

# 149th ANNUAL REPORT ADAMS FIRE DISTRICT

ADAMS, MASSACHUSETTS



for the year ending December 31, 2025



**THE ONE HUNDRED FORTY-NINETH**

**ANNUAL REPORT**

**OF THE**

**ADAMS FIRE DISTRICT**

**Adams, Massachusetts**



**FOR THE YEAR ENDING**

**December 31, 2025**





### **Kathleen Fletcher**

**The Adams Fire District and the Prudential Committee are proud to dedicate the 2025 Annual Report to Kathy.**

Kathy served the District for almost 15 years in numerous roles. She began on October 18, 2010 as Administrative Assistant, and went on to serve as Assistant Clerk & Treasurer, Clerk & Treasurer, and lastly as Bookkeeper/Office Manager, until her retirement on June 30, 2025.

*Thank you, Kathy, for your dedicated service to our community. The District wishes you much happiness in your retirement!!!*

# Contents

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2025 Dedication .....	3
Adams Fire District Officers .....	5
Adams Fire District Personnel .....	6
2025 Prudential Committee Report .....	7
Management’s Discussion and Analysis .....	9
Statement of Net Position .....	13
Statement of Activities .....	14
Balance Sheet Governmental Funds.....	15
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances Governmental Funds.....	16
Reconciliation of the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances of Governmental Funds to the Statement of Activities .....	17
Statement of Revenues and Expenditures Budget and Actual (Non-GAAP Basis) General Fund .....	18
Statement of Net Position Proprietary Fund.....	19
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Change in Net Position Proprietary Fund.....	20
Statement of Cash Flows Proprietary Fund.....	21
Fiscal 2025 Expenditures Including Capitol Purchases and Debt Service.....	22
Long Term Debt.....	23
3 Year Budget Comparison.....	23
Adams Fire Department Annual Report.....	24
2025 Superintendent’s Report .....	30
Record of Special Adams Fire District Meeting - March 18, 2025 .....	34
Record of Annual Fire District Meeting - May 13, 2025 .....	35
Specimen Ballot for the Adams Fire District - Tuesday, May 13, 2025.....	43

# Adams Fire District Officers

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## PRUDENTIAL COMMITTEE

Thomas A. Satko, Chairman	Term Expires 2028
Richard G. Kleiner, Vice-Chairman	Term Expires 2026
Michael J. Lahey, Member	Term Expires 2027

## CLERK AND ACTING TREASURER

Allen J. Mendel	Term Expires 2027
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## CHIEF ENGINEER

John M. Pansecchi	Term Expires 2026
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## FIRST ASSISTANT ENGINEER

David J. Lennon	Term Expires 2026
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## SECOND ASSISTANT ENGINEER

Edward B. Capeless	Term Expires 2026
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## THIRD ASSISTANT ENGINEER

Mark J. Therrien	Term Expires 2026
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## FOURTH ASSISTANT ENGINEER

Dylan M. Grimes	Term Expires 2026
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# Adams Fire District Personnel

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## ADMINISTRATIVE DEPARTMENT

Kathleen A. Fletcher Date of Hire: October 18, 2010 Date of Retirement: June 30, 2025	Bookkeeper / Office Manager
Victoria A. Lassonde Date of Hire: February 28, 2011	Bookkeeper (July 1, 2025)
Lynne E. Alexander Date of Hire: July 1, 2025	Assistant Clerk & Treasurer
Kristen G. Rosenau Date of Hire: October 29, 2023	Administrative Assistant

## WATER DEPARTMENT

+*#^ John C. Barrett Date of Hire: February 11, 2013	Superintendent
+*#^ Nicholas A. Johnson Date of Hire: February 4, 2013	Assistant Superintendent
+*# Kyle D. Bently Date of Hire: October 29, 2024	Laborer/Operator
+*#^ Zachary T. Hillard Date of Hire: December 3, 2025	Laborer/Operator
+*#^ Joshua S. Sworzen Date of Hire: October 29, 2018	Laborer/Operator
# Sutye O. Vilayvanh Date of Hire: March 18, 2024 Date of Termination: October 8, 2025	Laborer/Operator

\* Certified Drinking Water Distribution Operator

# Backflow Tester

+ Cross Connection Surveyor

^ Certified Drinking Water Treatment Operator

# 2025 Prudential Committee Report

The Adams Fire District Prudential Committee strives to provide the best possible service to our ratepayers. This is accomplished by continually upgrading the water distribution and fire protection systems. The condition of these systems is constantly monitored, and future projects are identified and prioritized. This is decided upon with the ratepayers in mind, keeping the rates at an acceptable level. This is a constant balancing act, as these systems are continually aging.

The Annual Election and Meeting were held on May 13, 2025. At the Annual Election, the three Articles that would have changed the positions of Clerk and Treasurer, Chief Engineer, and Assistant Engineers from elected to appointed positions did not pass. Thomas Satko was re-elected to a 3-year term on the Prudential Committee.

At the Annual Meeting, the FY 25 Budget and Warrant Articles were approved including those of elected to appointed positions. However, Massachusetts General Law Chapter 41, Section 1B requires approval from both the Election and the Meeting for it to pass.

The Adams Fire District was informed in December 2024 that the Secretary of Energy and Environmental Affairs issued a Level 1 – Mild Drought for the Western region of the Commonwealth based on advice from the Drought Management Task Force which continued into January 2025. In February it was upgraded to a Level 2 – Significant Drought, March and April were Level 1 – Mild Drought, May thru July were a Level 0 – Normal Drought, August thru October were a Level 2 – Significant Drought, and November thru December were a Level 0 – Normal Drought.

**Projects undertaken in 2025 were:**

- 1) Replacement of water meters (which were past their life expectancy). All meters have been replaced as of June 2025, which was in their eleventh year.
- 2) The findings from the Sanitary Survey that took place on August 12, 2024 were received on January 29, 2025.

Findings	Response
No Distribution Pressure Map on file with DEP	Map sent to DEP
No Fire Flow Map on file with DEP	Map sent to DEP
Mixer in East Orchard Terrace tank needs replacing	60% completed design
Capital Improvement Plan needs updating	Work in progress

The roof of the Adams Fire District building, which had been patched numerous times and was past its useful life, was replaced for a cost of \$156,175.00.

The floor of the Adams Fire District building was evaluated for its weight carrying capacity for the impact of the shorter wheelbase of the new fire truck and the metal support columns were found to be showing signs of deteriorating. As a result of the evaluation, additional shoring was placed in the basement to support the floor. A Special Meeting was held March 18, 2025 to appropriate funds from surplus revenue. The cost for the shoring was \$73,150.00.

The Prudential Committee has been proceeding with changing the elected positions of the Adams Fire District to appointed positions. It would include the following positions: Clerk and Treasurer, Chief Engineer, First Assistant Engineer, Second Assistant Engineer, Third Assistant Engineer, and Fourth Assistant Engineer. Converting from elected to appointed would provide the opportunity to define job requirements and reporting structure. It puts the District in a better position to attract a person with the strongest credentials and most professional experience. This would require a change to the Adams Fire District By-Laws which would have to be voted on by District members at a District Meeting.

Changing the Fire Chief from part-time to full-time is being recommended due to a rise in call volume, complex fire codes, training requirements, reporting and documentation, and much more. Several Informational Meetings were held throughout the year to answer common questions and explain the context and rationale behind these recommendations. A Special Meeting will be held in early 2026 to vote on changing the Clerk and Treasurer from elected to appointed and the Chief Engineer from part-time to full-time.

District employees, both office staff and water department, have been attending numerous classes, webinars, and zoom meetings to stay abreast of ever-changing laws and regulations and to maintain their certifications and licenses.

The Adams Fire Department applied for and received the Massachusetts Fire Fighter Safety Equipment Grant for \$15,008.66 in January which was used to purchase fire gear, a stokes basket, fittings and valves, flashlights, and high-pressure hose. In April, an additional amount of \$3,370.97 was received and used to purchase a Hydra-Ram and harnesses.

