

LETS MAKE IT CRYSTAL CLEAR

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Although the weather seems far too nice to think about winter, now is the time to protect your water meters and pipes from the cold months ahead. Precautionary measures can save you money and aggravation. Here are some suggestions...

- Install heat tape and/or insulation to your pipes, faucets or water meters that are located in unheated areas, like your basement or outside.
- Disconnect and drain outdoor hoses.
- Locate the master shutoff in your home; in the event of a pipe bursting this can be very helpful.
- Make sure snow is cleared from around hydrants near your home.
- The M.U.A will be conducting our Fall Hydrant Flushing Program beginning October 12, 2004 to October 29, 2004 between the hours of midnight and 6am.

What's The Problem with Hard Water? Hardness in drinking water refers to the concentration of certain nontoxic minerals, specifically calcium and magnesium. If you put water in a dish and let it evaporate, the white residue that is left are these non-toxic minerals. It is characteristic of hard water to be difficult to make suds or lather, making cleaning with hard water "hard". This may also reduce the efficiency of dishwashers and washing machines. However, **there are no adverse health affects of hard water**. In fact, according to the National Academy of Sciences (NAS) hard water may contribute to total calcium and magnesium required in the average persons dietary need. And in a recent study conducted in Finland hard water may protect you against coronary artery disease and heart attacks.

Conserve Water for Future Generations...

- Use water-saving showerheads, faucets, toilets and appliances.
- Fix leaks and drips promptly
- Turn water off while brushing teeth, shaving, etc.
- Wash only full loads of clothes and dishes.
- Turn the hose off when washing your car.
- If everyone flushed the toilet just one less time per day, we could save a lakeful of water about a mile long, a mile wide and four feet deep each day!

Did you know?

- The average cost of water supplied to a household in the US is \$2.00 for 1,000 gallons. The MUA charges an exceptional rate of \$1.50 per 1000 gallons.
- On average 50-70% of household water is used outdoors (watering lawns, car wash).
- **A person can live more than a month without food, but only about a week without water.**
- 75% of a chicken, 80% of a pineapple, and 95% of a tomato is water.
- It is possible for people today to drink water that was part of the dinosaur era.

Upgrades Within the Water System... In early 2004, the authority redeveloped well #2 at the south end of town. New pump and components were installed to upgrade the existing thirty year old well. This will further ensure a clean, reliable supply of drinking water.

If you have any questions concerning your drinking water or any suggestions for this newsletter please contact John F. Wegele, Andrea Giallorenzo or Kathleen Shortway at the Pompton Lakes M.U.A. office, # 973.839.3044. Office hours are Monday through Friday, 8:00 am – 5:00 pm. Also, visit our website at www.plbmua.org.

Did you receive the annual Water Quality Report? If not, come down to the MUA and pick one up! It's good reading and very informative!