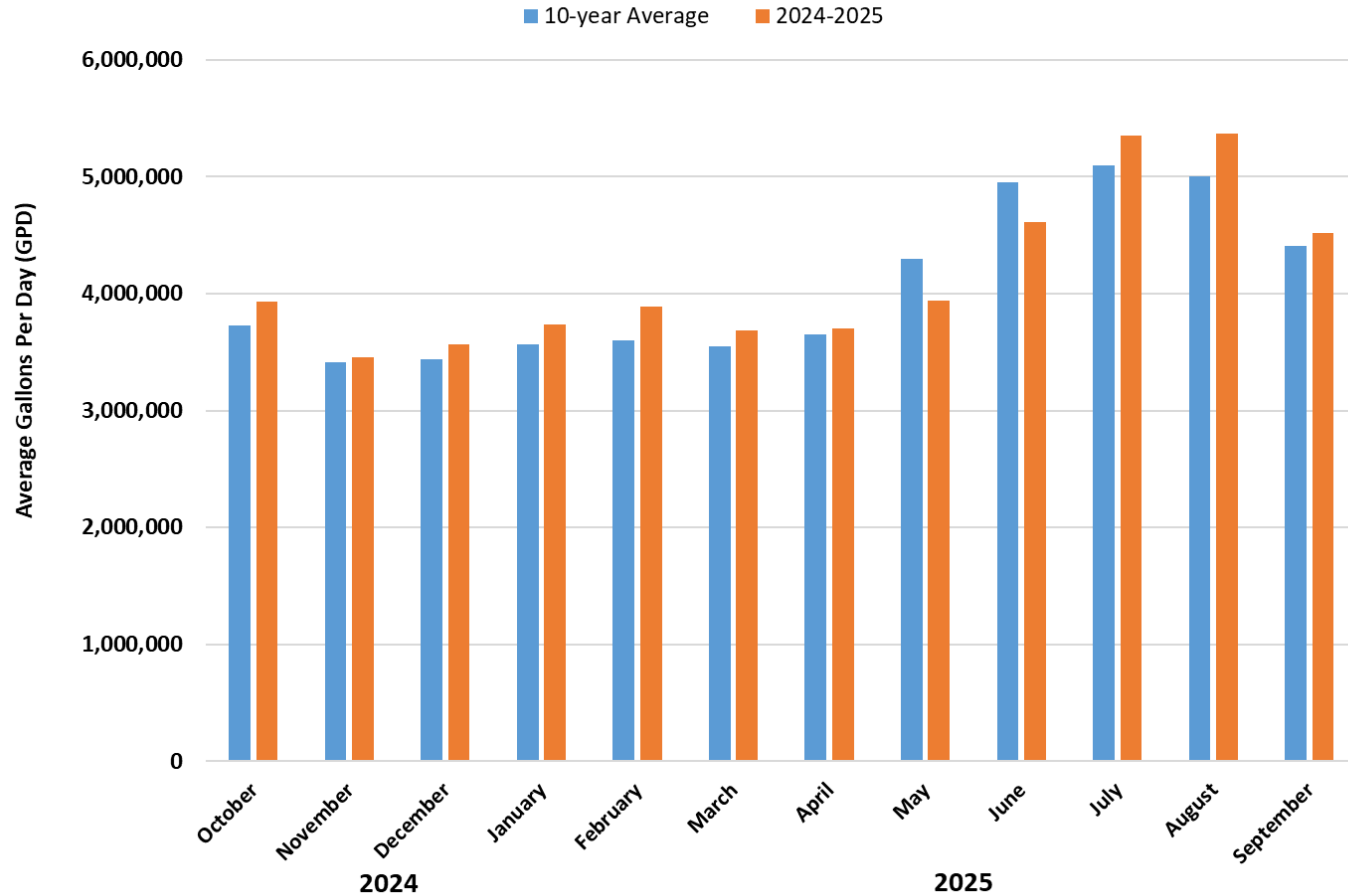


Groundwater Levels

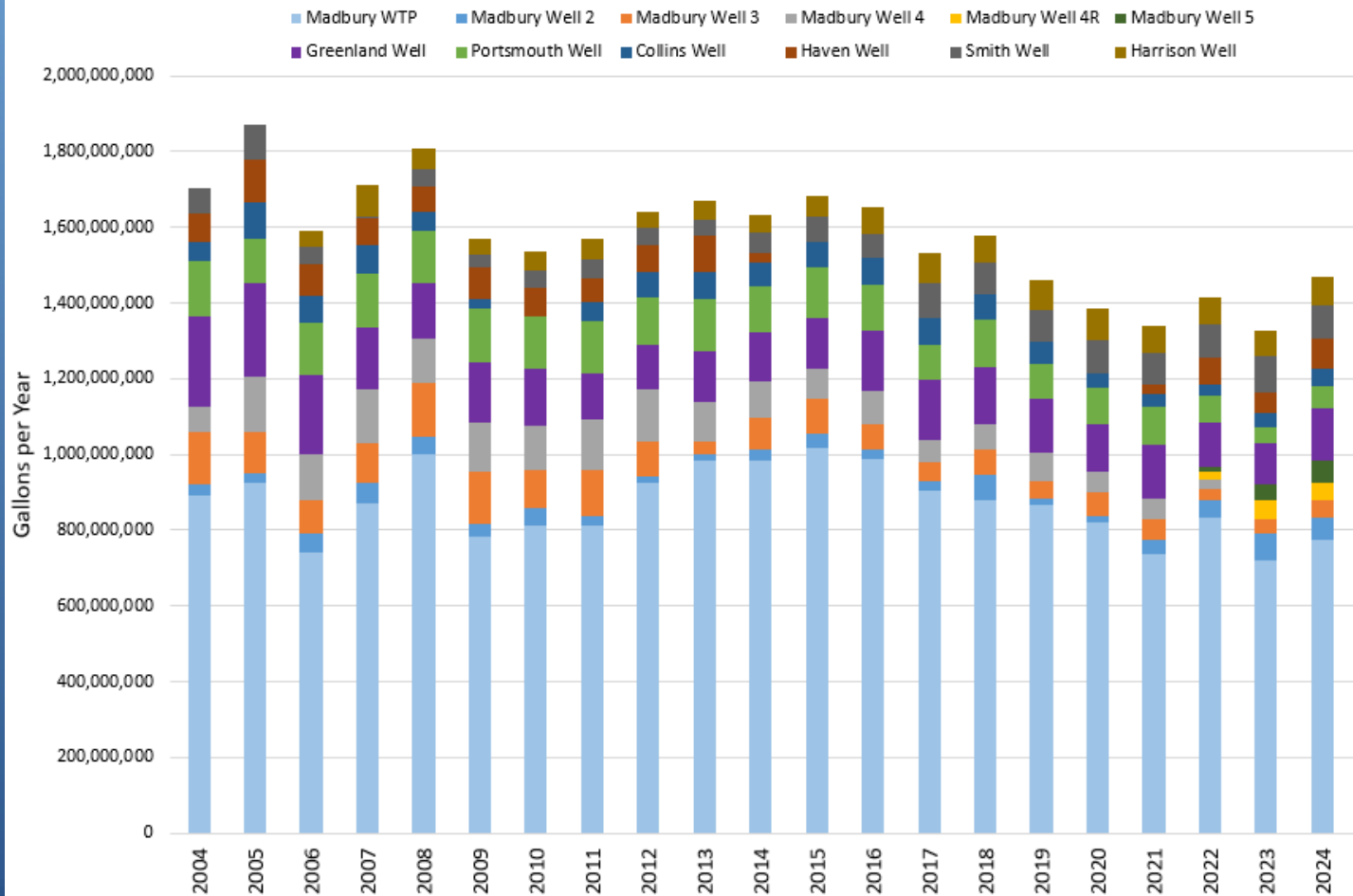
Supply Well - Water Elevations



Portsmouth & Pease Water Systems Average Daily Water Production

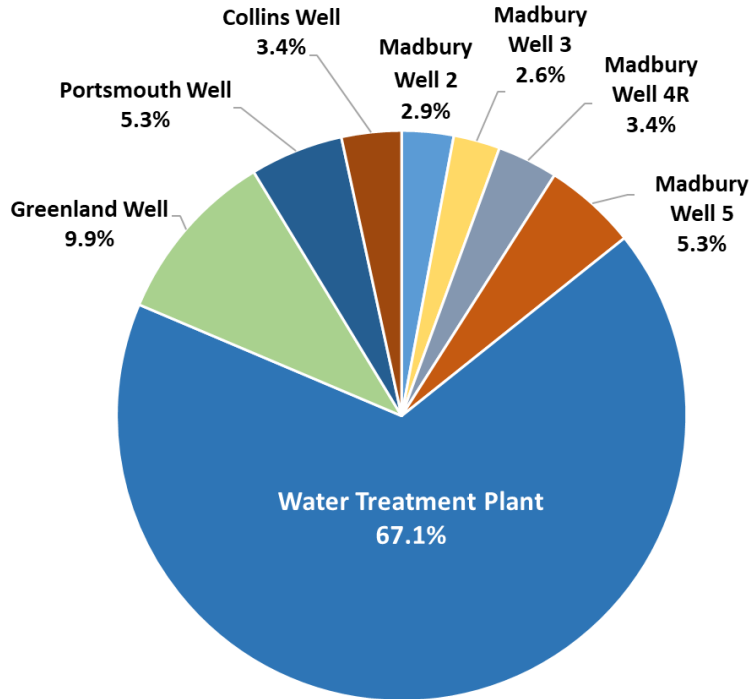


Total Annual Water Supplied by Source

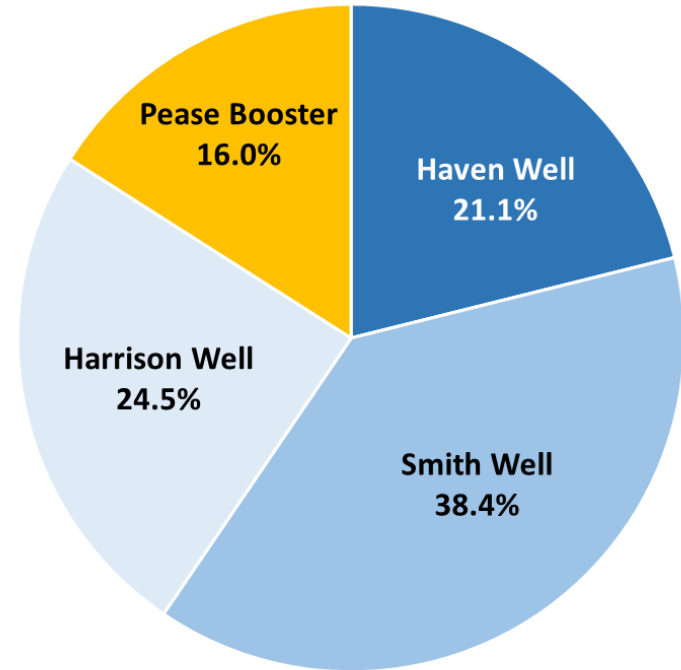


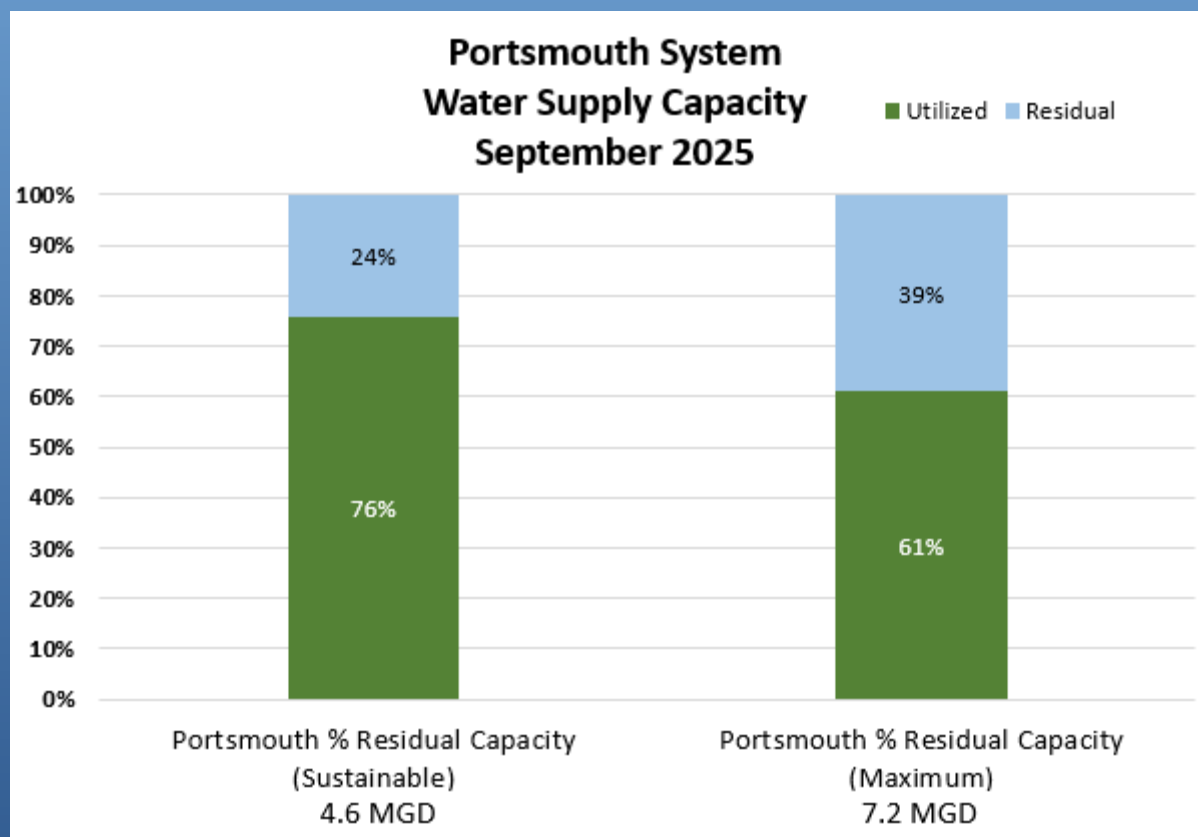
Supply Contribution

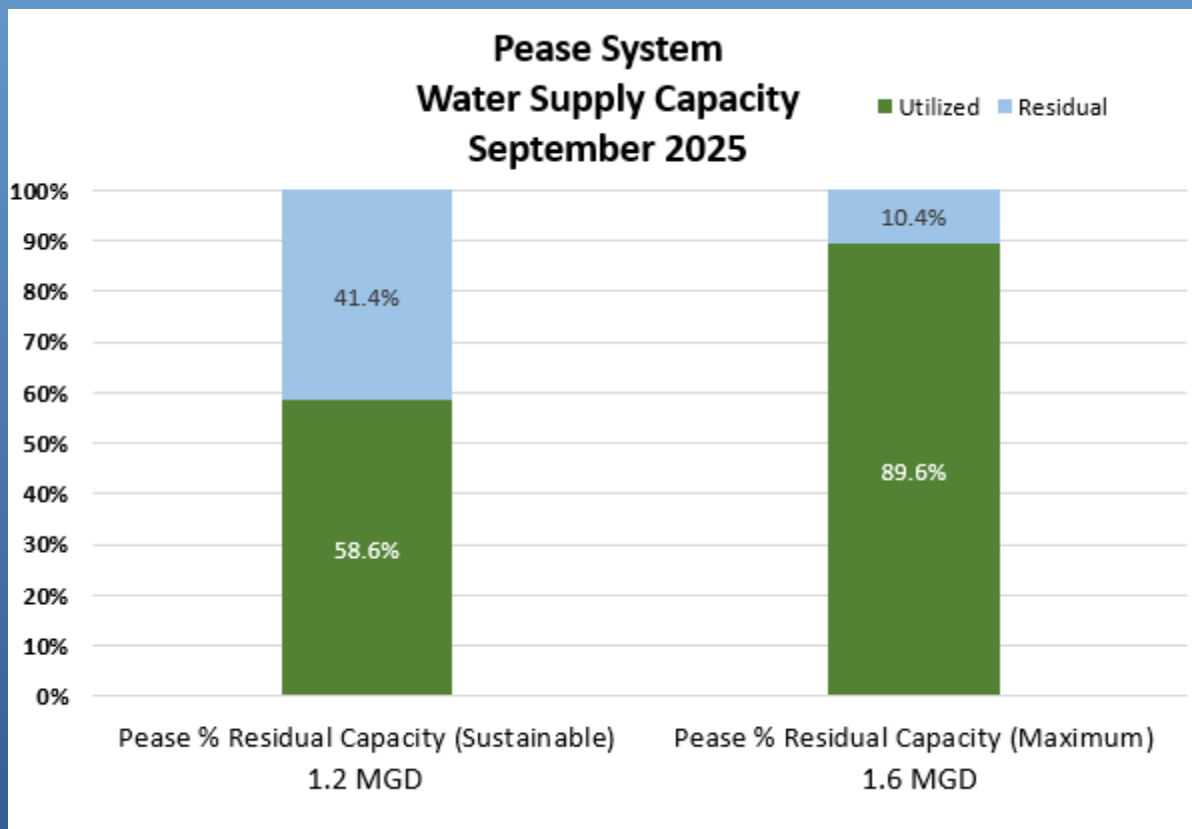
Portsmouth Water Sources
Source Percentages 2025 Q3 Average

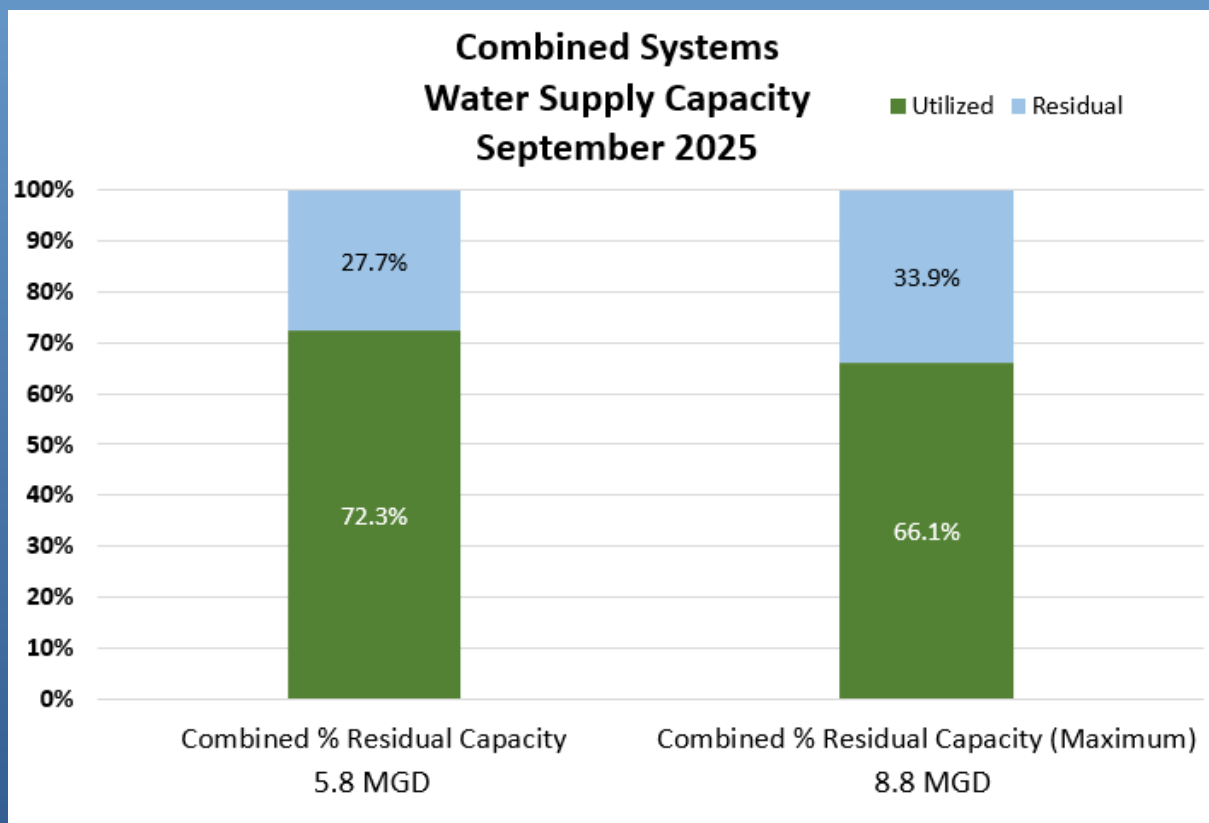


Pease Tradeport Water Sources
Source Percentages 2025 Q3 Average









12-Month Rolling Average October 2024 – September 2025

12-MONTH ROLLING AVERAGE 2025 Q3		EPA MCL (2024)	NH MCL	RAW*	MADBURY WTP FINISHED	MADBURY WELL 2	MADBURY WELL 3	MADBURY WELL 4	MADBURY WELL 5	PORTSMOUTH WELL	COLLINS WELL	GREENLAND WELL
Perfluorohexanesulfonic acid(PFHxS)	ng/L	10	18	0.0	0.2	0.4	0.4	0.6	1.4	7.7	2.5	1.9
Perfluorooctanesulfonic acid (PFOS)	ng/L	4	15	1.3	1.2	1.3	1.4	0.6	1.0	5.4	4.7	3.4
Perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA)	ng/L	4	12	2.3	2.5	2.3	2.6	1.9	3.0	7.2	4.3	4.1
Perfluorononanoic acid (PFNA)	ng/L	10	11	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.0
Hexafluoropropylene oxide dimer acid (HFPO-DA)	ng/L	10		0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Perfluorobutanesulfonic acid (PFBS)	ng/L			0.9	1.1	1.4	1.3	1.3	2.4	4.2	12.0	2.2
Hazard Index*		1		0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.8	0.3	0.2