The Adams Fire Department placed an order for a new fire truck, an E-One High Typhoon Rescue Pumper from Greenwood Emergency Vehicles LLC for \$625,000.00 in 2022. The truck arrived in April 2025.

A Staffing for Adequate Fire & Emergency Response (SAFER) grant for two full-time firefighters was submitted. Unfortunately, the District was not awarded this grant. The grant would have reimbursed the District for the cost of the firefighters as part of the FY 2026 budget.

In the past few years, the availability of firefighters has significantly decreased, with less people and at times no apparatus responding to calls. An increase in call volume, members lifestyle, OSHA, NFPA, and other regulations are a big part of this problem. The Fire Chief has asked for full-time Firefighters to help with this problem. Because of the cost of a salary and benefits for a full-time Firefighter, it was agreed upon to try part-time Firefighters being paid per diem.

One person was hired as a part-time Firefighter to cover shifts that have a shortage of manpower. Some of the Alert Hose Company members are working to inspect equipment, maintain the fire trucks, and be on-call to cover shifts that have a low response to calls.

The Water Department applied for and received a \$10,000.00 grant from the Massachusetts Interlocal Insurance Agency for a Shoring System to protect the employees when working in a trench to replace/repair waterlines.

A 2025 Ford Super Duty F-350 DRW Utility Truck was purchased for the Water Department to replace a 2017 Ford F-350 Utility Truck which was rusted and in need of numerous repairs.

On June 30, 2025, Kathleen A. Fletcher, Bookkeeper/Office Manager retired after 14 years and 8 months of service. The position was posted in

accordance with the Adams Fire District Personnel Rules and Regulations. There was one internal candidate, Assistant Clerk and Treasurer, Victoria A. Lassonde. The Prudential Committee, after an interview and meeting all the requirements for the position, promoted Victoria A. Lassonde to Bookkeeper on July 1, 2025.

The position of Assistant Clerk and Treasurer was posted. There were no internal candidates therefore the position was posted externally. Three people were interviewed and Lynne E. Alexander was hired on July 1, 2025.

In October, Water Department Laborer/Operator Sutye Vilayvanh left employment with the Adams Fire District. Zachary Hillard, who had previously resigned, was rehired in December as a Laborer/Operator to replace him.

The Prudential Committee would like to thank Chief Engineer John Pansecchi, the Engineers, and the Alert Hose Company for their hard work and unselfish dedication of time. The District recognizes the amount of time these members give to the District, the Town of Adams, and the surrounding communities in assisting in mutual aid. The professionalism and integrity of the Adams Fire Department are appreciated and applauded.

The Prudential Committee would also like to thank all Fire District employees for their dedication and hard work throughout the year, Clerk and Treasurer Allen Mendel, retired Bookkeeper/Office Manager Kathleen Fletcher, Bookkeeper Victoria Lassonde, Administrative Assistant Kristen Rosenau, Assistant Clerk and Treasurer Lynne E. Alexander, Superintendent John Barrett, Assistant Superintendent Nicholas Johnson, Water Department Laborer/Operators Joshua Sworzen, Zachary Hillard, Sutye Vilayvanh, and Kyle Bentley. Your dedication and efforts are greatly appreciated.

Once again, the Prudential Committee would like to recognize retired Bookkeeper/Office Manager Kathleen Fletcher for her many years of dedicated service to the Fire District. Thank you very much, and best wishes in your future endeavors.

Respectfully yours,  
Thomas A. Satko, Chairman  
Richard G. Kleiner, Vice-Chairman  
Michael J. Lahey

# Management's Discussion and Analysis

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June 30, 2025

As management of the Adams Fire District, we offer readers of the District's financial statements this narrative overview and analysis of the financial activities for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2025. We encourage readers to consider the information presented here, as well as the basic financial statements that follow this section.

## Financial Highlights

### *Government-Wide Financials* *(Full Accrual Basis of Accounting)*

The District's combined ending total net position of assets minus liabilities on June 30, 2025 was \$5,063,465. Total net position increased during fiscal year 2025 by \$295,537; comprised of an increase of \$207,533 in governmental activities (Fire Department and Street Lighting) and an increase of \$88,004 in business-type activities (Water Department).

The increase in the District's net position of \$295,537 in fiscal year 2025 was largely affected by the following items:

- ◆ The District is required to measure and report a long-term projected benefit obligation associated with postemployment benefits (or OPEB) earned by employees for services rendered to date, as opposed to when the benefit is actually paid. The change in this estimated liability was an increase of \$45,680 for the year ended June 30, 2025.
- ◆ The District is also required to measure and report a long-term projected benefit obligation for its proportionate share of the Adams Contributory Retirement System's net pension liability. The change in this estimated long-term liability was an increase of \$22,314 for the year ended June 30, 2025.
- ◆ The District reported total revenue of \$722,388 and total expenses of \$514,855 for the fire department and street lighting services. The District reported total revenue of \$1,890,479 and total expenses of \$1,802,475 for the water department services.
- ◆ The District paid \$491,895 on existing long-term debt (\$398,027 in principal and \$93,868 in interest).
- ◆ The District recorded depreciation expense of \$348,555. There was a capital additions of \$1,015,564.

### *Governmental Fund and Enterprise Fund* *(Modified Accrual Basis of Accounting)*

As of the close of the current fiscal year, the Governmental Funds reported an ending fund balance of \$1,112,252, which decreased \$603,605 from the prior year. The governmental fund statements can be found on pages 15 and 16 of this report.

As of the close of the current fiscal year, the Enterprise Fund (Water Department) reported an ending fund balance of \$2,172,768, which increased \$88,004 from the prior year. The Enterprise Fund statements can be found on pages 19 to 21 of this report.

## Overview of the Financial Statements

This discussion and analysis is intended to serve as an introduction to the District's basic financial statements. The District's financial statements are comprised of four components: (1) government-wide financial statements, (2) fund financial statements, (3) proprietary (enterprise) fund financial statements and (4) notes to financial statements. This report also contains supplementary information in addition to the basic financial statements themselves.

### *Government-Wide Financial Statements*

These basic financial statements are designed to provide readers with a broad overview of the District's finances, in a manner similar to a private-sector business.

The *statement of the net position* presents information on all of the District's assets and liabilities, with the difference between the two reported as net position. Over time, increases or decreases in net position may serve as a useful indicator of whether the financial position of the District is improving or deteriorating.

The *statement of activities* presents information showing how the District's net position changed during the most recent fiscal year. All changes in net position are reported as soon as the underlying event giving rise to the change occurs, regardless of the timing of related cash flows. Thus, revenues

and expenses are reported in this statement for some items that will only result in cash flows in future fiscal periods such as unused vacation leave.

Both of the basic financial statements distinguish functions of the District that are principally supported by water rates and other charges from other functions that are intended to recover all or a significant portion of their costs through user fees and charges. The total governmental activities of the District include the water department, fire department and street lighting. The government-wide financial statements can be found on page 11 of this report.

### ***Fund Financial Statements***

A fund is a grouping of related accounts that is used to maintain control over resources that have been segregated for specific activities or objectives. The Adams Fire District, like other state and local governments, uses fund accounting to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance-related legal requirements. All of the funds of the District are reported into two categories: governmental funds and proprietary (enterprise) fund.

#### *Governmental Funds*

Governmental funds are used to account for essentially the same functions reported as governmental activities in the basic financial statements. However, unlike the basic financial statements, governmental fund financial statements focus on near-term inflows and outflows of spendable resources, as well as on balances of spendable resources available at the end of the fiscal year. Such information may be useful in evaluating near-term financing requirements.

Because the focus of governmental funds is narrower than that of the basic financial statements, it is useful to compare the information presented for governmental funds with similar information presented for governmental activities in the basic financial statements. By doing so, readers may better understand the long-term impact of the District's near-term financing decisions. Both the governmental fund balance sheet and the governmental fund statement of revenues, expenditures and changes in fund balances provide a reconciliation to facilitate this comparison between governmental funds and governmental activities.

