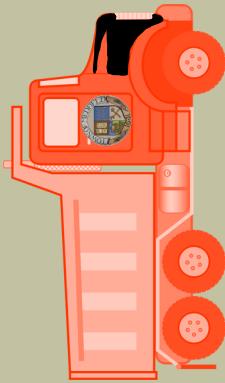


# The Works

October 2024



## MEDFIELD DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

\*\* The DPW presents "THE WORKS", a quarterly newsletter to inform the residents of Medfield on the happenings of their Public Works Department including updates on projects, current events, and upcoming developments \*\*

### HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT PROJECTS:



The Highway Department focused on roadway maintenance this year, with several key projects aimed at improving infrastructure and safety. One major project involved adding and placing older storm drains on Orchard Street. This project helps prevent flooding by diverting rainwater off the roadways. The storm drain network ensures that rainwater flows safely and efficiently. When drains become blocked or damaged, they cannot function properly, particularly during heavy rain, leading to flooding. Replacing the drains involves removing old infrastructure, clearing out debris, and installing new, more efficient systems.

Additionally, over 30 manhole covers were replaced and adjusted on Main Street, Spring Street, and High Street. This work is essential to maintain the safety and functionality of the roads, as misaligned or damaged manholes pose hazards such as falls, vehicle damage, and potential access issues to underground utilities. Regular adjustments and replacements help prevent such risks caused by wear and tear from weather and traffic.

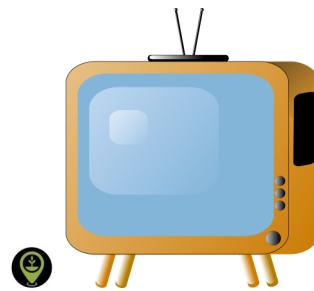
Finally, sidewalk resurfacing was completed on Green Street, and ongoing maintenance has been carried out on various other sidewalks around town to ensure safe, accessible pedestrian pathways.



### Transfer Station News:

#### Electronic Recycling Day

The Transfer Station hosted our fall Electronics Collection event on November 2nd, 2024. At this collection residents are able to safely dispose of old or unwanted electronic devices in an environmentally responsible way. These events provide a convenient way for people to recycle items that can't be thrown away in regular trash bins due to the hazardous materials they may contain. At this event a total of 61 items were collected. Special collection events happen a few times a year. Be on the lookout for the next Electronics Recycling event in the Spring.



# Water Department:



## Meter Replacement Program:

The Water Department has been working diligently to transition to the new Flex Net digital read system. Over the past year, we've updated 148 meters and 605 MXUs. Our goal is to have more than 75% of the town on the live data read system within the next year, which will allow residents to track water usage in real time. As we continue updating the system, please keep an eye out for a postcard with instructions to set up your appointment. Appointments are quick—usually lasting about 30 minutes—and involve a simple hardware update to your current system. Access to your water meter is required, which is typically located in the basement or a utility closet of your home.

## Water Treatment Plant Tours:

We've had the privilege of hosting school tours at the new water treatment plant. Recently, 6th-grade students from Charles River School in Dover and Norfolk Aggie High School visited. The tours give students an inside look at how water is processed and distributed through our well and water system, providing them with valuable hands-on learning about water treatment and conservation.



## SPECIAL EVENT:

### MIAA Hazard Communication and PPE Workshop

On October 9th, 2024, the DPW hosted the MIAA Hazard Communication and PPE training workshop. There were Town employees from across the state in attendance. This workshop covered proper safety while working out in the field and appropriate PPE (personal protective equipment) for the current situation at hand. While attending this workshop employees from other towns also got a tour of the garage set up.



## Employee Spotlight



Meet Bobby Kennedy Jr., Superintendent of the Medfield Highway Department

Bobby Kennedy Jr. is a 41-year veteran of the Medfield Highway Department and currently serves as its Superintendent. In addition to his role at the Highway Department, Bobby is an active member of the Conservation Commission, bringing his wealth of knowledge about the town's infrastructure and environment to both roles. His expertise in storm water management is a valuable asset, and he regularly participates in county meetings with the Neponset River Watershed Association, staying engaged with regional efforts to protect and improve water resources.

Always on the go with a positive outlook, Bobby is frequently out on the roads overseeing department operations. If you happen to see his truck, be sure to give him a wave!

In his rare off hours, Bobby enjoys working on new projects and spending time with nature. He has a special fondness for the family of Bluebirds that has recently taken up residence in his backyard. This past summer, he was thrilled to count three clutches of baby birds, capturing the moments with his camera.



## DPW SAFETY TIPS

### DID YOU KNOW?

Fall often brings an abundance of fallen leaves and branches. When attending to these, be sure to keep paved areas and storm drains clear of debris to ensure proper drainage and prevent blockages.

Fall is the time to prepare for winter weather. Before the first frost, make sure all equipment is in good working condition, from leaf blowers to snowplows. Check fluid levels, test brakes and tires, and replace any worn parts to ensure smooth and safe operation when the cold weather hits.



For more information or have questions, please contact our main office at (508) 906-3003 or visit our town website @ [www.town.medfield.net](http://www.town.medfield.net)