

WHAT'S ON TAP



The KKW Water District Newsletter

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MARK YOUR CALENDAR

The District will be hosting free tours of its water treatment plant on May 8th from 9AM to 2PM. So come by and see how we make your drinking water safe.



May 17, 1934 - District workers install the first Transite pipe used in Maine along Drakes Island Road in Wells. The 790-foot long project cost \$822.10, around \$1.04 per foot.

5% WATER RATE INCREASE PLANNED FOR 2010

Norm Labbe, Superintendent

As reported in our Summer 2009 newsletter, we are planning an across-the-board rate increase. The proposed new rates reflect a 5% increase to become effective in early April 2010. Although this may not sound like good news, it is a far lower percentage than we anticipated just six months ago, when the projected figure was closer to 15%.

2009 was a difficult year for many of us, including the District, which experienced several revenue reducing factors. As you may remember, we had one of the wettest summers on record. Our annual water production was 11% lower than that of 2008, a level not seen since 1995. Another factor was our mandated "revenue-neutral" rate adjustment last April, which exacerbated the revenue decrease caused by the reduced water usage. The plunging economy was yet another obvious factor. Regrettably, our local tourist industry was significantly affected and several businesses were forced to shut their doors. One of them, R.R. Donnelley & Sons Co. (formerly Spencer Press), was one of our largest customers.

"We've got some great things going on right now.....our \$391K grant and \$1.636M 0% interest bond are primary factors in our only needing a 5% rate increase instead of the earlier 15% projection."

- Norm Labbe, Superintendent

All of this may sound overwhelming, but we want you to know we are constantly striving to keep costs down. Last year we implemented over \$100,000 in cost savings initiatives (many of which were absorbed by our dedicated employees) and we will continue to work toward that end. One example is reducing our dependency on Branch Brook as a source of supply by developing lower cost, higher quality groundwater supplies (see *Groundwater Expansion* article on page 2).

Thankfully, the \$391K grant and \$1.636M 0% interest 20 year bond awarded to us by the Drinking Water Program are primary factors in our only needing a 5% rate increase instead of the 15% earlier projection (see *Beneath the Surface* article on page 2). Even with a 5% rate increase in place, our total anticipated revenue for 2010 is budgeted to be less than that of 2008!

As always, we will continue to focus on our primary mission to *provide the highest quality drinking water and customer service at the lowest reasonable price.*

Did you know.....

- A public water system is among a community's most important and costly assets.
- The District was incorporated in 1921 by the Maine Legislature. Warren Harding was President, the State Police were created and gasoline was 10 cents per gallon.
- Since the beginning, the District has invested \$34,509,876* to create the infrastructure system that serves our present day customers. The assets include:
 - 208.3 miles of transmission and distribution mains valued at \$24,913,197
 - 7 water storage tanks with a capacity of 7.7 million gallons valued at \$2,530,785
 - 695 public fire hydrants valued at \$817,707
 - 10,538 customer service connections valued at \$4,792,365
 - 12,736 customer meters valued at \$1,455,822

* The present day cost to replace our entire system is estimated to be well over \$300M

Did you know.....that 0, 391,263 and 2,026,860 are our new favorite numbers? Why you ask? Well, as noted in "Beneath the Surface", the District was recently awarded \$2,026,860 by the Maine Drinking Water Program to replace aging infrastructure. The funding package includes a \$391,263 grant and a 0% interest, 20-year bond for \$1,635,597. Annual payments on the bond will be only \$81,780. By comparison, the payment for a typical 5% loan for the same \$2,026,860 would be \$80,855 more or about double. This means a much bigger and more vital "bang for our buck", allowing more pipe to be replaced for less money.

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BENEATH THE SURFACE - What A Difference A Year Makes

Don Gobeil, Technical Services Director

The relentless march of time is most often chronicled by symbolically changing the wall calendar from the present year to the next. Many times the reality underlying this annual routine doesn't appreciably change the day to day way we rumble through life. *"Out with the old and in with the new"* is more grist for a New Year's resolution than a true turning point. There are occasions however, where transitioning from one year to the next does indeed signal a clear and defined sense of change and a new direction. At KKW, heading into 2010 seems like such an example.