The District adopts an annual budget for its general fund. A budgetary comparison statement has been provided for the general fund to demonstrate compliance with this budget.

The basic governmental fund financial statements can be found on pages 15 and 16 of this report. The budget and actual comparison statement can be found on page 18 of this report.

#### *Proprietary (Enterprise) Fund*

Proprietary funds provide the same type of information as the government-wide financial statements, only in more detail. The District maintains one proprietary fund for water department operations. Since this area of activity is supported by user fees, the fund is accounted for as a business-type activity. The proprietary fund financial statements for the water department can be found on pages 19 through 21 of this report.

### ***Notes to the Financial Statements and Supplementary Information***

The notes and supplementary information provide additional information that is essential to a full understanding of the data provided in the government-wide, governmental fund, and proprietary fund financial statements. The notes to the financial statements can be found on the District's FY25 Audit Report. The notes and supplementary information to this report also contain certain information concerning the District's progress in funding its obligation to provide benefits to its employees.

### ***Government-Wide Financial Analysis***

As noted earlier, net position may serve over time as a useful indicator of the District's financial position. A summary of the Statement of Net Position is on the next page.

By far the largest portion of the District's net position is \$5,146,068, which reflects its investment in capital assets (e.g. land, buildings, machinery and equipment), less any related debt used to acquire those assets that are still outstanding

The District uses these capital assets to provide services to its customers; consequently, these assets are not available for future spending. Although the District's investment in its capital assets is reported net of related debt, it should be noted

A summary of the Statement of Net Position is below:

<b>ADAMS FIRE DISTRICT - SUMMARY NET POSITION</b>					
<b>June 30, 2025</b>					
	<b>Primary Government</b>			<b>Comparative</b>	
	<b>Governmental Activities</b>	<b>Business-type Activities</b>	<b>Total 2025</b>	<b>Total 2024</b>	<b>Increase (Decrease)</b>
Current and other assets	2,049,934	\$ 498,123	\$ 2,548,057	\$ 3,162,275	\$ (614,218)
Interfund receivable (payable)	(848,114)	848,114	-	-	-
Capital assets, net	2,859,605	5,345,199	8,204,804	7,537,794	667,010
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>4,061,425</b>	<b>6,691,436</b>	<b>10,752,861</b>	<b>10,700,069</b>	<b>52,792</b>
Deferred outflows of resources	56,584	152,413	208,997	400,988	(191,991)
Current liabilities	46,780	27,841	74,621	50,268	24,353
Long-term debt	450,000	2,608,736	3,058,736	3,381,763	(323,027)
Accumulated unused compensated absences	32,131	57,143	89,274	101,340	(12,066)
Net pension liability	144,020	1,134,568	1,278,588	1,377,503	(98,915)
Post employment benefits other than pensions	512,117	778,541	1,290,658	1,262,266	28,392
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>1,185,048</b>	<b>4,606,829</b>	<b>5,791,877</b>	<b>6,173,140</b>	<b>(381,263)</b>
Deferred inflows of resources	42,264	64,252	106,516	159,989	(53,473)
<b>Net Position</b>					
Invested in capital assets, net of related debt	2,409,605	2,736,463	5,146,068	4,156,031	990,037
Unrestricted	481,092	(563,695)	(82,603)	611,897	(694,500)
<b>Total Net Position</b>	<b>\$ 2,890,697</b>	<b>\$ 2,172,768</b>	<b>\$ 5,063,465</b>	<b>\$ 4,767,928</b>	<b>\$ 295,537</b>

A summary of Changes in Net Position is presented below:

<b>ADAMS FIRE DISTRICT - SUMMARY CHANGE IN NET POSITION</b>					
	<b>Primary Government</b>			<b>Comparative</b>	
	<b>Governmental Activities</b>	<b>Business-type Activities</b>	<b>Total 2025</b>	<b>Total 2024</b>	<b>Increase (Decrease)</b>
<b>Program Revenues:</b>					
Charges for services	\$ 13,975	\$ 1,874,498	\$ 1,888,473	\$ 1,789,941	\$ 98,532
<b>General Revenues:</b>					
Property taxes	626,583	-	626,583	608,137	18,446
Earnings on investments	51,778	-	51,778	36,143	15,635
Grants and other revenues	30,052	15,981	46,033	55,571	(9,538)
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>722,388</b>	<b>1,890,479</b>	<b>2,612,867</b>	<b>2,489,792</b>	<b>123,075</b>
<b>Expenses and other items</b>					
Water Department	-	1,618,564	1,618,564	1,428,793	189,771
Fire Department	406,715	-	406,715	436,167	(29,452)
Street lighting	130,189	-	130,189	119,255	10,934
<b>Change in net pension and other postemployment benefit liabilities</b>					
Interest and fiscal charges	(48,299)	116,293	67,994	5,641	62,353
	26,250	67,618	93,868	73,728	20,140
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>514,855</b>	<b>1,802,475</b>	<b>2,317,330</b>	<b>2,063,584</b>	<b>253,746</b>
Change in net position	207,533	88,004	295,537	426,208	(130,671)
Net position, beginning	2,683,164	2,084,764	4,767,928	4,341,720	426,208
<b>Net position, ending</b>	<b>\$ 2,890,697</b>	<b>\$ 2,172,768</b>	<b>\$ 5,063,465</b>	<b>\$ 4,767,928</b>	<b>\$ 295,537</b>

that the resources needed to repay this debt must be provided from other sources, since the capital assets themselves cannot be used to liquidate these liabilities. The reader should also note that, unlike Massachusetts Municipal Accounting, GASB requires inclusion of certain long-term assets and liabilities in its government-wide statement of net position, which do not consume current spendable resources, and which have significant impact on the Districts ending net position:

- ◆ All infrastructure (such as buildings, land, vehicles, equipment, pumping and water storage infrastructure).
- ◆ Accumulated but unused compensated absences.
- ◆ The District is required to measure and report a long-term projected benefit obligation associated with postemployment benefits (or OPEB) earned by employees for services rendered to date, as opposed to when the benefit is actually paid.
- ◆ The District is required to measure and report a long-term projected benefit obligation for its proportionate share of the Adams Contributory Retirement System's net pension liability.

### General Fund Budget

The District's general fund budget supported operations throughout the fiscal year, with actual expenses remaining consistent with budgeted amounts. The budgetary comparison statement is presented on page 18 of this report.

### Capital Assets

The District's investment in capital assets as of June 30, 2025 is \$8,204,804 (net of accumulated depreciation). This investment in capital assets includes land, buildings and improvements, pumping and water storage, machinery and equipment. Capital additions consisted of the following for the year ended June 30, 2025:

Fire engine	\$ 625,000
Ford F450 truck	91,470
Ford F250 truck	69,758
Roof replacement	182,960
Floor support project	36,687
Computer server	9,689
<b>Total</b>	<u><b>1,015,564</b></u>

### Long-term Debt

At the end of the current fiscal year, the District had total debt outstanding of \$3,058,736.

	2025	Comparative 2024	Increase (Decrease)
Governmental activities debt \$	450,000	\$ 500,000	\$ (50,000)
Business-type activities debt	2,608,736	2,881,763	(273,027)
<b>Total</b>	<u><b>\$ 3,058,736</b></u>	<u><b>\$ 3,381,763</b></u>	<u><b>\$ (323,027)</b></u>

### Next Year's Budget

The District has authorized the fiscal 2026 budget as follows:

#### Operations

Enterprise Fund	\$ 1,943,542
General Fund	794,113
Street Lighting	144,000
<b>Total</b>	<u><b>\$ 2,881,655</b></u>

### Requests for Information

This financial report is designed to provide a general overview of the District's finances for all those with an interest in the government's finances. Questions concerning any of the information provided in this report or requests for additional financial information should be addressed to the District Treasurer, 3 Columbia Street, Adams, MA 01220.