* Hazard Index MCL = (HFPO-DA/10)+(PFBS/2000)+(PFNA/10)+(PFHxS/10)

On-Going Projects

- Storage Tank Painting
- Bellamy Dam Repair
- PFAS Treatment Design – Greenland Well
- PFAS Treatment Design – Portsmouth and Collins Wells
- Service Line Inventory - Potholing
- Service Line Replacement Plan
- Collins Well 2 Permitting
- Seacoast Reliability Project

Cyanobacteria in the Bellamy Reservoir

2025



GZA Cyanobacteria Monitoring Plan (CMP)



July 25, 2025

Project No. 05.0047274.00

Pierce Rigrod
NHDES Project Manager
29 Hazen Drive
Concord, NH 03302
pierce.a.laskey-rigrod@des.nh.gov
603.271.0688 (m)

Re: Cyanobacteria Management and Response Plan for Bellamy Reservoir
Madbury, NH

Dear Mr. Rigrod:

GZA GeoEnvironmental, Inc. (GZA) is pleased to provide the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) this Cyanobacteria Management and Response Plan (CMP) for Bellamy Reservoir located in Madbury, NH. This report summarizes the Portsmouth Drinking Water System (Bellamy Reservoir) and assesses the vulnerability of this system to cyanobacteria blooms. This report also provides recommendations to consider as long-term management practices. This report and our recommendations are subject to the Limitations attached in Appendix A. All Figures referenced in this report are presented in Appendix B.

The GZA team appreciates the opportunity to assist NHDES. Once you've had an opportunity to review this report, please let us know if you have questions or wish to arrange a meeting to discuss the approach.

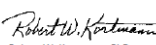
Very truly yours,

GZA GeoEnvironmental, Inc.


Benjamin Burpee, PhD, CLM
Senior Technical Specialist


David J. Rusch, P.E., CT-LEP
Associate Principal


Benjamin D. Rach, LMA
Senior Project Manager


Robert W. Kortmann, PhD
Senior Consultant

*Cyanobacteria Monitoring and Risk Assessment Plans **COMPLETE** as of July 2025!

- Trigger levels established from CMP for cyanotoxin testing:
 - 27 ug/L phycocyanin concentration
 - 20,000 cells/mL cell count

Bloom Events - Summer 2025

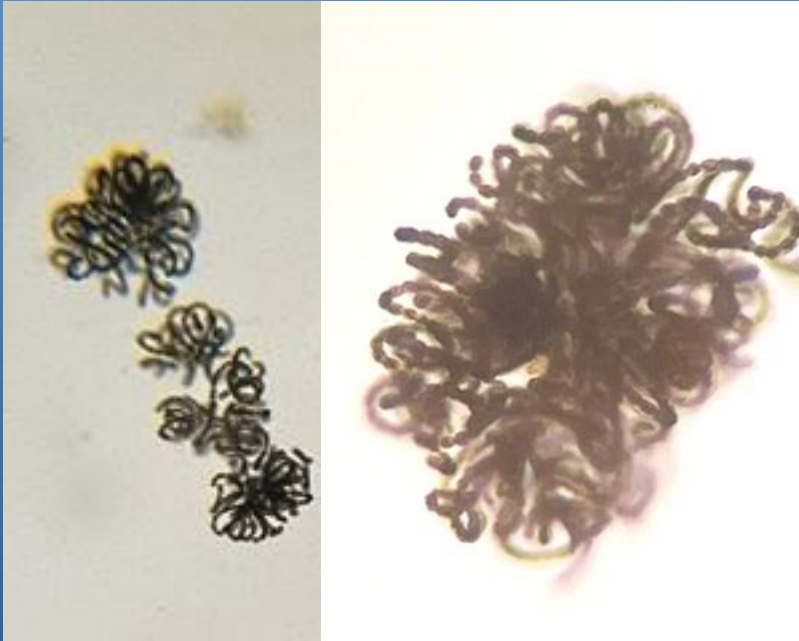


- Small, scattered blooms observed in June through late August with minimal accumulation and very low phycocyanin concentrations, as well as cell counts.
- More noticeable, dense bloom on July 28th triggered cyanotoxin testing in the raw water:
 - Identified species: Dolichiospermum and Woronichinia
 - Phycocyanin: 30.78 ug/L
 - Cell count: 25,675 cells/mL
 - Cyanotoxins: **NON-DETECT**





Dolichospermum



Woronichinia



Operational Response to Cyanobacteria Blooms

1. Deploy diffusers at intake location to physically push cyanobacteria away from the intake screen
2. Reduce plant flow and increase blend with well water
3. Introduce Powdered Activated Carbon (PAC) to head of the plant
4. Increase filter backwash frequency
5. Continue to test for phycocyanin at the start of the treatment facility, DAF basins, and finished water taps
6. Continue sampling for cyanotoxins in Raw water and Finished water until no longer present (every 24 hours)
7. Daily visual observations of reservoir and daily collections for identification, enumeration, and fluorometer readings



Collaboration with NHDES and Hazen & Sawyer

- NHDES recently partnered with Hazen and Sawyer to assist NH water systems with water treatment optimization
- 13 water systems throughout NH have experienced reoccurring cyanobacteria blooms in their surface water supplies
- Using historical data to learn more about the Bellamy Reservoir to develop the best approach to cyanobacteria and cyanotoxin removal



Pease PFAS Health Studies Update

Laurel Schaider, PhD
Senior Scientist
Silent Spring Institute

NH Seacoast Drinking Water Commission

**RSA 485-F:6 – Seacoast Commission on Long-Term Goals and Requirements for Drinking Water
Established 2017, effective until November 1, 2029**

Members:

- Five members of the house of representatives
- A member of the senate (district 21) and a member of the senate (district 24)
- Town representatives from: Dover, Exeter, Greenland, Hampton, Madbury, New Castle, Newington, North Hampton, Portsmouth, Seabrook, Stratham and Rye
- A representative from Rye Water District
- A representative from the water company that serves Hampton
- A representative for the NHDES Drinking Water Source Protection Program
- Executive director of the Rockingham Planning Commission
- Executive Director of the Strafford Regional Planning Commission
- Six community members with backgrounds in environmental science or interest in water-related science
- A hydrogeologist from the USGS
- A hydrogeologist from UNH
- A climate scientist from UNH
- A representative from any other private water company serving in Rockingham or Strafford counties

NH Seacoast Drinking Water Commission

RSA 485-F:6 – Seacoast Commission on Long-Term Goals and Requirements for Drinking Water

IV. The commission shall:

- (a) Continue the work of the RSA 485-F:5 seacoast commission on long-term goals and requirements for drinking water which was repealed on November 1, 2018.
- (b) Utilize and expand upon existing studies to plan for seasonal or drought supply issues.
- (c) Prepare and discuss mutual aid between seacoast towns for firefighting.
- (d) Prepare and discuss mutual aid agreements for emergency or replacement drinking water supply where contaminated.
- (e) Encourage coordination between towns and cities.
- (f) Establish working subgroups as needed.
- (g) Monitor and review the work of state agencies regarding possible new emerging contaminant threats

NH Seacoast Drinking Water Commission

Initiatives

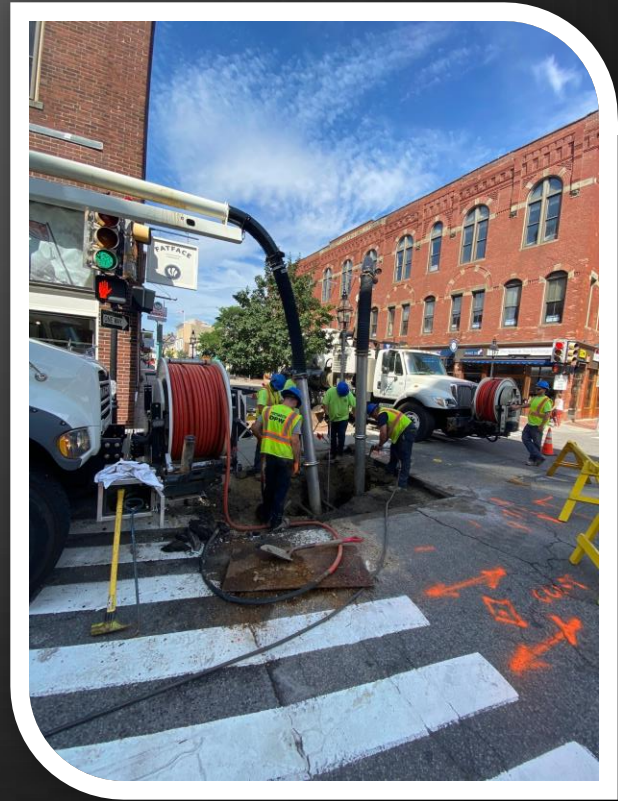
- Seacoast Private Well Testing Initiative
- Regional Household Hazardous Waste Feasibility Study
- Seacoast Emergency Interconnection Study Update



PORTSMOUTH WATER SYSTEM'S SERVICE LINE INVENTORY & LEAD TESTING UPDATES

BY MASON CACERES

ASSISTANT WATER RESOURCE MANAGER



SERVICE LINE INVENTORY UPDATED TIMELINE

SRF Funding Received for Service Line Identification & Replacement Efforts

- July 2025 - \$3.5M received for both service line material identification and construction activities associated with the full replacement of service lines identified as lead or GRR.
- 71% forgiveness.



