

May, 2018 Newsletter



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Welcome and Latest on Well Elevations

Welcome to the debut of our new formatted newsletter. Much like our website redesign, we felt it was time for a refresh. As always, please let us know what you think.

It's May, the Celtics are dazzling us with exciting playoff games, the Red Sox are battling the Yankees for first place, and we have just completed our third set of readings this year.

January through April have all been above average months for precipitation and this continues to help maintain groundwater levels throughout our well network. Our 810 well network had 18 wells recording all-time highs and only 2 wells were the lowest they have ever been.

Update on Hot Spot Areas

The Beacon & Fairfield Street area in the Back Bay has continued to rise since BWSC made repairs last November. Nearly a dozen wells in the area are at all-time highs. As I mentioned in my last newsletter we typically see this "spread-out" effect of higher levels in other wells once repairs have been made. See the latest datalogger results [here](#). The dataloggers have been removed since we have logged these wells for a little over six months post-repair and going forward are comfortable with relying on our regular reading cycle (every 5-6 weeks weather permitting) to monitor the wells in this area.

BWSC will be televising pipes along Stuart Street, in the Berkeley to Dartmouth Street and in the Saint James Avenue/Providence Street areas of the Back Bay this spring. In the South End, along Clarendon Street, we continue to coordinate with BWSC on the best way to mitigate the low levels in some of the wells in this area. Along Montgomery Street in the South End some minor damp spots were discovered during inspections. A solution is currently in the early design stages. BWSC will again be dye testing lines on Commercial Street in the North End in the spring to look for leaks.

Maps and Attachment Details

Attached are the usual color coded well elevation maps for our entire network. These maps are updated with new groundwater recharge location information obtained from BWSC. Recharge systems approved through the Groundwater Conservation Overlay District (GCOD) and in the public way are now indicated on both maps. I've also attached additional files and have a brief explanation of each below.

2000-2018 Monthly Precipitation

This table provides a month by month look at the precipitation totals in the City from 2000 to present.

BGwT 2007-2018 Average Network Elevation vs. Precipitation

I have revised this graph from a line to a bar graph. Please let me know what you think. This bar graph illustrates the average elevation of all 810 wells in our network vs. precipitation. While we have wells that have been read since 1999, 2007 is when we completed the bulk of our well network installations. Therefore, this 11 year period provides the largest amount of well data to work with. It's helpful to look at the average vs precipitation and see the slight (but important) gains made. The repairing of underground infrastructure coupled with the installation of recharge systems plays a major role in helping us maintain groundwater levels and capturing the precipitation.

BGwT 2018 Well Network Elevations

This table illustrates our 2018 well elevation ranges for each reading period. I've highlighted the highest numbers of the year for each elevation range. The table provides a good view of how the well network responds throughout the seasons of the year.

As always don't hesitate to contact me with any questions or suggestions that you may have. I am delighted to have the opportunity to serve you.