**ADAMS FIRE DISTRICT**  
**STATEMENT OF NET POSITION**

June 30, 2025

	Primary Government		
	Governmental Activities	Business-type Activities	Totals
<b>Assets</b>			
Current:			
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 1,181,609	\$ -	\$ 1,181,609
Short-term investments	532,671	-	532,671
Receivables	335,654	480,697	816,351
Inventory	-	17,426	17,426
Interfund receivable (payable)	(848,114)	848,114	-
Noncurrent:			
Capital assets, net	2,859,605	5,345,199	8,204,804
Total assets	<u>4,061,425</u>	<u>6,691,436</u>	<u>10,752,861</u>
<b>Deferred outflows of resources</b>			
Related to pensions	10,442	82,266	92,708
Related to postemployment benefits	46,142	70,147	116,289
Total deferred outflows of resources	<u>56,584</u>	<u>152,413</u>	<u>208,997</u>
<b>Liabilities</b>			
Current:			
Accounts payable	46,780	27,841	74,621
Current portion of long-term debt	50,000	277,694	327,694
Noncurrent:			
Long-term debt	400,000	2,331,042	2,731,042
Compensated absences	32,131	57,143	89,274
Net pension liability	144,020	1,134,568	1,278,588
Postemployment benefits other than pensions	512,117	778,541	1,290,658
Total liabilities	<u>1,185,048</u>	<u>4,606,829</u>	<u>5,791,877</u>
<b>Deferred inflows of resources</b>			
Related to postemployment benefits	42,264	64,252	106,516
<b>Net position</b>			
Invested in capital assets, net of related debt	2,409,605	2,736,463	5,146,068
Unrestricted	481,092	(563,695)	(82,603)
Total net position	<u>\$ 2,890,697</u>	<u>\$ 2,172,768</u>	<u>\$ 5,063,465</u>

**ADAMS FIRE DISTRICT**  
**STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES**

For the Year Ended June 30, 2025

	Net (Expense) Revenue and Changes in Net Position					
	Primary Government					
	Expenses	Charges for Services	Grants and Contributions	Governmental Activities	Business-type Activities	Total
<b>Governmental activities</b>						
Fire department	\$ 406,715	\$ 13,975	\$ 26,533	\$ (366,207)	\$ -	\$ (366,207)
Street lighting	130,189	-	-	(130,189)	-	(130,189)
Change in net pension and other postemployment benefit liabilities	(48,299)	-	-	48,299	-	48,299
Interest and fiscal charges	26,250	-	-	(26,250)	-	(26,250)
Total governmental activities	<u>514,855</u>	<u>13,975</u>	<u>26,533</u>	<u>(474,347)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(474,347)</u>
<b>Business-type activities</b>						
Water department	<u>1,802,475</u>	<u>1,874,498</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>72,023</u>	<u>72,023</u>
Total governmental activities	<u>\$ 2,317,330</u>	<u>\$ 1,888,473</u>	<u>\$ 26,533</u>	<u>(474,347)</u>	<u>72,023</u>	<u>(402,324)</u>
<b>General revenues</b>						
Property taxes				626,583	-	626,583
Earnings on investments				51,778	-	51,778
Other revenues				3,519	15,981	19,500
Total				<u>681,880</u>	<u>15,981</u>	<u>697,861</u>
<b>Change in net position</b>				207,533	88,004	295,537
Net position, beginning				2,683,164	2,084,764	4,767,928
<b>Net position, ending</b>				<u>2,890,697</u>	<u>2,172,768</u>	<u>5,063,465</u>

**ADAMS FIRE DISTRICT**

**BALANCE SHEET  
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS**

June 30, 2025

	General Fund	Stabilization Fund	Capital Outlay Fund	Total Governmental Funds
<b>Assets</b>				
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 1,122,997	\$ 57,208	\$ 1,404	\$ 1,181,609
Short-term investments	45,618	396,748	90,305	532,671
Receivables	335,654	-	-	335,654
Total assets	\$ 1,504,269	\$ 453,956	\$ 91,709	\$ 2,049,934
<b>Liabilities</b>				
Current:				
Accounts payable	\$ 46,780	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 46,780
Interfund payable	848,114	-	-	848,114
Total liabilities	894,894	-	-	894,894
<b>Deferred inflows of resources</b>				
Revenue not considered available - taxes	42,788	-	-	42,788
<b>Fund balances</b>				
Committed	49,775	-	91,709	141,484
Assigned	105,173	-	-	105,173
Unassigned	411,639	453,956	-	865,595
Total fund balances	566,587	453,956	91,709	1,112,252
Total liabilities, deferred inflows of resources and fund balances	\$ 1,504,269	\$ 453,956	\$ 91,709	

Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of net position are different because:

Capital assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources and, therefore, are not reported in the funds	2,859,605
Revenue not considered available	42,788
Accumulated unused compensated absences	(32,131)
Net pension liability	(133,578)
Postemployment benefits other than pensions	(508,239)

Net position of governmental activities	\$ 2,890,697
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**ADAMS FIRE DISTRICT**  
**STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES**  
**AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES**  
**GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS**

For the Year Ended June 30, 2025

	General Fund	Stabilization Fund	Capital Outlay Fund	Total Governmental Funds
<b>Revenues</b>				
Property taxes	\$ 614,044	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 614,044
Charges for services	13,975	-	-	13,975
Earnings on investments	30,542	16,959	4,277	51,778
Grants	26,533	-	-	26,533
Other revenues	3,519	-	-	3,519
Total revenues	<u>688,613</u>	<u>16,959</u>	<u>4,277</u>	<u>709,849</u>
<b>Expenditures</b>				
Fire department	316,026	-	-	316,026
Street lighting	130,189	-	-	130,189
Employee benefits	32,901	-	-	32,901
Debt Service				
Principal payment	50,000	-	-	50,000
Interest and fiscal charges	26,250	-	-	26,250
Capital outlay	<u>758,088</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>758,088</u>
Total expenditures	<u>1,313,454</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,313,454</u>
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	(624,841)	16,959	4,277	(603,605)
<b>Other financing sources (uses)</b>				
Transfers	<u>(50,000)</u>	<u>50,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Total other financing sources (uses)	<u>(50,000)</u>	<u>50,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Change in fund balances	(674,841)	66,959	4,277	(603,605)
Fund balances, beginning	<u>1,241,428</u>	<u>386,997</u>	<u>87,432</u>	<u>1,715,857</u>
Fund balances, ending	<u>\$ 566,587</u>	<u>\$ 453,956</u>	<u>\$ 91,709</u>	<u>\$ 1,112,252</u>

**ADAMS FIRE DISTRICT**  
**RECONCILIATION OF THE STATEMENT OF REVENUES,**  
**EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES**  
**OF GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS**  
**TO THE STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES**

For the Year Ended June 30, 2025

<b>Change in fund balances of total governmental funds</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>(603,605)</b>
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Amounts reported for governmental activities in the Statement of Activities are different because:

Governmental funds report capital outlays as expenditures. However, in the Statement of Activities the cost of those assets is capitalized and allocated over their estimated useful lives and reported as depreciation expense:

Capital asset purchases		763,559
Depreciation expense		(87,334)

Revenues in the Statement of Activities that do not provide current financial resources are fully deferred in the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances. Therefore, the recognition of revenue for various types of accounts receivable (i.e., property taxes) differ between the two statements. This amount represents the net change in deferred inflows of resources - revenue not considered available

12,539

The issuance of long-term debt (e.g. bonds and leases) provides current financial resources to governmental funds, while the repayment of the principal of long-term debt consumes the financial resources of governmental funds. Neither transaction however, has any effect on net position:

Debt principal payments		50,000
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Some expenses reported in the Statement of Activities do not require the use of current financial resources and therefore are not reported as expenditures in the governmental funds:

Change in accumulated unused compensated absences		24,075
Change in net pension liability		79,757
Change in postemployment benefits other than pensions		<u>(31,458)</u>