Current Inventory Status

- Today – 486 private-side service lines left to identify. More work to do on city-side inspections via potholing with 2,068 left to visually inspect. Water systems have until 2037 to identify all unknowns.

Updated Inventory Submissions

- November 1, 2025 – City of Portsmouth will submit updated inventories for Portsmouth and Pease Tradeport Water Systems.



Customer Notification Letters to Unknown and Galvanized Services

- November 2025 – Notification letters will be sent to customers with unidentified service line materials and to those made of galvanized steel.

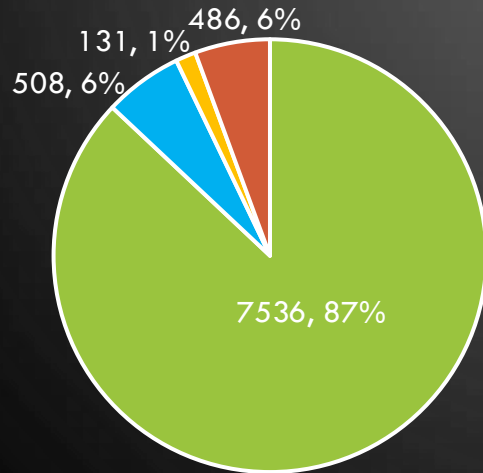


Continued Identification and Galvanized Replacement Efforts

- Ongoing – Portsmouth Water Division staff & partnered contractors will continue potholing work and assist customers in replacing galvanized services.

INVENTORY STATUS REPORT

Customer-Owned Service Line Materials Across Both Systems

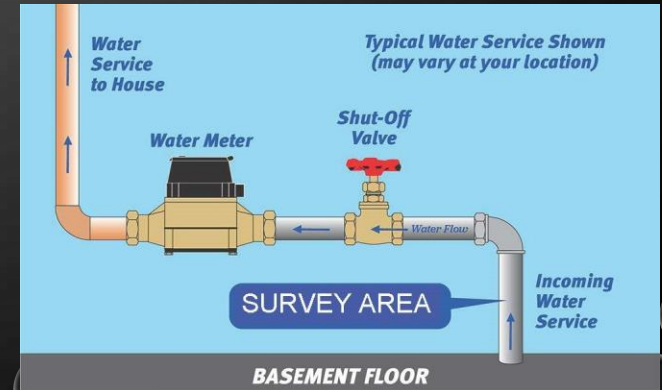
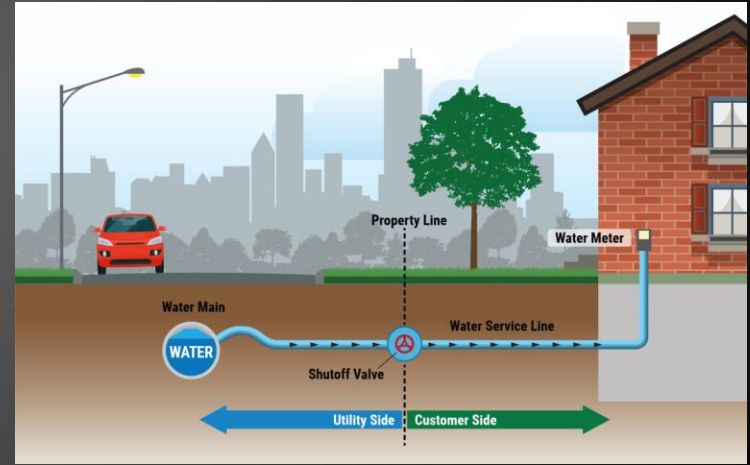


■ Copper or Non-Lead ■ HDPE ■ Galvanized ■ Unknown

- Total service connections throughout Portsmouth and Pease Tradeport Water Systems: 8,662
- Materials identified on customer-side: 8,176
 - 486 unknown remaining across both systems
 - Of those identified, 87% are copper or non-lead (other), 6% high density plastic, 1% galvanized steel
- Materials identified on city-side: 6,594
 - 2,068 unknown remaining – will require potholing
- 131 galvanized services present
 - Makes up 1% of identified service lines
 - Requires replacement under LCRI
 - City will financially assist customers with SRF \$\$
 - Planning in progress

CUSTOMER NOTICE LETTERS

- Required by EPA and NHDES to notify all property owners with lead, galvanized requiring replacement, or unknown service lines of lead exposure potential.
 - Will be sent to property owners in November
- 3 template letters using NHDES guidance:
 1. For those with galvanized steel lines: 131 to be distributed – suggests action to replace line
 2. For those with unknown material on city-owned portion: 2,068 to be distributed – no further action
 3. To those with unknown material on customer-owned portion: 486 to be distributed – suggests scheduling inspection



SERVICE LINE NOTICE LETTERS - CONTINUED

Information included in outreach:

- Health effects of lead,
- What you can do to reduce exposure,
- Testing your water (free testing opportunity),
- Identifying service line material (prompted inspection, or notice of future potholing efforts),
- Why you should replace galvanized service lines and next steps to do so.

System-specific information NOT included in letters:

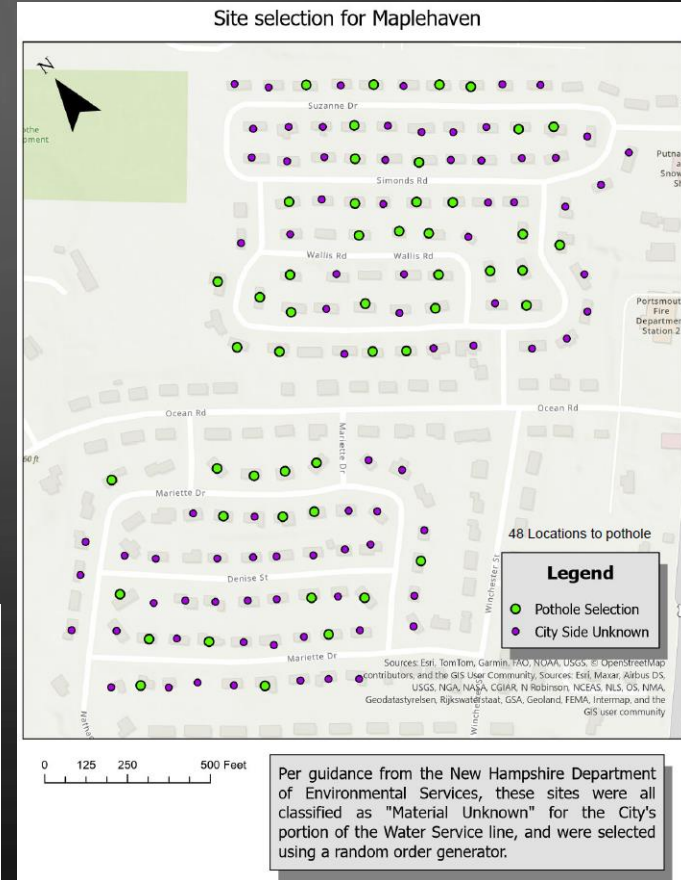
- Have yet to find a lead service line throughout the Portsmouth and Pease Tradeport Water Systems.
- Annual monitoring of lead has shown corrosion control treatment practices are working effectively.
- Sources of lead can be linked to a property's internal plumbing and fixtures (lead solder).



<https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/publicworks/water/water-service-line-dashboard>

POTHOLING INITIATIVE

- \$2M from the SRF loan will go toward city-side identification efforts
- Utilizing a statistical analysis approach
 - Required to identify 36% of development
- Targeting developments that have hotspots of unknown service line materials on city-side portion:
 - Maple Haven – starting this week
 - Elwyn Park – TBD
- Notification letters have been sent to property owners in advance
- City webpage created:
<https://portsnh.co/serviceidentification>

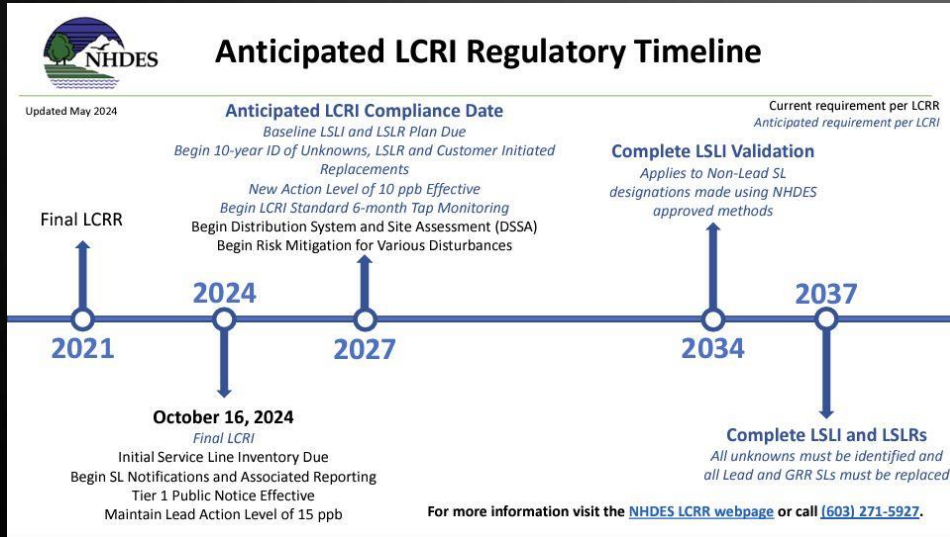


GALVANIZED REPLACEMENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM – IN PROGRESS

- \$1.5M from the SRF loan will go toward helping customers replace galvanized service lines.
- Currently, 131 property owners will have the opportunity to replace their domestic water service line while only paying a small portion of the total cost.
- Still in the process of creating a plan for the many steps and coordination efforts that are required to meet the terms of the funding source & to ensure the replacement process runs smoothly when assisting customers.



