

TOWN OF IPSWICH UTILITIES DEPARTMENT



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Ipswich Water Department Interim Water Use Mitigation Program (10-5-20)

In order to ensure the availability of water for residential, commercial, and other purposes, for present as well as for future use in the Town of Ipswich, it is necessary that water usage be managed to the best extent practicable.

The following Interim Water Use Mitigation Program (WUMP) is implemented to mitigate water demand of new developments to minimize impacts to the water system. The funds collected through this program will fund water saving projects to enable the public water system to meet the additional demand.

This program is to be updated in Spring 2021 to work cooperatively with a Water Use Mitigation Bylaw to be developed for approval at the 2021 Annual Town Meeting. The goal of the two initiatives is to reduce the impact new growth and development have on the public water system by minimizing and encouraging efficient water use and to fund improvements to the public water system to increase capacity without increasing withdrawals from surface and groundwater resources that are already stressed.

Program Administration

The Water Department shall be responsible for the administration of this program.

Applicability

This program will apply to development projects connected to the municipal water system that represent a new or increased water demand and meet the following conditions:

- All residential projects adding one (1) or more bedroom
- All non-residential projects

Requirements

All applicable projects must meet the following requirements:

- Comply with all applicable provisions of the state plumbing code

The domestic water and/or fire sprinkler service to the project will not be activated until the Town Plumbing Inspector has verified the project complies with these requirements.

Water Use Mitigation Charges

Charges shall be assessed to projects in accordance with the following fee schedule and are in addition to connection permit fees:

Project Type	Fee
Residential	\$1,500/Bedroom
Non-Residential	\$13.50/gpd*

*Gallon per day volume defined by 310 CMR 15 (Title 5)

The applicable Water Use Mitigation Program Form must be completed and submitted with payment and development plans to the Utilities Department Business Office prior to issuance of a building permit. The development plans and program form will be reviewed by the Water Department to verify the payment amount.

Should payment not be received prior to the issuance of the building permit or certificate of occupancy, water service will not be activated for new water customers. Existing customers who do not submit payment shall have WUMP charges applied to their water account.

Water Use Mitigation Program Revenue

All revenue collected by the Utilities Department under this program will be segregated into a Water Department WUMP reserve account.

The Board of Water Commissioners may authorize annual expenditure of WUMP revenue for conserving water resources, reducing water demand, water use mitigation and salary and administrative cost of the program.

Exemptions

The following shall be exempt from this program;

- Ipswich Public Schools;
- Town of Ipswich municipal projects;
- Dwelling units authorized to be constructed by a building permit or special permit issued before the effective date of this program; and
- Existing dwelling units to be added to the Town's subsidized housing inventory under 760 CMR 56.03.

Effective Date

The program, approved by the Water Commissioners on October 5, 2020 shall be effective **October 6, 2020**.