<b>Change in net position of governmental activities</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b><u>207,533</u></b>
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**ADAMS FIRE DISTRICT**  
**STATEMENT OF REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES**  
**BUDGET AND ACTUAL (NON-GAAP BASIS)**  
**GENERAL FUND**

For the Year Ended June 30, 2025

	Budget		Variance with Original Budget Favorable (Unfavorable)	Actual Budgetary Basis	Variance Positive (Negative)
	Original	Final			
<b>Revenues</b>					
Property taxes	\$ 629,789	\$ 629,789	\$ -	\$ 614,044	\$ (15,745)
Charges for services	-	-	-	13,975	13,975
Earnings on investments	-	-	-	30,542	30,542
Grants	15,500	15,500	-	15,009	(491)
Other revenues	-	-	-	3,519	3,519
Total revenues	<u>645,289</u>	<u>645,289</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>677,089</u>	<u>31,800</u>
<b>Expenditures</b>					
Fire department	360,807	360,807	-	300,511	60,296
Street lighting	144,000	144,000	-	130,189	13,811
Employee benefits	34,232	34,232	-	32,901	1,331
Debt service					
Principal payment	50,000	50,000	-	50,000	-
Interest and fiscal charges	26,250	26,250	-	26,250	-
Capital outlay	177,100	223,600	46,500	174,053	49,547
Total expenditures	<u>792,389</u>	<u>838,889</u>	<u>46,500</u>	<u>713,904</u>	<u>124,985</u>
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	(147,100)	(193,600)	(46,500)	(36,815)	156,785
<b>Other financing sources (uses)</b>					
Resources from other available funds	247,100	293,600	46,500	293,600	-
Transfer to Stabilization Fund	(100,000)	(100,000)	-	(100,000)	-
Total other financing sources (uses)	<u>147,100</u>	<u>193,600</u>	<u>46,500</u>	<u>193,600</u>	<u>-</u>
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures and other financing sources	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 156,785</u>	<u>\$ 156,785</u>

ADAMS FIRE DISTRICT

STATEMENT OF NET POSITION  
PROPRIETARY FUND

	Business Type Activities Enterprise Fund (Water Fund)
June 30, 2025	
<b>Assets</b>	
Current:	
Accounts receivable	\$ 480,697
Inventory	17,426
Interfund receivable	848,114
Noncurrent:	
Capital assets, net	<u>5,345,199</u>
Total assets	<u>6,691,436</u>
<b>Deferred outflows of resources</b>	
Related to pensions	82,266
Related to postemployment benefits	<u>70,147</u>
Total deferred outflows of resources	<u>152,413</u>
<b>Liabilities</b>	
Current:	
Accounts payable	27,841
Current portion of long-term debt	277,694
Noncurrent:	
Long-term debt	2,331,042
Compensated absences	57,143
Net pension liability	1,134,568
Postemployment benefits other than pensions	<u>778,541</u>
Total liabilities	<u>4,606,829</u>
<b>Deferred inflows of resources</b>	
Related to postemployment benefits	<u>64,252</u>
<b>Net position</b>	
Invested in capital assets, net of related debt	2,736,463
Unrestricted	<u>(563,695)</u>
Total net position	<u>\$ 2,172,768</u>

**ADAMS FIRE DISTRICT**  
**STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES**  
**AND CHANGE IN NET POSITION**  
**PROPRIETARY FUND**

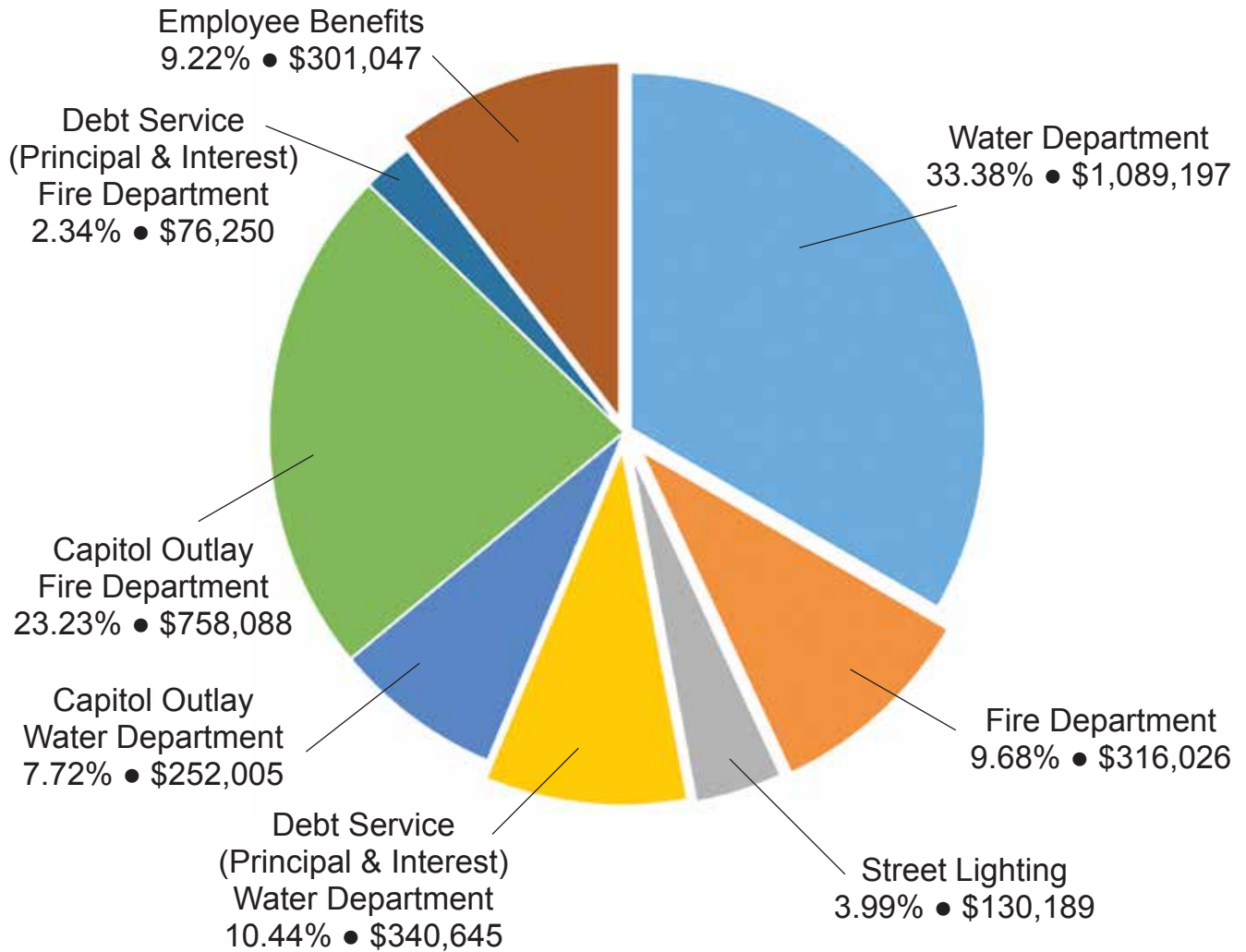
For the Year Ended June 30, 2025

	Business-Type Activities Enterprise Fund (Water Fund)
<b>Operating revenues</b>	
Charges for services	\$ 1,874,498
Other income	<u>15,981</u>
Total operating revenues	<u>1,890,479</u>
<b>Operating expenses</b>	
Cost of sales and services	573,563
Employee benefits	268,146
Professional fees	23,553
Office expense	31,515
Building expense	18,441
Communications	4,490
Insurance	38,658
Water system and pumping station	375,676
Road machinery expense	23,301
Change in net pension liability	102,071
Change in postemployment benefits liability	14,223
Depreciation	<u>261,220</u>
Total operating expenses	<u>1,734,857</u>
Operating income (loss)	155,622
<b>Nonoperating revenues (expenses)</b>	
Interest expense	<u>(67,618)</u>
Change in net position	88,004
Net position, beginning	<u>2,084,764</u>
Net position, ending	<u>\$ 2,172,768</u>

