



City of Cambridge

7.

IN CITY COUNCIL

April 8, 1996

COUNCILLOR DUEHAY
VICE MAYOR BORN
COUNCILLOR DAVIS
COUNCILLOR GALLUCCIO
COUNCILLOR REEVES
MAYOR RUSSELL
COUNCILLOR SULLIVAN
COUNCILLOR TOOMEY
COUNCILLOR TRIANTAFILLOU

ORDERED: That the Cambridge City Council hereby commends Michael A. Nicoloro, Managing Director of the Cambridge Water Department for initiating a series of written messages informing the public of significant information concerning the origin, treatment and delivery of the Cambridge Water supply.

In City Council April 8, 1996

Adopted by the affirmative vote of nine members.

Attest:- D. Margaret Drury, City Clerk.

A true copy;

ATTEST:-

D. Margaret Drury

D. Margaret Drury
City Clerk

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Duehay

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'NEWSWAVE'



AN INFORMATIONAL BRIEF

presented by **MICHAEL A. NICOLORO**, Managing Director

As Managing Director of the Cambridge Water Department (CWD), I would like to take this opportunity to unveil the first issue of a series of informational briefs **intended to provide information on the public water system**, to promote a better understanding of how the CWD serves the consumer, and to highlight significant components of the water system such as supply, treatment and distribution. I am deeply committed to providing superior customer service to the citizens of Cambridge.

In assessing my first year as Managing Director, I realize a top priority is to improve communication and enhance customer service between the CWD and our customers. My staff is prepared to meet with neighborhood groups, schools, industry and any other entity that is interested in speaking with us about water-related issues. I encourage this type of interaction in order to foster on-going communication between the citizens of Cambridge and the CWD.

This first informational brief will deal with hydrant usage. I hope you find this information useful and helpful. Thank you for letting me serve you.

CAMBRIDGE WATER DEPARTMENT INFORMATIONAL BRIEF NO. 1 HYDRANT USAGE

WHEN ARE HYDRANTS USED?

The primary purpose of a hydrant is to fight fires. In order to ensure their operability, hydrants are flow tested annually by the Fire Department during the months of April, May and June. The exact dates and locations are advertised in the local newspapers and on Cable Television. Also, there is a message on your water bill concerning hydrant testing. Hydrants are also used in connection with street cleaning and building construction activities.

WHAT CAUSES DISCOLORATION OF THE DRINKING WATER?

Water mains in the street, or some services leading to your home, or the plumbing in your home may be rusting creating rusty-brown water. Also, your hot water tank might be the source of rust. Rusting is caused by the oxidation (i.e. breakdown) of iron in the pipes. The rust is stirred up during periods of higher flows, such as when the hydrants are used.

IS THE DISCOLORATION OF WATER HARMFUL?

No. Iron is a harmless chemical that may be dissolved in your drinking water. When iron is dissolved in water, it is colorless, but when this iron combines with air as you take water from your faucet, the iron turns reddish brown.

WHAT SHOULD I DO IF I EXPERIENCE DISCOLORED WATER?

The water collects in the pipes when it isn't being used. Let your water run until it clears up before using it. If possible, save the water that has been running and use it for other purposes such as plant watering. If you experience reddish brown water doing laundry, please contact us and we will supply you with a rinse, 'RED-BE-GONE', that will remove the color from the wash.

For more information please contact the Cambridge Water Department at 349-4770.



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Born, Davis, Galluccio, Reeves, Russell
Consent Order #7 Sullivan, Toomey

Councillor Duehay re: Commendation
to Michael A. Nicolono, Managing
Director of the Water Department for
initiating series of significant
information concerning the origin,
treatment and delivery of the Cambridge
Water Supply.

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R-346

In City Council April 8, 1996

Order Adopted