

## **Water Valve Exercising Program**

The City of Marlborough will be starting its water valve exercising program the week of September 2, 2014. Valve exercising will occur from September 2, 2014 through November, 2014. Residents may notice Water crews working using equipment to open and close the valves and at times allowing water to flow from nearby hydrants. This process of exercising water valves is an important maintenance activity in order to ensure reliability of the water distribution system.

The City of Marlborough, Water Division, conducts the valve exercising program for the following purposes:

- ✓ Valve reliability in emergencies.
- ✓ Identifying valves in need of repair or replacement.
- ✓ The ability to immediately isolate water mains during a main break resulting in the least amount of disruption of water service to customers.
- ✓ Reduce water loss.
- ✓ Accurate valve records.
- ✓ Extended valve life.

### ***Notifications:***

***Exercising Valves:*** Valves are devices that stop or start water in a distribution system. Opening and closing the valve prevents a buildup of rust formation or other deposits that could prevent a tight shutoff of the valve. If a buildup has occurred small particles of rust and sediment may become dislodged when the valve is exercised. Although, the sediment does not pose a health risk it can discolor the water.

***Discolored Water:*** Temporary discoloration of water may occur as particles are dislodged. Although this discolored water is not harmful to your health, you can clear this issue by running all cold water faucets inside your home for 15 minutes, or until the water runs clear. If the water continues to be discolored, please contact DPW dispatch at (508)624-6910, ext. 7300. Please note: It is important to not wash laundry while water is discolored. Washing clothes especially with chlorine bleach when water is discolored will stain laundry.