**ADAMS FIRE DISTRICT**  
**STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS**  
**PROPRIETARY FUND**

	<b>Business Type Activities Enterprise Fund (Water Fund)</b>
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2025	
Cash flows from operating activities	
Receipts from customers	\$ 1,814,329
Payments to suppliers	(490,820)
Payments to employees, including benefits	(841,709)
Net cash provided (used) by operating activities	<u>481,800</u>
Cash flows from noncapital financing activities	
Increase in interfund receivable	<u>110,850</u>
Net cash provided (used) by noncapital financing activities	<u>110,850</u>
Cash flows from capital and related financing activities	
Purchase of capital assets	(252,005)
Principal paid on long-term debt	(273,027)
Interest paid on long-term debt	(67,618)
Net cash provided (used) by capital and related financing activities	<u>(592,650)</u>
Increase (decrease) in cash and equivalents	-
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning	<u>-</u>
Cash and cash equivalents, ending	<u><u>\$ -</u></u>
Reconciliation of operating income to net cash provided (used) by operating activities	
Operating income (loss)	\$ 155,622
Adjustments to reconcile operating income to net cash provided (used) by operating activities:	
Depreciation	261,220
(Increase) decrease in operating assets:	
Accounts receivables	(76,150)
Increase (decrease) in operating liabilities:	
Warrants and other payables	12,805
Accumulated unused compensated absences	12,009
Net pension liability	102,071
Postemployment benefits other than pensions	<u>14,223</u>
Net cash provided by operating activities	<u><u>\$ 481,800</u></u>

# Fiscal 2025 Expenditures Including Capitol Purchases and Debt Service



## ADAMS FIRE DISTRICT FISCAL 2025 EXPENDITURES, INCLUDING CAPITAL PURCHASES AND DEBT SERVICE

	TOTAL EXPENDITURES		
Water Department	33.38%	\$ 1,089,197	\$ 3,263,447
Fire Department	9.68%	316,026	3,263,447
Street Lighting	3.99%	130,189	3,263,447
Employee Benefits	9.22%	301,047	3,263,447
Capital Outlay - Water Department	7.72%	252,005	3,263,447
Capital Outlay - Fire Department	23.23%	758,088	3,263,447
Debt Service (Principal and Interest) - Fire Department	2.34%	76,250	3,263,447
Debt Service (Principal and Interest) - Water Department	10.44%	340,645	3,263,447
	100.00%	\$ 3,263,447	

# Long Term Debt

	Interest Rate	Principal Amount	Date Issued	Date of Maturity	Principal Outstanding June 30, 2025	Interest Outstanding June 30, 2025
Hale's Hill Project MA Water Pollution Abatement Trust	2.00%	\$ 2,566,301.84	12/18/07	FY2028	\$ 453,748.51	\$ 13,733.30
Water Main Project - Rte #8	2.75%	\$ 1,779,231.00	10/30/14	FY2052	\$ 1,298,351.00	\$ 499,855.89
Well #4 Rehab	2.00%	\$ 527,230.00	09/12/18	FY2034	\$ 335,541.67	\$ 32,772.87
Chemical Feed & SCADA	2.00%	\$ 766,794.00	10/24/19	FY2034	\$ 521,095.93	\$ 56,976.02
Fire Truck	5.25%	\$ 500,000.00	02/06/24	FY2035	\$ 450,000.00	\$ 118,125.00
<b>Total Indebtedness</b>		<b>\$ 6,139,556.84</b>			<b>\$ 3,058,737.11</b>	<b>\$ 721,463.08</b>

# 3 Year Budget Comparison

Category	FY2023 7/1/22 - 6/30/23	FY2024 7/1/23 - 6/30/24	FY2025 7/1/24 - 6/30/25
Total Recurring Items	\$ 2,029,317.06	\$ 2,167,565.53	\$ 2,246,386.56
Total Warrant Articles	\$ 765,000.00	\$ 326,500.00	\$ 988,750.00
<b>BUDGET TOTALS</b>	<b>\$ 2,794,317.06</b>	<b>\$ 2,494,065.53</b>	<b>\$ 3,235,136.56</b>

# Adams Fire Department Annual Report

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I am honored to present my Ninth annual report as Fire Chief. This will be my final report.

2025 was a busy year for our department. The Adams Fire Department/Alert Hose Co. responded to 433 calls resulting in 438 Incident reports being submitted. This was our second busy year recorded. We completed 401 inspections and plan reviews (2% decrease from last year, and issued 220 permits ( a increase of 16%).

The department meets every Tuesday evening for training. We also contracted with the Fire Rescue 1 Academy to offer online training which provides a different perspective to our department and will prove valuable for years to come. I owe credit to our officers and members for their continued dedication to their training to protect their community.

Every year the Adams Fire Department looks for grants that can help provide the department with updated equipment. In 2025 we received two grants from the state of Massachusetts totaling \$18,379.63. This allowed us to purchase 3 sets of gear, scene lighting and miscellaneous equipment.

Our new 2025 EOne Typhoon Engine arrived during the year. We found a couple of issues with the truck which required it to go back to our vendor for repairs. If all goes as planned this truck will be in service early in 2026. I would like to thank the Prudential Committee and the residents of the town for supporting this purchase. I also would like to thank Assistant Chief David J. Lennon for overseeing this purchase. He has put in a tremendous number of hours and saved the district thousands of Dollars.

As it becomes increasingly harder to obtain new volunteers and our current members start to retire, we are trying different options. This fiscal year we have been working on hiring part-time employees to cover during the daytime. They must be qualified firefighters and drivers. This has proven to be a difficult task as most qualified people work during the day. If you look around, you will find that most communities our size already have moved to a combination department. I understand this comes with a cost, but ignoring the problem will

result in bigger issues down the road.

This past year we were required to start transitioning our report program from the National Fire Incident reporting system (NFIRS) to the National Emergency Response Information system (NERIS). This is a federal mandate that all departments change to NERIS by January 1, 2026. After reviewing a number of companies that provide the reporting software, we were able to meet the mandate and as of November 1, 2025, we were submitting our reports.

During 2025, the Adams Fire Department responded to 39 fires. Many of these fires were small and were out or easily extinguished upon arrival. Despite being small and with minor damage, these calls required ventilation to remove the smoke or other services.

In early March we responded to a structure fire on West St. the fire was extinguished and we returned to the station and was just finishing cleaning and replacing the equipment when we were dispatched to another structure fire on Overlook Terrace. At the end of March, we responded to a dirt bike fire which had spread to the house and the brush around it. In June we responded to Motor Vehicle Fire which had spread to the vehicle in front of it and a telephone pole. In August we responded to a Garage Fire which do to the extreme heat caused the house in front to start on fire. In October we responded to a Lithium-Ion Battery Fire which fortunately did not spread to the structure.

Our most notable fire of the year was on April 16 at the former McDermid property on Harmony Street. We received mutual aid from 9 fire departments. Fire Marshall Davine responded and requested a rehab truck, drone unit, hazmat team for air monitoring and a state code compliance officer responded. This fire proved challenging, all departments worked well together. The call came in @ 07:34 am and the last mutual aid company cleared the scene @ 17:08. The last Adams Fire Unit cleared at 20:12.