One year ago, I used this space to gaze into the crystal ball as to what effect a deeply softening national and local economy would have on our construction program. I detailed how we anticipated a tight economy would indeed have a negative effect on our utility and that our capital budgeting process would necessarily need to reflect that assessment. Our budget going into the 2009 year reflected a 28% decline in projected capital spending for construction projects from the previous year. As prudent as we felt this planning was, another budget cut midway through 2009 became necessary as the reality of plunging revenue became clearer.

As we turn the calendar to 2010, what lies before us looks dramatically different than what we saw one year ago. Do we suddenly believe the worst is behind us in terms of the economy? Or that our long range weather forecast calls for a hot and dry summer, resulting in a rebound in demand? Not exactly. In 2009 the District submitted an application to the State of Maine Drinking Water Program (DWP) for low interest funding for a large replacement project that has long been a priority for us. The DWP administers a program that uses a 5:1 ratio of Federal and State funds for dedicated water and wastewater infrastructure projects. This is the same program that funded our 3,100 foot main replacement project along Route One in Wells in 2008 and 2009. We learned toward the end of 2009 that we were again successful in having our most recent application approved. This time however, the terms of the awarded funding are much more favorable and the size of the project is significantly larger. The total amount being offered to KKW is \$2,026,860. Of that amount, \$391,263 is grant money that does not have to be repaid, with the remaining amount, \$1,635,597 bonded over a 20 year period at 0% interest. This award represents a *"too good to pass up"* opportunity for us and our ratepayers.

continued on page 4.....

GROUNDWATER EXPANSION - The New Primary Supply?

Scott Minor, Assistant Superintendent

As reported in previous newsletters, the District began using groundwater to supplement its Branch Brook surface water supply in 2007. During 2007, we quickly realized that our wells were able to yield substantially more water than our flow models had predicted, with 321.6 million gallons (MG) being produced that first year. By closely monitoring and assessing the data gathered since the wells went on line, we have been able to continuously refine and enhance our well operations, resulting in the production of 350.6 MG in 2008 and to 445.7 MG in 2009. The 445.7 MG produced in 2009 represented 50.6% of our total annual production, marking the first time in our Utility's history (since 1895) that a source other than Branch Brook was the primary supply of water.

The advantage of groundwater over surface water is simple economics - requiring less labor, chemicals and resources to produce the same high quality drinking water enjoyed by our customers. For example, the chemical cost savings with groundwater is around \$200/MG, resulting in an annual savings of almost \$90,000 for 2009. Due to the excellent quality and natural consistency of our groundwater, once the initial chemical feed rates are established, the wells can run continuously in a computer-controlled, automatic manner. This is in sharp contrast to manually required treatment process for Branch Brook, which requires full time operator attendance to closely monitor the variable raw water quality, adjust chemical feeders, backwash filters, etc. Given these cost advantages, it should be of no surprise that we are in the process of developing an additional, exceptional high quality ground-

Continued on page 3.....



Top: Workers drill a new 18-inch diameter high-yield well in the Alewife area of Kennebunk.

Bottom: The large cobbles removed during drilling (some as big as a hard hat) were deposited by glacial runoff following the last ice age.

THE PLUMBING CONNECTION - Protect Your Meter and Pipes from Freezing

Paul Cote, Assistant Distribution Manager



Many water meters and pipes are located in basements, crawl spaces, and other unheated or marginally heated areas where cold winter temperatures could cause them to freeze and break. The water damage from broken pipes can be substantial, in some cases damaging a property beyond repair. By taking some precautionary steps, you can avoid the headache and cost of frozen plumbing.

It should first be noted that you, the customer, are responsible for protecting the water meter and piping within your property from freezing. If the water meter freezes and breaks, the District will replace the meter and bill you for the associated cost.



Fittings like this iron elbow are designed to handle water pressure well in excess of 250 psi. However, they are no match for the tremendous forces generated as freezing water expands into ice. The water damage from a split fitting can add up to tens of thousands of dollars.