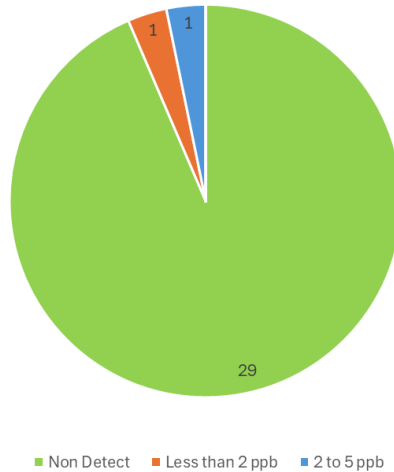
NEXT STEPS



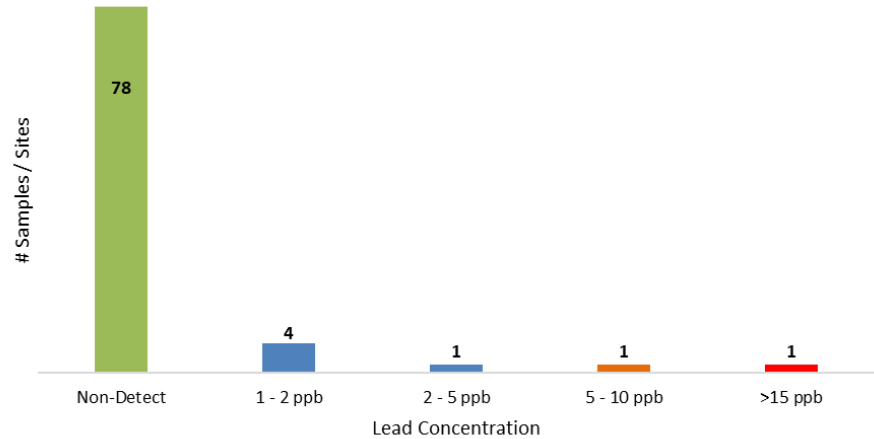
- Hiring contractors to assist with identification and replacement efforts
- Providing pitcher filters to homeowners following galvanized replacements.
- Must verify/identify 100% of unknown service line materials by 2037
- Must replace 100% of LSLs and GRRs by 2037.
- Lowering of lead action level from 15 ppb to 10 ppb starting in 2027.

LEAD TESTING RESULTS – GALVANIZED SERVICE LOCATIONS

2025 Portsmouth Lead Monitoring Results



Lead Testing Results Associated w/ Galvanized Service Locations (2023-2025)



- Two lead detections out of 31 collected samples

All sample locations have galvanized service lines

LEAD & COPPER COMPLIANCE TESTING RESULTS

PORTSMOUTH WATER SYSTEM LEAD AND COPPER COMPLIANCE HISTORY				
<u>Date</u>	<u>Sampling Frequency</u>	<u># Samples Collected & Analyzed</u>	<u>Lead</u> <u>90th percentile (ppb)</u>	<u>Copper</u> <u>90th percentile (ppm)</u>
July 2025	Annual	31	0	0.121
July 2024	Annual	30	1	0.115
July 2023	Semi-Annual	60	1	0.167
January 2023	Semi-Annual	61	1	0.244
2022	Annual	30	1	0.141
2021	Annual	31	2	0.238
2020	Annual	31	1	0.117
2019	Annual	32	0	0.205
July 2018	Semi-Annual	61	1	0.187
January 2018	Semi-Annual	62	1	0.162
2016	Triennial (once every 3 yrs.)	34	7	0.135
2013	Triennial (once every 3 yrs.)	30	1	0.110
2010	Triennial (once every 3 yrs.)	30	1	0.130

QUESTIONS?



Mason Caceres — Assistant Water Resource Manager
email: mecaceres@portsmouthnh.gov
phone: 603-312-3804

Water Main Flushing Program



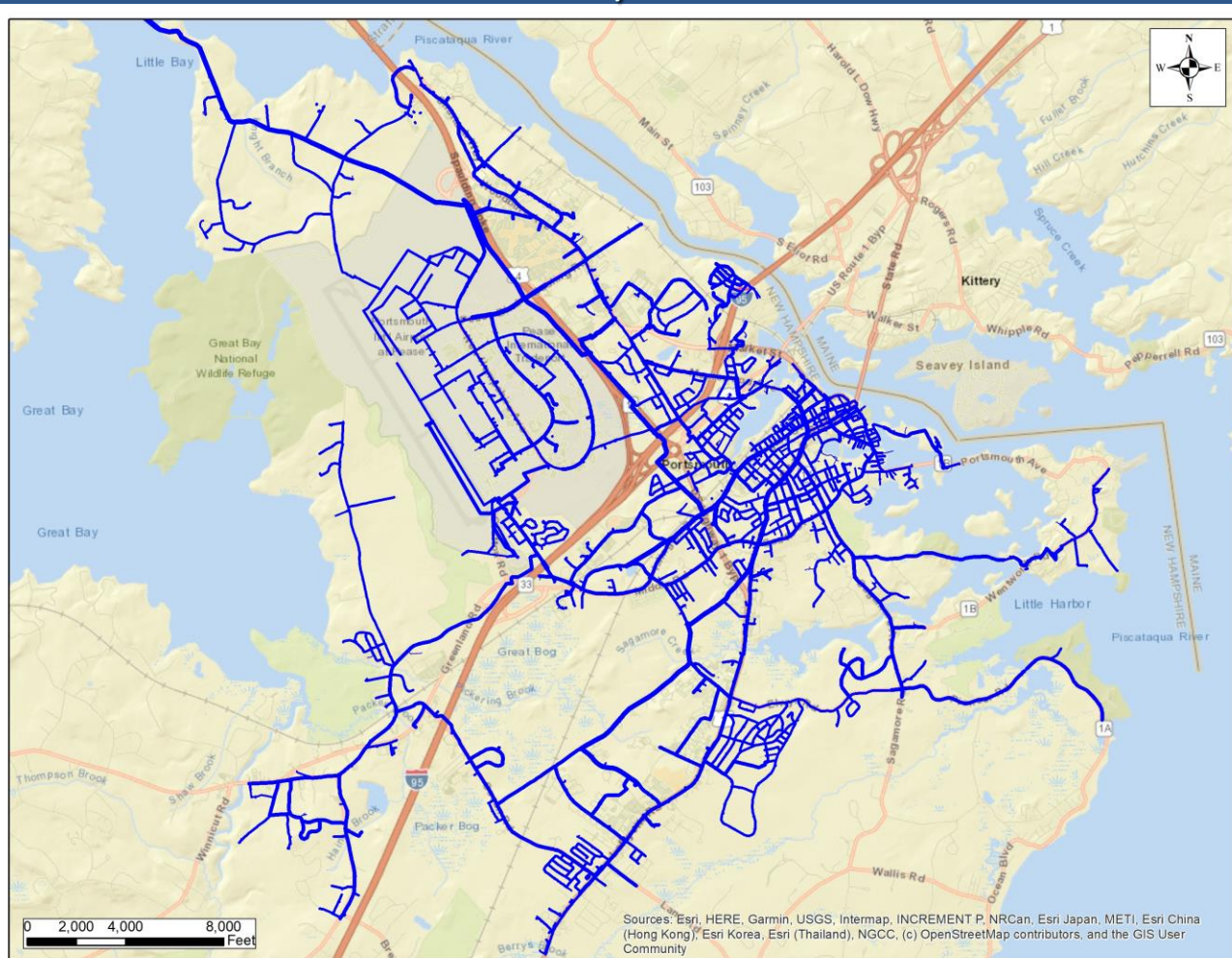
Water Main Flushing Program

Purpose

- Maintain water quality by removing accumulated deposits
- Reduce water age
- Increase chlorine residual concentrations
- Inspect hydrants and test functionality