## 2025 FIRE RESPONSES

DATE	INCIDENT TYPE	LOCATION	
10/28/2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fuel burner/boiler malfunction</li> <li>• Fire confined</li> <li>• Investigated</li> <li>• Vented CO from residence</li> </ul>	2 Noble Place	
01/29/2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chimney or flue fire, confined to chimney or flue</li> <li>• Extinguished</li> </ul>	46 Walling Road	
02/04/2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cooking fire, confined to container</li> <li>• Vented smoke from residence</li> <li>• Investigated</li> </ul>	14 Summit Avenue	
02/08/2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dumpster or other outside trash receptacle fire</li> <li>• Extinguished</li> </ul>	37 Park Street	
02/24/2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cooking fire, confined to container</li> <li>• Vented smoke from residence</li> <li>• Investigated</li> </ul>	103 Summer Street	
03/07/2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Building fire</li> <li>• Extinguished</li> <li>• Investigated</li> </ul>	22-24 West Street	
03/07/2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Building fire</li> <li>• Extinguished</li> <li>• Investigated</li> </ul>	11 Overlook Terrace	
03/19/2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Brush or brush-and-grass mixture fire</li> <li>• Extinguished</li> </ul>	9 Overlook Terrace	
03/22/2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Brush or brush-and-grass mixture fire</li> <li>• Investigated</li> </ul>	92 Walling Road	
03/25/2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cooking fire, confined to container</li> <li>• Vented smoke from residence</li> <li>• Investigated</li> </ul>	3 Myrtle Street	
03/31/2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Building fire</li> <li>• Extinguished</li> </ul>	19-21 Albert Street	Exposure
03/31/2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Off-road vehicle or heavy equipment fire</li> <li>• Extinguished</li> <li>• Investigated</li> </ul>	19-21 Albert Street	
03/31/2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Special outside fire, other</li> <li>• Extinguished</li> </ul>	19-21 Albert Street	Exposure
04/01/2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Brush or brush-and-grass mixture fire</li> <li>• Fire out on arrival</li> <li>• Investigated</li> </ul>	160 Forest Park Avenue	
04/07/2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fuel burner/boiler malfunction, fire confined</li> <li>• Fire out on arrival</li> <li>• Vented CO from residence</li> </ul>	33 Orchard Street	
04/16/2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Building fire</li> <li>• Extinguished</li> <li>• Investigated</li> </ul>	10 Harmony Street	
04/28/2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cooking fire, confined to container</li> <li>• Vented smoke from residence</li> <li>• Investigated</li> </ul>	4 Columbia Street	
05/05/2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cooking fire, confined to container</li> <li>• Investigated</li> </ul>	19 Depot Street	
05/31/2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cooking fire, confined to container</li> <li>• Vented smoke from residence</li> <li>• Investigated</li> </ul>	47 North Summer Street	

DATE	INCIDENT TYPE	LOCATION	
06/03/2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Passenger vehicle fire</li> <li>• Extinguished</li> <li>• Investigated</li> </ul>	River Street	
06/03/2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Passenger vehicle fire</li> <li>• Extinguished</li> </ul>	River Street	Exposure
06/03/2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Special outside fire, other</li> <li>• Extinguished</li> </ul>	River Street	Exposure
06/25/2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Special outside fire, other</li> <li>• Extinguished</li> </ul>	West Mountain Road	
07/15/2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cooking fire, confined to container</li> <li>• Vented smoke from residence</li> <li>• Investigated</li> </ul>	32-34 Columbia Street	
08/23/2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Off-road vehicle or heavy equipment fire</li> <li>• Extinguished</li> <li>• Investigated</li> </ul>	198 Orchard Street	
08/24/2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Building fire</li> <li>• Fire out on arrival</li> <li>• Investigated</li> </ul>	69 Summer Street	
08/31/2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Building fire</li> <li>• Extinguished</li> <li>• Investigated</li> </ul>	7-9 Siara Street	
08/31/2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Building fire</li> <li>• Extinguished</li> <li>• Investigated</li> </ul>	7-9 Siara Street	Exposure
09/01/2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Building fire</li> <li>• Extinguished</li> <li>• Investigated</li> </ul>	20-22 Grove Street	
09/14/2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Outside rubbish, trash or waste fire</li> <li>• Fire out on arrival</li> <li>• Investigated</li> </ul>	Gould Road	
09/18/2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cooking fire, confined to container</li> <li>• Out on arrival</li> <li>• Ventilated</li> </ul>	75 Commercial Street	
10/02/2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cooking fire, confined to container</li> <li>• Out on arrival</li> </ul>	27 Melrose Street	
10/20/2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Building fire</li> <li>• Extinguished</li> <li>• Investigated</li> </ul>	83 Columbia Street	
10/29/2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Building fire</li> <li>• Fire out on arrival</li> <li>• Investigated</li> </ul>	51 Bellevue Avenue	
11/09/2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Special outside fire, other</li> <li>• Investigated</li> </ul>	16 Wenzel Avenue	
11/09/2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Special outside fire, other</li> <li>• Investigated</li> </ul>	4 Gilead Street	
11/26/2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cooking fire, confined to container</li> <li>• Out on arrival</li> <li>• Ventilated</li> </ul>	3 Myrtle Street	
12/12/2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chimney or flue fire, confined to chimney or flue</li> <li>• Extinguished</li> </ul>	23 Temple Street	
12/19/2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Utility Infrastructure fire</li> <li>• Extinguished</li> </ul>	260 Columbia Street	

## Incident Type Count per Station for Date Range

INCIDENT TYPE	# INCIDENTS
Building fire	10
Cooking fire, confined to container	12
Chimney or flue fire	2
Fuel burner/boiler malfunction, fire confined	2
Passenger vehicle fire	1
Off-road vehicle or heavy equipment fire	2
Brush or brush-and-grass mixture fire	5
Outside rubbish, trash or waste fire	1
Dumpster or other outside trash receptacle fire	1
Special outside fire, other	4
Overpressure rupture of air or gas pipe/pipeline	1
Medical assist, assist EMS crew	27
Emergency medical service incident, other	5
EMS call, excluding vehicle accident with injury	39
Motor vehicle accident with injuries	17
Motor vehicle/pedestrian accident (MV Ped)	1
Motor vehicle accident with no injuries.	14
Search for person on land	1
Extrication of victim(s) from building/structure	1
Extrication of victim(s) from vehicle	1
Extrication of victim(s) from elevator	1
Extrication other	2
Water & ice-related rescue, other	1
Swimming/recreational water areas rescue	1
Hazardous condition, other	1
Gasoline or other flammable liquid spill	1
Gas leak (natural gas or LPG)	7
Oil or other combustible liquid spill	1
Toxic conditions, other	2
Refrigeration leak	1
Carbon monoxide incident	8
Electrical wiring/equipment problem, other	6
Breakdown of light ballast	1

INCIDENT TYPE	# INCIDENTS
Power line down	6
Arcing, shorted electrical equipment	3
Vehicle accident, general cleanup	1
Explosive, bomb removal (for bomb scare, use 721)	1
Lock-out	1
Water evacuation	1
Water or steam leak	11
Assist invalid	1
Unauthorized burning	7
Cover assignment, standby, move up	1
Good intent call, other	2
Dispatched & canceled en route	5
Steam, other gas mistaken for smoke, other	1
Smoke scare, odor of smoke	16
Steam, vapor, fog or dust thought to be smoke	1
HazMat release investigation w/no HazMat	11
False alarm or false call, other	5
Central station, malicious false alarm	4
System malfunction, other	3
Smoke detector activation due to malfunction	48
Alarm system sounded due to malfunction	44
CO detector activation due to malfunction	6
Unintentional transmission of alarm, other	7
Extinguishing system activation	1
Smoke detector activation, no fire - unintentional	13
Detector activation, no fire - unintentional	1
Alarm system activation, no fire - unintentional	40
Gas Alarm	1
Carbon monoxide detector activation, no CO	9
Citizen complaint	7
<b># Incidents for ST1 - Adams Fire Station:</b>	<b>438</b>

Besides an increase in fires, we have seen an increase of CO calls where we have found CO in the house. Smoke Detectors and CO Detectors save lives and have a 10-year life span. Massachusetts requires all detectors to be photoelectric and use 10-year lithium batteries. Furthermore, the state requires any combination smoke and CO detector to have a voice and to have a hush/silence button. If you are selling your home or replacing detectors and have any questions, please call our office before purchasing and installing the wrong ones.