If your service line or piping freezes or breaks, it is your responsibility to have repairs made.

Here are some tips and suggestions to prevent freezing:

- ✦ Eliminate drafts in crawl spaces, insulate exterior walls.
- ✦ Repair broken and cracked windows and doors.
- ✦ Tightly close exterior windows and doors.
- ✦ Don't turn your heat down too low if there's a danger of freezing. Be sure to keep heating fuel supplies adequate.
- ✦ Check where your meter and pipes are installed, keeping in mind that it is colder near floors and foundation walls.
- ✦ Ask your local plumbing supplier about materials to insulate pipes and meters. If your meter is installed in a susceptible location, take extra care to ensure the meter is insulated.
- ✦ If pipes or the meter are in a closed cabinet against an outside wall, insulate the wall and open the cabinet to allow warmer air to reach them.
- ✦ Disconnect outside water hoses. Water left in the hose can freeze and damage the pipe going into your house.

Did you know.....that when a pipe cracks or breaks, extensive water damage can wreck a building and potentially lead to mold contamination. Estimates are that every year in the U. S., around 250,000 homes and businesses have at least one room damaged by a frozen pipe. Even more amazing, insurance statistics show that homeowners file claims due to burst pipes five times more frequently than fire damage.

- ✦ If you are not going to be home for several days during cold weather, arrange to have someone visit periodically and turn on a faucet to ensure that the water is still flowing.

If your service line, piping or meter freezes:

- ✦ Open a faucet near the frozen point to get water flowing and to release excess pressure.
- ✦ Direct a hair dryer or heat lamp at the frozen section of pipe.
- ✦ NEVER thaw a frozen pipe or meter with an open flame. This is not only a fire hazard, but could also cause a steam explosion.

If you are unable to thaw the frozen pipes, consult a licensed plumber. We hope you find these cold weather tips helpful in avoiding the inconvenience and expense of freeze-ups.

Groundwater Expansion - continued from page 2

water supply in the Alewife area of Kennebunk. Preliminary tests indicate this new well supply should be able to deliver an additional 2 MG per day, bringing our total available groundwater yield to over 4 MG per day. Based on our customer consumption profile (2.7 MG average daily demand; 6.0 MG peak annual demand), we estimate that over 85% of our total water supply needs will be provided by groundwater once the new well goes on line, making groundwater our new primary supply for the foreseeable future.

However, getting there will take both time and money. Although we expect to have the new well approved by the Maine Drinking Water Program by mid-2010, connecting the new well to the distribution system will require a three mile main extension that will likely be installed over two construction seasons beginning in 2011. Approximately two miles of this extension needs to be coordinated with the Maine Department of Transportation during the announced, but yet unscheduled, reconstruction of Route 35 (Alewife Road). We will also need to construct a new combination pump station and chemical treatment facility that will allow the groundwater to be disinfected before entering the distribution system. So stay tuned for further updates as we work to make groundwater the new permanent primary supply source.



Top: The District's Keith Archibald flushes a hydrant using the truck-mounted flow diffuser.

Bottom: This rare orange cap hydrant on Pleasant Street is one of only six in all of Kennebunk. Around 70% of all District hydrants have the highest (blue cap) rating of at least 1,500 gpm.

Did you know.....that early fire hydrants were known as fire plugs and also as johnny pumps in NY City, because the firemen of the late 1800s were called Johnnies.

The concept of fire plugs dates to at least the 1600s when firefighters responding to a call would dig down to the wooden water mains and hastily bore a hole to secure water to fight fires. The water would fill the excavation creating a make shift well, and be transported to the fire by bucket brigades or, later, via hand pumped fire engines. The holes were then plugged with stoppers, normally redwood, which came to be known as fire plugs. The location of the plug would often be recorded or marked so that it could be reused in future fires.

HYDRANTS 101 - What Are You Doing at That Hydrant?