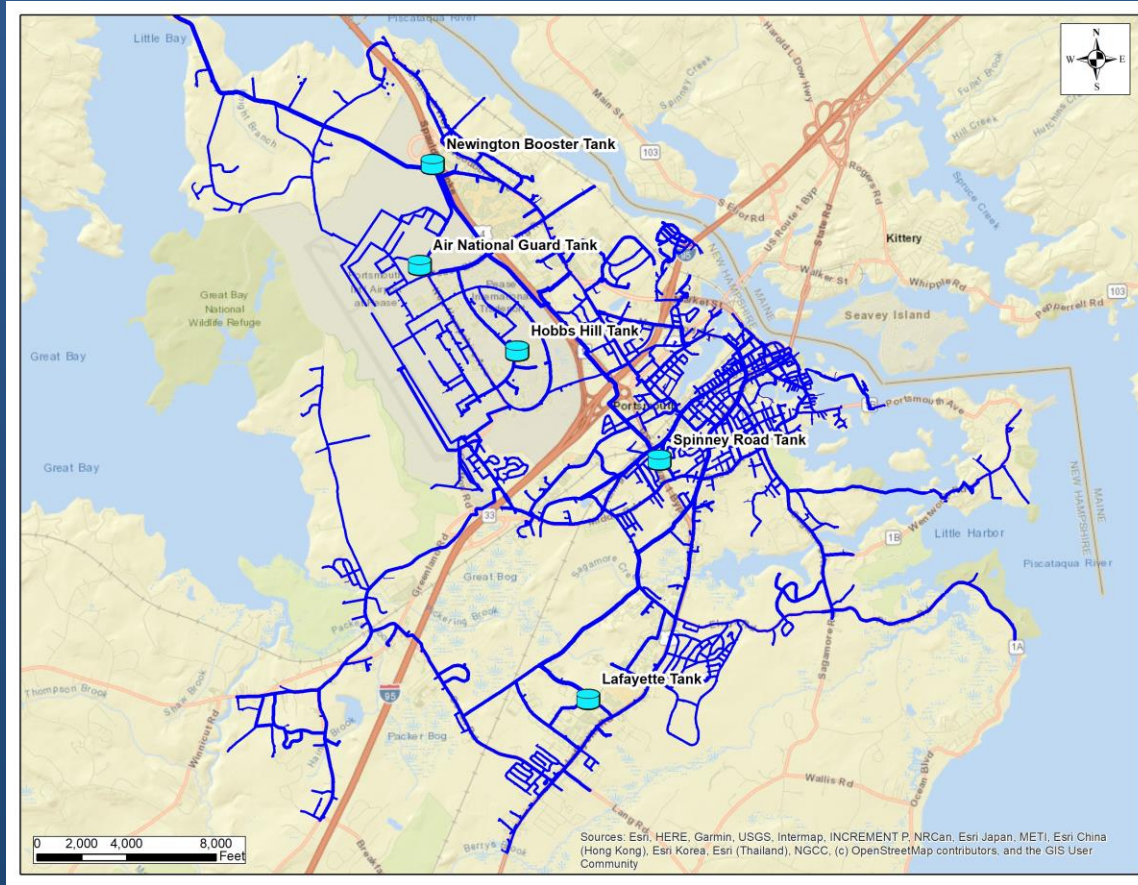


Distribution System Overview



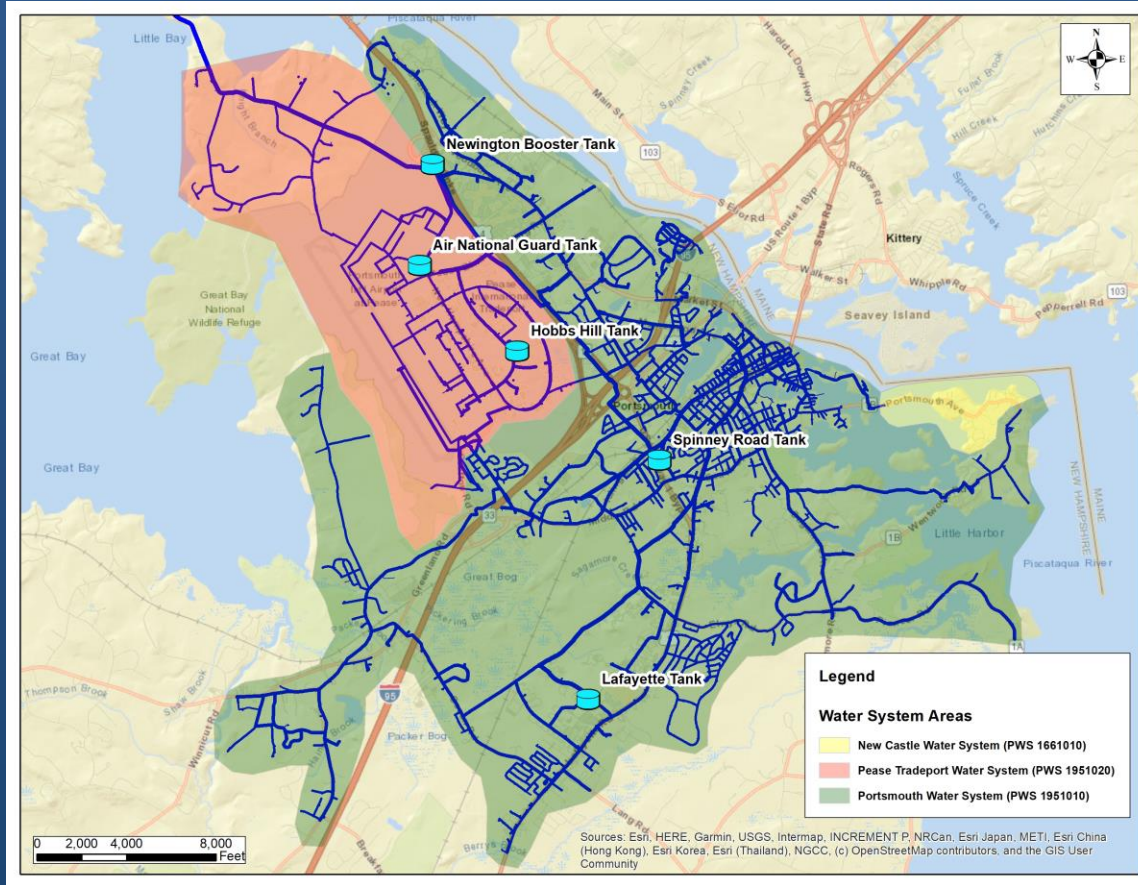
Distribution System Overview

- 192 Miles of Water Main
- Five Water Storage Tanks
 - Newington Booster
 - Spinney Road
 - Lafayette
 - Hobbs Hill (Pease)
 - Air National Guard (Pease)



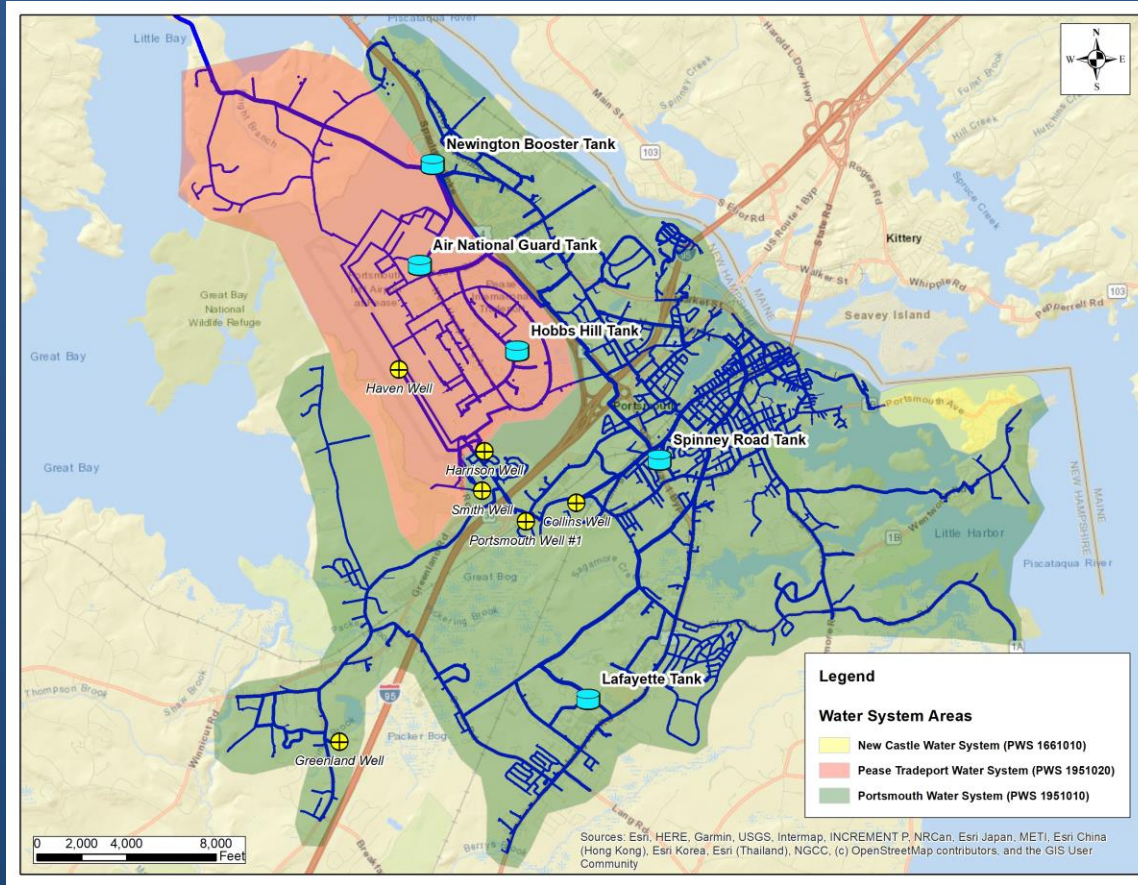
Distribution System Overview

- 192 Miles of Water Main
- Five Water Storage Tanks
- Two Water Systems
 - Portsmouth (PWSID 1951010)
 - Pease Tradeport (PWSID 1951020)

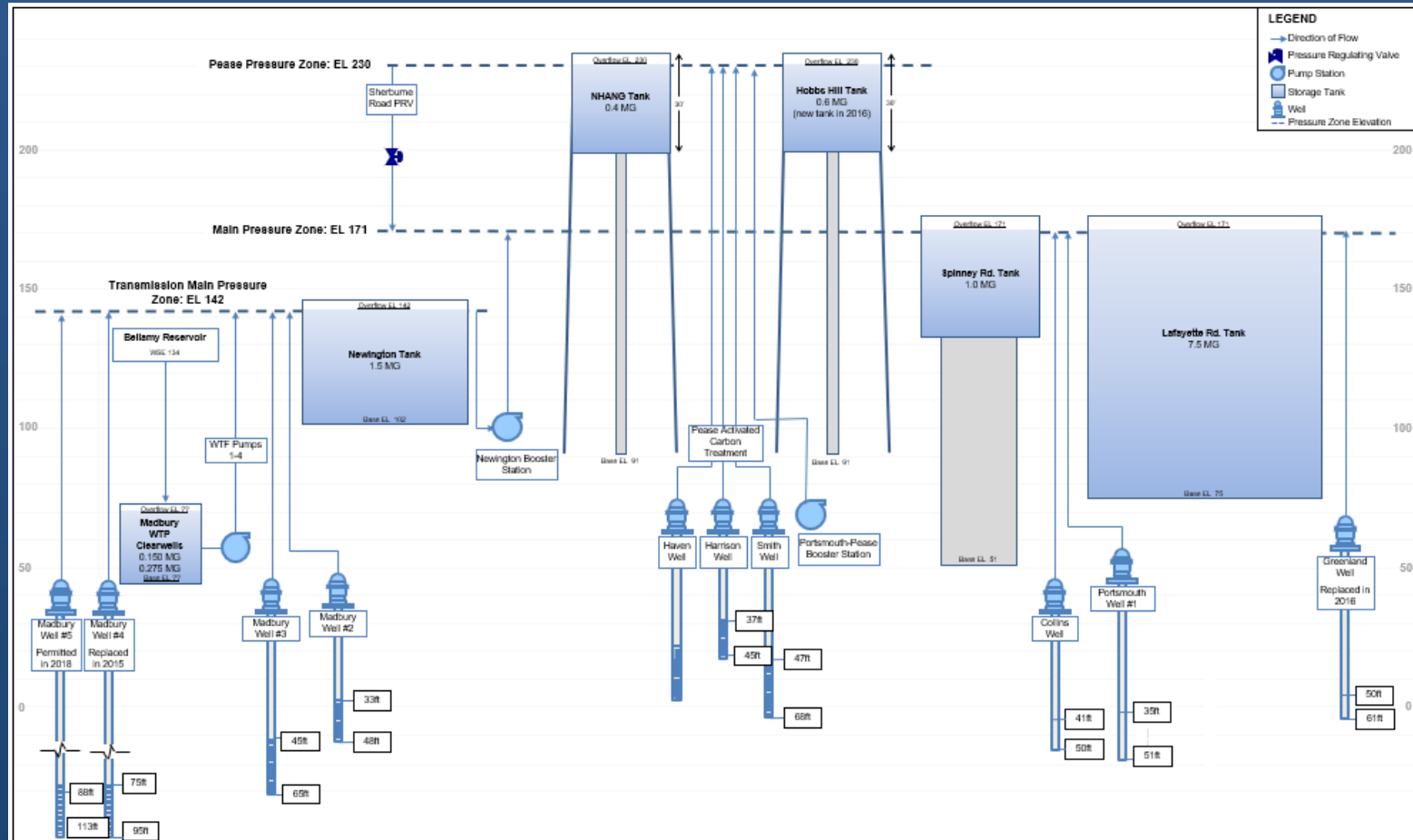


Distribution System Overview

- 192 Miles of Water Main
- Five Water Storage Tanks
 - Newington Booster Tank
 - Air National Guard Tank
 - Hobbs Hill Tank
 - Spinney Road Tank
 - Lafayette Tank
- Two Water Systems
 - Portsmouth (PWSID 1951010)
 - Pease Tradeport (PWSID 1951020)
- Supply Wells
 - Portsmouth Well
 - Collins Well
 - Greenland Well
 - Madbury Wells (2, 3, 4R & 5)
 - Smith Well (Pease)
 - Harrison Well (Pease)
 - Haven Well (Pease)

