

Town of Warren Sewer Department Update-Treatment and Testing of Wastewater Discharge

September 29, 2021

It has been brought to my attention that there is some misinformation circulating on Facebook about the treatment and testing of the wastewater being discharged into the Quaboag River by the Town of Warren wastewater treatment facility. I wish to set the record straight on a few counts.

- At no time has the Town of Warren been dumping raw, untreated sewage into the Quaboag River. The chlorine treatment system has been in operation since May. Because there was only one employee staffing the Wastewater Treatment Plant between May 11 and July 6, there was no testing of the effluent. Due to this temporary situation, the Sewer Department was required by Mass DEP to post cautionary notices at access points to the Quaboag River warning of potentially elevated *e. coli* levels in the river because of the lack of testing during that time period.
- The chlorine treatment system has not malfunctioned or broken down. However, the Town has been looking into transitioning the Wastewater Treatment plant over to a safer treatment process. Our facility is one of the only ones in this area that still uses chlorine to treat wastewater.
- As of this date, the Wastewater Treatment plant is staffed by a part-time Chief Operator, a full-time Assistant Chief Operator, and two Operator/ Mechanics. There is now sufficient staff to perform all required testing.

If you have any questions, please contact one of the following sources:

Warren Wastewater Treatment Plant wwtp@warren-ma.gov
Phone: (413) 436-5796

Sewer Commission office sewer@warren-ma.gov
Phone: (413) 436-7438