Butch Tibbetts, Distribution Manager

There are 946 fire hydrants in the District's service area, including 13 in Arundel, 48 in Biddeford, 137 in Kennebunkport, 375 in Kennebunk, 259 in Wells, 103 in Ogunquit and 11 in York. We recently labeled each hydrant with an identification number that helps us easily locate the hydrant if we receive a call that a hydrant was hit by a car or that maintenance is needed.

All public hydrants have highly visible bright yellow bodies but you may have wondered why some hydrant caps are painted different colors. The cap color tells the fire department how much water is available from a hydrant. Red caps provide less than 500 gallons per minute (gpm), orange caps provide 500-999 gpm, green caps provide 1,000-1,499 gpm and blue caps provide 1,500 gpm or more. About every decade, the ISO (Insurance Services Office) tests the flow capabilities of our hydrants in order to update the Fire Suppression Rating Schedule for our service area. You may have also wondered what those red and white rods sticking up on the hydrants are for. The white parts are reflective so that the fire department and plow trucks can see the hydrants at night and the rods stick up high so that the hydrant can be found and shoveled out after a big snow storm.

We also flush the hydrants each April and September at their maximum rate of flow. This does two things; first, the high flow rate scours clean the inside of the water mains so that we can provide our customers with the highest quality of water possible and secondly, it tests the hydrant to ensure that it is working properly in the event there's a fire emergency. The District also checks all hydrants on a bi-weekly basis between November 1st and April 1st to be sure they aren't frozen.

During the summer months, the hydrants are cleaned and painted as needed and bushes are trimmed back to keep the hydrant visible and accessible. Most people do not realize the time and effort required to properly maintain a hydrant after it is installed so we thought you'd like to know. Please do not hesitate to contact me at 985-3385 if you have any questions.

Beneath the Surface - continued from page 2

This funding will allow us to replace over 10,000 feet of transmission main along Skipper Joes Point Road, Marshall Point Road and Kings Highway (Goose Rocks Beach) in Kennebunkport. This ambitious undertaking will allow us to directly target a high priority transmission main in one large project, rather than a series of smaller projects spread over a number of years. The project is being designed in-house and will be constructed with our own crews. So, while winter time is normally a good time to get caught up from the preceding year and plan for the upcoming one, we are already in "primetime" mode busily trying to get a jump start on what will likely be one of the busiest years in recent memory.

Along with this sizeable project on our plate, we also have a variety of other projects we hope to undertake in 2010. The highlights for 2010 include:

- Turbats Creek Road – Kennebunkport. Replacing approximately 1,250 feet of unlined 8-inch cast iron with a new main of the same size.
- Boothby Road – Kennebunk. Replacing approximately 1,850 feet of 6-inch main with a 12-inch main. The work is planned in advance of a Town of Kennebunk roadway improvement project.
- Brown Street (Phase II) – Kennebunk. Replacing the last 1,250 feet of 6-inch main with an 8-inch main. This project is also being done in close cooperation with the Town of Kennebunk's multi-year Brown Street roadway reconstruction project.
- Nasons Court – Kennebunk. This short (200 feet) replacement project is scheduled to coincide with the Town's Scotsman Brook drainage relocation project.

All in all, 2010 shapes up to be a very busy year for the District, easily one of the more challenging years in our history. More information on our capital budget is available on our website (www.kkw.org). Please check the site often for specific project updates and other timely information about what's going on *Beneath The Surface*.

CUSTOMER CORNER - Where Service is Serious Business

Kathleen Chapin, Customer Service Coordinator

Be Safe, Not Sorry - Winters in Maine can be great fun. Downhill skiing, snowshoeing, or just enjoying evenings in by the fire are all ways we relax and retreat from our busy daily lives. Many of our customers have their secondary homes in Maine for those same reasons. However, owning a seasonal home requires some preparation for our hearty winters. Each year our office receives numerous emergency phone calls reporting broken pipes and water running from these same properties. A few simple preventative measures can help ensure your property is not one of them (see *The Plumbing Connection* article on page 3.) In the unfortunate event a freeze up occurs, contact the District immediately for assistance. The District will inspect and determine where the service line is frozen. All costs associated with inspecting and thawing a frozen service line on private property shall be borne by the customer. The charges to customers for the repair or replacement of a frozen meter is \$33/hour during normal business hours and \$49.50/hour with a minimum 1 1/2 hour charge for other than normal business hours. The customer will also be charged a meter replacement fee based on the actual purchase price of the meter. Frozen plumbing and meters can be expensive, often costing the customer hundreds of dollars in District related fees and service charges. So please take care to ensure that your property has been properly winterized and safeguarded against freeze-ups.