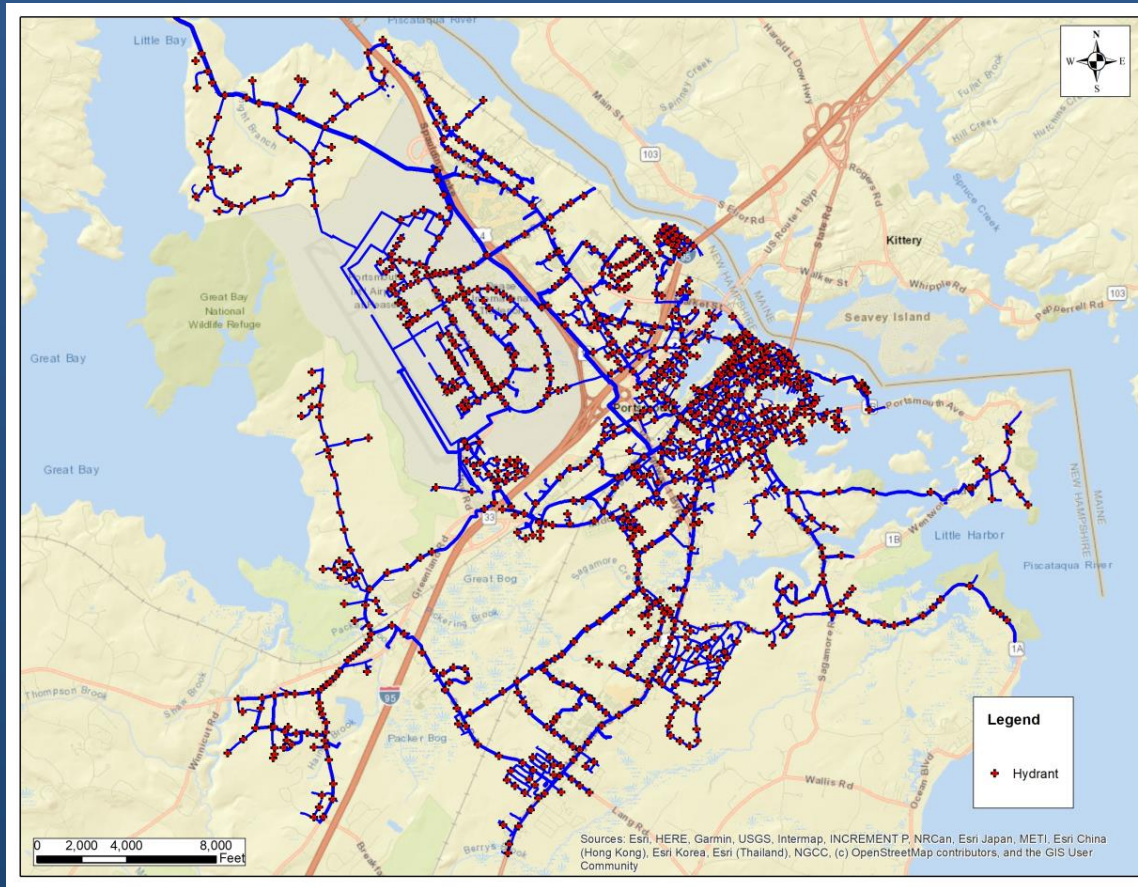


Distribution System Schematic



Distribution System Overview

- 192 Miles of Water Main
- Five Water Storage Tanks
- Two Water Systems
 - Portsmouth (PWSID 1951010)
 - Pease Tradeport (PWSID 1951020)
- Supply Wells
- Hydrants
 - 1,058 Publicly Owned
 - 555 Privately Owned



Water Main Flushing Program

NHDES Env-Dw 504.05

- Minimum frequency of at least once every 2 years
- Public Notice
- Flush until “water runs clear” at 2.5 feet per second

Flow Rates

@ Flushing Rate of 2.5 ft/sec	
Pipe Diameter (inches)	Flushing Rate (GPM)
8	392
10	612
12	881
20	2448
24	3525



Water Main Flushing Program

Semi-Annual Flushing

- Spring start in early April
- Fall start in early October

Schedule

- Typically 6 weeks
- Monday through Thursday
- Times: 7:00 PM – 11:00 PM
- 3 Crews

Public Notice:

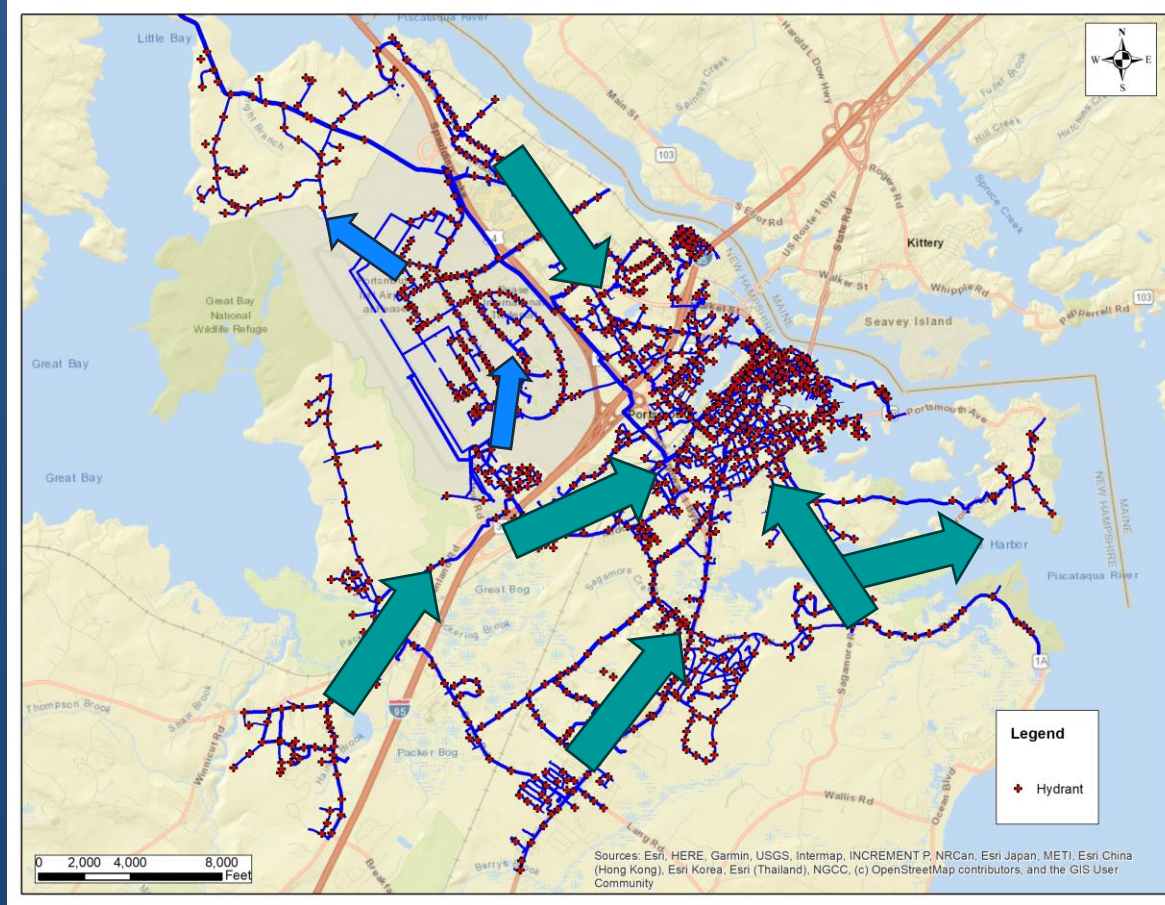
- Portsmouth Herald/ Seacoast Online
- Portsmouth City Newsletter
- City Website



Water Main Flushing Program

Typical Approach

- From Exterior & Sources
- Toward Downtown



Water Main Flushing Program

Typical Approach

- From Exterior & Sources
- Toward Downtown

Considerations

- Drought
- Freezing Temperatures
- Storms
- Staffing

Hydrant Winterization



Portsmouth Hydrant



Private Hydrant

Hydrants

Cap Colors – NFPA Flowrate Classification

Inspections

- Paint condition
- Operating nut condition
- Valve seal
- Nozzle conditions
- Cap conditions
- Gate valve access

COLOR	CLASS	AVAILABLE FLOW @ 20 psi residual
BLUE	AA	1500 GPM or more
GREEN	A	1000 - 1499 GPM
ORANGE	B	500 - 999 GPM
RED	C	Below 500 GPM



July 31, 2025 - Discolored Water Event

- High system demand July 30th
- Newington Booster high flow rate 3,800 gpm
- Scour velocity in 20" main
- Flushed mains

