

# Town of Milton

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## **TOWN MANAGER REPORT JULY 2013**

### Water Conservation Measures Add-Up!

After a relatively cool and rainy June, the Town of Milton had its first heat wave of the season in mid-July. Conservation measures by residents and better equipment in our water system both contributed to a diminished demand for water. Readings from pumps at our water source indicate a 20% decrease in demand during the first 24 days of July – when compared to the same period in 2012.

The total amount pumped from all wells was 9.328 million gallons (7/1-24) this year. It was 11.608 million gallons last year. Last year, we were in the practice of operating two of our three pumps at a time. The third pump was given a “rest” of no less than a day. This year, all three pumps are used on a given day, on a rotating basis. The average pump hours per day during this period (7/1 – 24) was 9.75 and the longest cycle was 13.8 hours.

Heat may be hard on you, your lawn and garden. But, it can literally “kill” mechanical devices like pumps and motors. The rest periods provided to our pumps are an important part of ensuring that we do not have a break-down and the possible consequence of an interruption in service.

Your continued attention to water use habits both large (lawn & garden watering) and small (faucet and toilet leaks) is a valued contribution to our community conservation effort. Thank you.

### Committee Volunteers Make Big Contributions

The citizens of the Town of Milton provide a rich pool of talent for engagement with its local government. Last month, particular organizations and businesses were applauded for the financial and manpower resources that make our town more vibrant and beautiful. This month, we offer sincere thanks to those that spend countless hours considering the policies and priorities that help our town to navigate the ever-changing road that lies ahead.

Some citizens participate in more than one committee. And, some committees meet more often than others. There are twenty-five persons serving on Boards and Commissions. The outcome of the decisions made by the Board of Elections, Planning & Zoning Commission, Historic Preservation Commission and Board of Adjustment may have significant legal consequences.

There are thirty-six persons serving on the currently active “standing” committees of Economic Development, Finance, Personnel, Streets and Water. The members of these committees contribute much to the development of policies and priorities in their respective areas. On some occasions, you will not hear a report from the committee – but their work is an integral part of ordinances that are proposed, projects that are planned and work practices that are always being improved.

Finally, there are fifteen persons serving on currently active Ad hoc, or “single purpose” committees. Like the standing committees, they help us to establish priorities in-line with public expectations.

Thank you, all, for your service!

### National Night Out

This Wednesday, August 7, is “National Night Out”. Come join us in Memorial Park for fun, food and great music!

While you enjoy the smooth sounds of the Honeycombs (thank you, Dogfish Head Brewery) or watch the kids ride the Milton Clipper (great job, Milton Lions Club), please keep in mind the purpose of “National Night Out”.

The event was started thirty years ago by the National Association of Town Watch. This non-profit organization aims to strengthen police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie. Today, an estimated 37 million people in more than 15,000 communities throughout the United States and Canada participate in “National Night Out” festivities.

Here are a few simple tips to help you prevent crime in your neighborhood:

- 1) Lock the windows and doors for your home, shed, car or truck.
- 2) Talk with your neighbor. Share phone numbers so that you can contact one another if something happens when you are away from home. You don't need to share your family plans with your neighbor. But, if your neighbor sees something amiss when you are away, they can easily reach out to you.
- 3) Be aware of your surroundings and report suspicious activity to your local police department.

Summer is a great time to make friends. Whether you can join us in the park or you enjoy a quiet walk around the block, take a moment to chat with your neighbor.

The National Crime Prevention Council ([www.ncpc.org](http://www.ncpc.org)) has many tips, for particular audiences, on how to prevent yourself from becoming a victim of a crime. For more information, please visit the web site.

### Budget Time is Here

The Town Manager's Draft Budget is being delivered to Council this evening. In the coming weeks, there will be several meetings to consider and adopt a projection for revenue and plan for expenditures in the fiscal year that begins on October 1, 2013.

There will be a Public Hearing on Thursday, August 15<sup>th</sup>. This will be followed by special Council meetings that are scheduled on August 22 and 29. Adoption of a new budget is expected to occur at the September 9 Town Council meeting.

The Finance Committee has been scrutinizing the details of draft budgets for several weeks. The Streets and Sidewalks, Water and Economic Development Committees each have ideas to share, as well. And, last but not least, there will be staff, scheduling and salary recommendations from the Police ad hoc Committee.

The Council will consider input from the Town Manager, committees and the public as they craft the best possible plan to use limited resources in the coming year.

### Family Fun Day – August 10<sup>th</sup> in Downtown Milton

Sponsored by the Milton Fire Department & Ladies Auxiliary, Milton Historical Society, Milton Public Library and Milton Lions Club, Family Fun Day is a great family-friendly event. There will be many activities for the kids – like train and fire truck rides, a Moon Bounce, Snippy Doodles the clown, crafts and free hot dogs, snow cones and drinks. Join us downtown and in the park!