Marge, just look at this bill, the Water Company is trying to soak us. Give them a call and tell them there's a problem with the meter.

Help us help you - It may surprise you to know that our main office receives a multitude of phone calls in the course of a day. We want to serve you and help you conduct your business in a prompt and efficient manner so you can move on with your day. The best way to do that is to be prepared. Please help us help you by having your account number available when you call. It is located on your bill in the top left corner under your name. We will then be able to streamline your request and give you the fastest, most accurate and best service possible. We're serious about service and strive to be the best in the business.

THE WATERSHED - Forestry Management Plan Revamped

Greg Pargellis, Chief Operator

If you haven't noticed, the District has revived its timber harvesting practices, following many decades of inactivity, as a way to enhance the protection of our watershed woodlands. We are surveying and re-marking old boundary lines in conjunction with developing a new Forest Management Plan (FMP). The FMP is being developed by our registered forester in accordance with the Maine State Forestry Service's "best management practices". The goal of the FMP is to develop tree stands within the 2000-acre watershed that are healthier, more resilient and provide the best means of protecting the public drinking water supply, Branch Brook. Revenue generated from timber harvesting gets reinvested to strengthen our watershed protection and preservation efforts.



Today's logger utilizes nearly every part of the tree in a highly efficient and environmentally friendly manner. Wood that isn't suitable for saw logs or fire wood is chipped and blown into trailers (shown above) and can be used for making paper, wood pellets, wood gas or burned directly as biomass.

Our forests are for the most part large, beautiful tracts of green that offer a notable contrast from the rapidly developing seacoast area. However, after many decades since the last timber harvests, we discovered that many trees were over-mature, damaged or in various states of decay. In addition, the thick upper canopy was restricting sunlight from reaching the forest floor in order to promote new tree growth. As a result, we initiated a timber harvesting program designed to improve tree quality and promote the growth of conifers (evergreens) that are so vital to protecting the water quality. Our forester marks areas of timber to be cut, usually trees of inferior quality, and leaves islands of undisturbed high quality forest intact. This creates different areas of habitat for wildlife and revives the forest.

So, if you happen to see any new activities such as timber cutting, shiny green gates on old "tote" roads, or pink surveying ribbon on the side of the road, rest assured that we are using well proven sustained forestry management practices to actively manage our natural resources for generations to come.

Did you know that Maine is the most heavily forested state in the nation with more than 17.7 million acres or nearly 90% of our land base covered with trees according to the Maine Forest Service. The forest helps define Maine by shaping its economy and providing a backdrop for forest-related recreation and tourism.



The District saves thousands of dollars in power costs each year by using the naturally cool distribution system water to cool and dehumidify its booster and pump stations. A fully operational unit (corner mounted unit shown in above photo) typically runs under \$400 installed.

Did you know.....that in 2008, our power costs totaled \$280,532 which was about 6% of our total operating expenses. Just a decade earlier, our power bill was only \$102,360 or around 73% less than what it costs today.



Firefighters set up the decontamination tank while responders (blue suits) approach the mock fluoride spill during a recent HAZMAT drill.

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WWW.KKW.ORG**

ENERGY CONSERVATION AND YOU - What's Blowing in the Wind?

Rob Weymouth, Facilities Manager

When we think about conserving electricity, do we ever think about fixing that leaky toilet or faucet to conserve power? Well if not, we should. At the District, approximately 20% of the cost to treat and pump the water to you, the customer, is spent on electricity. Therefore, it should not be any surprise that we are continuously looking for ways to make our operations more energy efficient and cost effective.