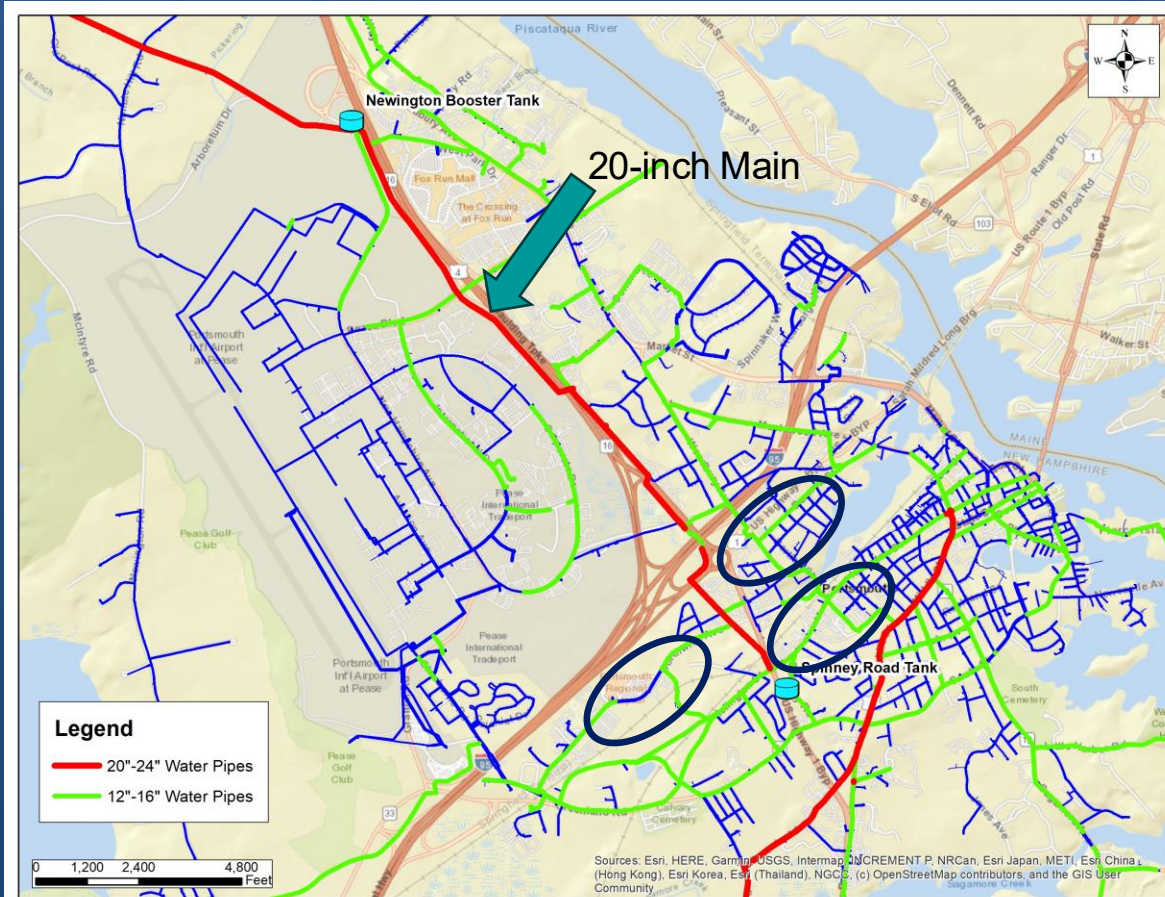
July 31, 2025

Discolored water in Portsmouth: Here's why and what's being done to fix it

Jeff McMenemy
Portsmouth Herald

- Discolored water, caused by dislodged iron and manganese buildup in the water main, is affecting most of Portsmouth.
- City officials assure residents the discoloration is not a health concern.
- Public Works crews are flushing hydrants to clear the system, and the issue is expected to be resolved by day's end.
- The discoloration resulted from high water demand during Wednesday's heat, which caused faster water flow and dislodged the buildup.

PORTSMOUTH — Most of the city is seeing discolored water coming from their pipes the morning of Thursday, July 31, “caused by dislodged iron and manganese buildup on the water main,” according



Distribution System Management

- Leak Detection
- Valve Exercising
- Hydraulic Modeling
- Water Storage Tank Inspections & Maintenance
- Water Main Replacement Projects
- Water Main Break Response



PFAS Update

- **EPA will not defend all the PFAS MCLs in court, but will defend PFOA and PFOS.**
 - On Sept. 11, 2025, the EPA asked the D.C. Circuit Court of Appeals to vacate the agency's own drinking water standards (MCLs) for four PFAS chemicals: PFNA, PFHxS, HFPO-DA, and (through a "hazard index") PFBS (referred to collectively as the "Index PFAS"). EPA is continuing to defend the challenges to the portion of the rule that sets MCLs for the two most prevalent PFAS, PFOA and PFOS.
- **EPA will defend designating PFOA and PFOS as hazardous under the federal Superfund law.**
 - This designation is a key step towards cleaning up contaminated sites and waterways and ensuring the companies responsible for the pollution, not impacted communities, pay the costs of cleaning it up.
- **NDAA amendments**
 - SEC. 318. Repeal of prohibition on procurement by Department of Defense of certain items containing perfluorooctane sulfonate or perfluorooctanoic acid.
 - SEC. 319. Repeal of temporary moratorium on incineration by Department of Defense of perfluoroalkyl substances, polyfluoroalkyl substances, and aqueous film forming foam.

<https://www.taftlaw.com/news-events/law-bulletins/epa-moves-to-vacate-all-drinking-water-standards-for-pfas-other-than-pfoa-and-pfos/>
<https://earthjustice.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/09/2025.09.11-doc-2134523-epa-mot.-for-partial-vacatur.pdf>

<https://earthjustice.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/09/motion-to-govern-pfas-hazardous-substance-designations-copy.pdf>
<https://earthjustice.org/press/2025/epa-reaffirms-rule-designating-forever-chemicals-pfoa-and-pfos-as-hazardous-substances>
<https://www.congress.gov/bill/119th-congress/senate-bill/2296/text>

Mission Vote

Current Mission:

Established by Council action on October 5, 2020, the group's stated mission is to:

To review and communicate the latest science on the health and environmental effects of PFAS, to monitor federal and state level legislative changes, and to anticipate policy changes that could impact the city of Portsmouth.

Mission Revision:

To review and communicate the latest science on the health and environmental effects of PFAS, to monitor federal and state level legislative changes, and to anticipate policy changes that could impact the city of Portsmouth. To discuss topics relevant to the City's drinking water quantity, quality, preservation and conservation efforts, and water infrastructure projects, pertaining to the water master planning through the City's annual Capital Improvement Plan process and other engineering studies. To discuss public health aspects of water quality, support and provide public education about drinking water topics, and take proactive stances to protect and conserve water quality and quantity.

Mission Vote

Revised Mission:

To review and communicate the latest science on the health and environmental effects of PFAS, to monitor federal and state level legislative changes, and to anticipate policy changes that could impact the City of Portsmouth.

To discuss topics relevant to the City's drinking water quantity, water quality, preservation and conservation efforts, and water infrastructure projects.

To discuss public health aspects of water quality, support and provide public education about drinking water topics, and take proactive stances to protect and conserve water quality and quantity.

SWAG end of year summary/recommendations to City Council

SWAG has historically sent a written report to the City Council at the end of the two year term summarizing our meetings, membership changes, changes in regulations, goals, and recommendations.

These reports (Dec 2021 and Jan 2024) can be found on the SWAG webpage under reference documents:
<https://www.portsmouthnh.gov/publicworks/water/reference-documents>

Plan to send a SWAG summary to the current council in Dec 2025 and need your input and feedback

February 23, 2022 Meeting:

- [Safe Water Advisory Group 2022 Overview by Co-chair Andrea Amico](#) (February 23, 2022)
- [Lead & Copper Regulations and City of Portsmouth Activities, Presentation by Al Pratt, Water Supply Officer for the City of Portsmouth DPW/Water Division](#) (February 23, 2022)
- [Healthy Homes & Lead Poisoning Program, Presentation by Beverly Baer Drouin, NH Division of Public Health](#) (February 23, 2022)
- [Portsmouth Water Year In Review 2021](#) (February 23, 2022 presentation)

December 20, 2021

- [Year-End 2021 Report to City Council](#) (December 20, 2021)
- [Presentation to City Council](#) (December 20, 2021)

September 1, 2021 Meeting:

- [Private Wells in Portsmouth](#) (Brandon Kernen, NH DES, September 1, 2021)
- [Climate Change & Effects on Drinking Water](#) (Portsmouth Water Division, September 1, 2021)
- [Update on Haven Well Re-opening, Treatment & Testing](#) (Portsmouth Water Division, September 1, 2021)

April 6, 2021 Meeting:

- [PFAS Occurrence in New Hampshire & Portsmouth](#) (Portsmouth Water Division, April 6, 2021)
- [NH Drinking Water Standards for PFAS](#) (Dr. Jonathan Ali, April 6, 2021)
- [NH DES Status Report on the Occurrence of PFAS Contamination](#) (December 1, 2020)
- [Federal & State Approaches to Regulating Drinking Water](#) (Dr. Laurel Shaider, April 6, 2021)
- [Community-Led PFAS Water Sample Projects](#) (Committee Member Andrea Amico, April 6, 2021)

Previous SWAG Recommendations to the Council

SWAG Recommendations to Portsmouth City Council in 2023:

- The SWAG to be reinstated in 2024 by the City Council - plan for quarterly meetings, scheduled in advance. DPW will continue to provide quarterly updates on water quantity, water quality, ongoing City projects pertaining to drinking water and water conservation, and updates and progress on master planning to the SWAG as well as keep that information on their website, in the annual drinking water quality report, and other documents.
- The SWAG will continue to monitor developments regarding contaminants of emerging concern and discuss advanced PFAS testing opportunities to get ahead of additional PFAS that may be in the water that is not currently tested for by EPA methods.
- The SWAG will continue to monitor for legislation at the State & Federal level that will help address water quality issues in the City. City staff and SWAG members should testify at State hearings on water contamination legislation that is pertinent to the City and community.
- The City will continue with design and construction of the Greenland Well treatment system and preliminary designs of PFAS treatment for the Collins, and Portsmouth wells in preparation of pending EPA MCLs for PFAS with those updates being provided to the SWAG.
- The SWAG will continue to monitor developments and advancing of the science related to PFPrA and other emerging PFAS chemicals detected in the City drinking water.

Previous SWAG Recommendations to the Council

SWAG Recommendations to Portsmouth City Council in 2023:

- The SWAG will continue to monitor the lead testing and remediation efforts at the Portsmouth School Department.
- City of Portsmouth to consider providing alternative disposal options of PFAS-containing items (e.g., water filters at their end life, Teflon pans, etc).
- City of Portsmouth should continue to stay engaged on the Million Air project at Pease and encourage the PDA to host a community meeting on the status of the project, the impact to wetlands, the protections put in place to prevent water contamination, the protocols to address potential spills or leaks, and allow community Q&A with PDA and key project stakeholders.
- City Council should consider funding additional free lead water testing to residents once the initial \$2500 is exhausted as this is a valuable service to our residents in a city with old housing stock and documented exposure to some residents in the City.
- City of Portsmouth should be willing to participate in testing opportunities for emerging contaminants and contaminants of concern - especially when no cost to the City - to better understand what contaminants may be in the water supply.

Though not directly related to the City's drinking water system's water quality, some members of the committee had the following recommendations:

- The SWAG should discuss the potential impacts on drinking water from Coakley Landfill in more depth at future meetings.
- City of Portsmouth should conduct routine PFAS testing of water running off the artificial turf fields to determine if there are environmental impacts to the surrounding wetlands and storm water drainage system.

Public Comment