

## **Annual Report of the Commissioners CY 2020**

**Annual Water Usage** The District pumped 155 million gallons of water in 2020 from its wells, an increase of 29 million gallons from 2019, a 15% increase.

**Water Quality Results** All monthly coliform and annual VOC/SOC chemical monitoring program sample results for CY 2020 were satisfactory. The triannual lead & copper sampling was performed and results were below (MCL) maximum contamination levels. Look for specific details in our next annual Water Quality Report to be issued to you by July 1, 2021. Past and recent sampling results can be viewed on our website ([www.ryewaterdistrict.com](http://www.ryewaterdistrict.com)) as well as using the (2041010 Public Water System Link) provided under [Related Links](#).

**Additional Water Quality Sampling** The District has continued to sample for PFAS (Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances) compounds on a monthly basis. Sampling results remain consistent with previously sampled results. All results can be reviewed on the RWD website. In December 2019 the RWD started sampling for PFAS compounds using the new PFAS sampling rules put forth by NHDES in September 2019. These new rules established more restrictive levels for PFAS compounds than those specified in the current EPA health advisory. **The results of the most recent (Dec 2020 and Jan 2021) RWD sampling, using the new NHDES protocols, are below the NHDES specified levels for PFAS compounds.**

**Drought & Covid-19** During most of 2020 Rye was listed in moderate drought or extreme drought by the State of N.H. The District imposed voluntary and then mandatory water restrictions as conditions worsened. The Town of Rye also imposed water use restrictions too, not only to support the District but to emphasize the need to conserve our valuable resource. The stay at home order had a large impact on usage from April to present day. This increase in usage on many occasions put the District in a compromised state for providing adequate system pressure and fire protection.

**Construction Projects** 1,200 feet of 8" water main was installed on Ocean Blvd. with two new hydrants and six new gate valves. This installation replaced the existing highly degraded 8" main due to the corrosiveness of the area. A new well cap was installed at the Bailey Brook well to ensure proper protection against environmental infiltration. A tank mixing system was installed at Breakfast Hill water tank and has significantly reduced ice damaging build-up as well as improved water quality. On the District's property of Garland Road improvements were made to the woods access road for well exploration and drilling. Two wells were drilled and evaluated for potential production for the system. One has been fully flow tested with a report generated and submitted to NHDES for their review and approval.

**Water System Leak Detection** The RWD received another NHDES grant for a leak survey in 2020 which was not conducted due to Covid stay at home order. It is anticipated that a leak survey will be performed in 2021. The District personnel performed multiple pin-pointed leak detection sessions throughout the 2020 calendar year.

**Water Meter Upgrades** Two Hundred twenty-four water meters, ranging in sizes from 5/8" thru 2", were replaced. The District has continued with quarterly meter readings to better monitor water usage for conservation and accurate billing.

**Water Main Breaks & Service Line Leaks** One water main break occurred in 2020 within the Districts distribution system. The break was located on Central Road caused by aged component hardware. Extra precautions were taken to ensure no contamination was presented to the system as the repair was being made. Eleven private service lines were either repaired, modified or replaced.

**System Improvements** A tank mixer was installed in Breakfast Hill tank to improve water quality and reduce damaging ice build-up. A new access road to the proposed well drill sites (on District property) was installed and improvements were made to the existing road. Replacement of one of the District's service vehicles is proposed for 2021.

**Operational Activities** Bailey Brook well got a new well cap installed to protect the well against environmental infiltration and conduit was installed for a pressure sensing transducer to be installed at a later time when well is being reconditioned. Four hydrants were repaired/replaced for either vehicle damage or age associated failure and one new hydrant was added to the system. A sanitary survey was completed with NHDES in 2020. The survey brought to light the increased growth/population since the last survey in 2017 requiring the District to perform additional water sampling counts. The need to form an action plan to manage high-use/peak water use to protect system availability and longevity was also identified.

**Water Usage and Rate Increase** For 2021, a proposed rate increase of 2.75% will be applied to the current water overage rates.

**Hydrogeologic Study** In 2018, a study for a new source water location was initiated. Phase 1 was completed at the beginning of 2018 and Phase 2 was completed in 2019. Replacement well project for Cedar Run was started late 2019. Presently the planned replacement well,(T-2), flow report was completed in July of 2020 is currently under review by NHDES.

### **Activities & Capital Improvements Planned for 2021**

Continued efforts with Cedar Run Well replacement along with our new water source investigation effort.

Complete the generator installation at the Bailey Brook/Cedar Run pump station site.

Begin Garland Road well house renovation.

Replacement of five hydrants and two gate valves based on age and condition.

Project bidding & scheduling for water main replacement on Wallis Road from Ocean Blvd. to Odiorne Dr.

Continued replacement of aged water meters.

**2021 Tax Rate** The projected 2021 tax rate for the proposed budget, including proposed warrant articles, is \$0.62 per \$1,000 valuation.

**Contact us via Email:** Please do not hesitate to e-mail the office anytime day or night with your questions or concerns or view our website at **[www.ryewaterdistrict.com](http://www.ryewaterdistrict.com)**

Arik Jones, Superintendent: [arik.ryewater@comcast.net](mailto:arik.ryewater@comcast.net)  
Commissioners at: [commissioners.ryewater@comcast.net](mailto:commissioners.ryewater@comcast.net)

Commissioners

Arthur L Ditto

Ralph J Hickson

Tom A Clifford