Some of the ways we are doing this is by cooling and dehumidifying many of the booster and pumping stations with the cool water that is being pumped through them. We are able to accomplish this by flowing cool water through an air handler (a coil of copper tubing with a fan blowing air across it). Fortunately, by the very design of a booster or pumping station, there is a difference in water pressure between the inlet and outlet sides and a large volume of water is available to cool the building. All this is done without ever losing a drop. By using this method of cooling, we can keep our buildings cool without the need for energy consuming air conditioning equipment. In addition, this cooling method eliminates the safety, housekeeping and maintenance issues common with cooling systems that exchange or utilize air from the outdoors. In the summer, humid air is kept out of the building, eliminating condensation and water on the floors that can damage equipment and lead to the formation of mold and mildew.

We also use variable frequency drive units (VFDs are electronic controllers that vary the speed of an electric motor) to control the water pressure leaving a pump or booster station, instead of control valves. This method of control has saved us as much as 75% in pumping costs by allowing the electric motors to gradually ramp up to speed, eliminating the large in-rush of power required (often 115% higher than the motor's maximum rated capacity) to start a motor at full speed. An analogy would be to gradually brighten a light with a dimmer switch versus just flipping on a switch or the way that a compact fluorescent light bulb (cfl) slowly grows brighter.

As mentioned in our previous newsletter, we also are looking for ways to produce the very power needed to pump the water to our customers. Currently we have two anemometer stations, (wind speed and direction sites) that we're using to assess the possibility of wind power. We continue to look at other power-saving and production options such as hydro and solar.

EMERGENCY RESPONSE - Mock Chemical Spill Provides Practice

Bill Snyder, Plant Manager

On May 30 2009, the District hosted a mock hazardous materials drill at our Treatment Plant. The objective was to simulate and respond to a hazardous chemical release. Participating with the District included the Local Emergency Planning Committee, Maine Emergency Management Agency, Department of Environmental Protection Hazard Unit, local police, fire and rescue departments, and the York Water District.

The exercise started with a call from the District's Facilities Emergency Response Coordinator to the fire department, alerting them of a fluoride delivery spill. The emergency quickly escalated, with Kennebunk Fire Chief Steve Nichols, the Incident Commander, continually adding new scenarios that had to be dealt with including a car accident, fire, loss of electric power, brook contamination, and a fatality. The hazard assessment and weather conditions required a simulated closing of Route 1, evacuation of local residents, rescue of injured personnel, neutralizing and spill clean-up. This fast-paced, realistic half-day mock incident provided valuable training and experience.

Following the drill, all parties gathered to review, discuss and critique the event. Recommendations to improve some communication aspects will be implemented to enhance future responses. All participants' performance and cooperation was deemed admirable by the Chief.

Looking back, we profoundly agree there's no substitute for proactive training like this in order to properly handle a hazardous material emergency spill or release. The old cliché, "Practice Makes Perfect" seems highly applicable for handling emergencies. Please contact me at 985-2362 for additional information on State or Federal regulated emergency response plans.

EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT - The Boss Reluctantly Takes Center Stage

Cindy Rounds, Administrative Assistant

Many of you know or have spoken with Superintendent Norm Labbe. He is the leader of a team of dedicated individuals who work hard to maintain the District's reputation of *providing the highest quality drinking water and customer service at the most reasonable price*. Norm has been Superintendent since 2002, having begun as Assistant Superintendent when he arrived in 1984. As Superintendent, Norm's reorganization efforts have included developing a written Personnel Policy manual, implementing a performance-based evaluation system, streamlining costs and enhancing customer service. Although he's been in the local news regularly, most recently the subject of both criticism and praise in the bottled water debate, there's a side of Norm that many people don't hear about.

For the past six years, Norm has been an active member of the Kennebunk Rotary. He generously volunteers his time to many Rotary activities including the annual Presidential Road Race (their biggest fundraiser) of which he has been Director for the past three years. He's proud of his service as a Rotarian, but the accomplishment that brings him the most satisfaction is the humanitarian mission to Guatemala that he became part of in early 2009. Norm was introduced to Partners In Development, Inc. (PID) when they were a featured speaker at a weekly Rotary meeting. PID is an organization that strives to help the extreme poor attain independence and whole life improvement. Since that meeting, he's never been the same. With the Rotary's motto *Service Above Self* as his inspiration, he's applied his 30+ years of water works knowledge to enrich many lives in this under-privileged part of the world.

Concepción is a village of 2,000 people in Guatemala that's become the beneficiary of clean and safe drinking water by using neighborhood wells and a biological slow sand water filtration system that was designed and built by Norm. During his initial visit to Guatemala, he evaluated their water supply issues and built a customized prototype sand filter with supplies and material available in Guatemala and others, mostly donated, that he brought with him. The Wolfeboro, NH Rotary funded most of the initial filter construction. A vital step in the process of providing safe drinking water is establishing a testing system. He accomplished this by bringing test kits (donated by IDEXX Labs of Westbrook) and an incubator (that the District no longer used) with him to set up a "laboratory".

On his two subsequent visits to Guatemala, he and the local PID volunteers kept busy by completing the installation of the remaining filters from the initial 20 locations that were identified during the first visit. He also designed and built a low cost prototype filter, for under \$20 each, for the small individual residential homes that do not have access to the area wells. They've also begun the whole process for two additional villages, Desierto and Sunilito.

Norm's commitment to PID has been contagious. His son Chris has accompanied him on all three trips; his daughter Laura joined them on the June 2009 trip. Tom Joyal from Old House Parts has donated a laptop that PID uses in their clinic for storage of medical data. The Lynn, MA Rotary shared the expense with Kennebunk Rotary to purchase 1,000 pair of canvas shoes (Norm bought 'em when he saw 'em at Mardens) to the villages he has befriended.

Norm's work on this worthy mission has been recognized by the Kennebunk Rotary with a Distinguished Service Citation and he has been honored through Rotary International with the prestigious Paul Harris Fellow award.

It is my pleasure to shine our Employee Spotlight on Superintendent Norm Labbe.



Norm sifts sand for hours to obtain the correct particle size. Sand filtration is documented as far back as 2000 BC by the ancient Greeks.



Norm explains and demonstrates how to use the slow sand filter. Each filter cost approximately \$100 dollars (US) to make.



The local school children in the village of Concepción (Guatemala) gather at their new slow sand filter to sample the safe drinking water. Unlike other filtration methods, slow sand filters use biological processes to clean the water, and are non-pressurized systems. Slow sand filters do not require chemicals or electricity to operate.

Kennebunk, Kennebunkport, & Wells Water District
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BEST WISHES FOR A HAPPY AND HEALTHY NEW YEAR!

Water

Water, water everywhere, water all around,
 Water in the ocean, water in the ground.

Water in a river, water in a creek,
 Water in a faucet with a drip-drip leak!

Water in a fountain, water in a lake,
 Water on a flower, as day begins to break.

Water from a waterfall, rushing down from high,
 Water from a dark cloud, raining from the sky.

Water boiling hot, water frozen ice,
 Water in a blue lagoon, clean and clear and nice.

Water at a fire, gushing through a hose,
 Water in a garden, so every flower grows.

Water for the animals swimming in the sea,
 Water, water everywhere for you and for me!

~Aleksandra Lachutaward.

WATER WORD SEARCH

P	M	A	E	R	T	S	B	G	T
X	O	B	F	L	A	K	E	H	R
W	T	L	I	D	J	O	Q	T	E
P	A	X	L	L	L	E	W	L	A
I	N	T	T	U	G	V	P	U	T
P	F	O	E	Y	T	D	W	C	M
E	V	S	R	R	A	I	M	K	E
S	T	R	Z	B	N	P	O	Y	N
N	E	F	A	S	K	W	A	N	T

Find and circle these words:

STREAM	WELL
FILTER	TREATMENT
PIPES	TANK
SAFE	POLLUTION
WATER	LAKE