I would like to thank our mutual aid companies, Adams Police Department, Northern Berkshire EMS, Adams Water Department, Adams Forest Wardens, the community and most importantly the members of the Adams Fire Department for their response to these calls.

In 2025 the Adams Fire Department started a junior program for youths between 15-17 years old. The program was put together and is overseen by Lieutenant Eric Mallet and Fire Fighter David A. Lennon. We currently have two junior members and have three more that have inquired about joining. If you know anyone that is interested in having them reach out to us and we will work with them.

Each Year the Adams Fire Department and the Alert Hose Company give an award to the Engineer of the year and the Alert of the Year. The awards are given to an Engineer and an Alert for going above and beyond their duties. The Engineer of the year for 2025 was Assistant Chief Dylan Grimes and the Alert of the year for 2025 was Lieutenant Eric Mallet. Both individuals were more than deserving of the awards. Congratulations to both.

Each year firefighters leave the Adams Fire Department for one reason or another. This year the following members were taken off the roster, Jason Leja, Dana Labbee, and Christopher Perin. I would like to thank them for the service.

During the year we elected three members to the department. They each completed their required apprenticeship and are assets to the department.

Andrey Mendel – January  
Blake Trumble – September  
Elizabeth Lesage – December

Our Recruitment and Retention Committee continues to work hard in trying to bring new members to the department, which has shown itself to be an increasingly difficult task.

Once again, I would like to thank the members of the Adams Fire Department/Alert Hose Company, as well as all the other agencies I work with for their support and hard work.

Our members are the most important part of the organization. Each year it becomes harder and harder to attract new members and retain our current ones. I cannot say enough of the dedication and commitment of our current membership, but we still need more. We have started a push for new members through the Recruitment and Retention Committee. If you know of anyone interested, please contact my Office at 413-743-1929.

Finally, as this is my final report, I would like to thank all the Firefighters and Officers that I have worked with over my 40 years. Your service was important to the Adams Fire District. A special thank you to Chief Stephen Brown for mentoring me as a new Officer. I spent hours in his Office asking questions and learning the responsibilities of an Officer, an Inspector, and how he handled the Chief's Duties. This mentoring allowed me to be ready to take on the Chief's position.

Remember the only way we can continue to serve our community as a volunteer department is with the community's support. Please consider joining our department. If you are unable to please pass this information on to family and friends who may be interested.



Respectfully submitted,

John M. Pansecchi  
Chief Engineer

**FOR ALL EMERGENCIES DIAL 911**  
**THIS WILL PROVIDE YOU WITH THE QUICKEST RESPONSE**

# Alert Hose Company No. 1

Year Ending December 31, 2025 – Annual Report

## ENGINEERS OF THE ADAMS FIRE DEPARTMENT

Name		Years of Service
John Pansecchi	Chief Engineer	38
David J. Lennon	First Assistant Engineer	26
Edward Capeless	Second Assistant Engineer	27
Mark Therrien	Third Assistant Engineer	39
Dylan Grimes	Fourth Assistant Engineer	12

## OFFICERS OF THE ALERT HOSE COMPANY

David J. Lennon	Foreman	26
Anthony Piscioneri	First Asst. Foreman (past foreman)	37
Julie Lech	Second Asst. Foreman	13
Michael Therrien	Secretary (past Foreman)	18
Andrew Gigliotti	Treasurer	27
Deacon Greg LaFreniere	Chaplain	11

## MEMBERS OF THE ALERT HOSE COMPANY

Michael Corkins	3	David A. Lennon	1
John DeMartino	6	Elizabeth LeSage (elected 12/2/25)	
John Duval (past Foreman)	8	Eric Mallet (past Foreman)	14
Raymond Ferrin	2	Michael Mullany	19
Andre Fitzgerald	11	Christopher Perin (resigned 8/5/25)	2
William Gero (past Foreman)	53	Michael Shepard	6
John Hauser	1	Joshua Sworzen	12
Joseph Koscinski (past Foreman)	52	Blake Trumbull (elected 9/2/25)	
Robert Krzanik	22	Richard Valois	6
Dana Labbee	28	Timothy Ziemba	
Jason Leja (past Foreman)	27	(past First Assistant Engineer)	31

**2025  
Engineer of the Year**

Assistant Chief  
Dylan Grimes



**2025  
Alert of the Year**

Lieutenant  
Eric Mallet

# 2025 Superintendent's Report

## PUMPING

Combined monthly output of our three wells:

A.D.D. (Average Daily Demand)      M.D.D. (Maximum Daily Demand)

	Gallons	Highest Daily Total Date	Highest Daily Total Gallons	Daily Average Gallons
January	25,303,000	01/10/2025	998,000	816,226
February	22,687,000	02/26/2025	995,000	810,250
March	26,214,000	03/01/2025	1,014,000	845,613
April	25,723,000	04/08/2025	1,190,000	857,433
May	25,596,000	05/29/2025	982,000	825,677
June	28,875,000	06/26/2025	1,041,000	962,500
July	32,131,000	07/18/2025	1,183,000	1,036,484
August	31,582,000	08/13/2025	1,154,000	1,018,774
September	29,622,000	09/29/2025	1,169,000	987,400
October	30,119,000	10/16/2025	1,168,000	971,581
November	28,611,000	11/20/2025	1,092,000	953,700
December	33,526,000	12/29/2025	<b>M.D.D.</b> 1,301,000	1,081,484
<b>Totals:</b>	<b>339,989,000</b>		<b>A.D.D.</b>	<b>931,477</b>

## WATER MAIN / SERVICE WORK

Date	Location/Classification	Line Size	Water Loss
01/08/25	Crotteau/Cook Street, watermain	6"	122,075 Gallons
01/25/25	13 Victory Street, fire pipe	4"	159,185 Gallons
01/29/25	28 Alger Street, galvanized service leak	¾"	6,206,285 Gallons
04/02/25	44-46 Columbia Street, galvanized service leak	¾"	Unable to calculate
04/08/25	Richmond Street, watermain	4"	463,003 Gallons
05/15/25	57 Bellevue Avenue, service upgrade to CU	¾"	No Leak
06/03/25	Mountainview Drive, watermain	6"	49,140 Gallons
06/04/25	62 Alger Street, service strike by contractor	¾"	7,844 Gallons
06/27/25	40 Mill Street, service upgrade to CU	¾"	No leak
07/02/25	6-8 Kerr Avenue, galvanized service leak	¾"	12,536 Gallons
07/08/25	76 Friend Street, leak before meter set	¾"	332,829 Gallons
07/16/25	27 East Orchard Street, plastic service leak	¾"	138,878 Gallons
07/29/25	1 Senecal Terrace, galvanized service leak	¾"	168,264 Gallons
08/15/25	Tower Avenue, watermain	6"	27,194 Gallons
09/19/25	1-2 Horn Place, galvanized service leak	¾"	5,510 Gallons
11/18/25	West Kittler Avenue, watermain	4"	79,981 Gallons
12/08/25	Leonard Street, watermain	6"	27,194 Gallons

## WATER SYSTEM UPDATE

### Hydrant Replacements

This year, we focused our efforts on stripping the old paint colors off our hydrants and painting the hydrants in accordance with NFPA color coding to assist responding firefighters with industry standard water availability identification.

Since we started our hydrant replacement program, costs have more than doubled across the industry. This year, we replaced 3 Matthews, with 37 remaining to be replaced, of our 366 hydrants in service. Please refer to the details below.

\* Re-plumbed watermain and installed a hydrant gate

1. 07/29/25 \*29 Harding Avenue
2. 08/14/25 \*5 Wilfred Avenue
3. 09/04/25 \*Fisk Road / Bieniek Avenue

### Hydrant Repairs

Our hydrant repair list is created as we flush our hydrants in the summer and note deficiencies in their operation. After flushing has been completed, all hydrants are checked for leaks utilizing electronic listening equipment, in addition to checking the hydrants drainage system and lubricating all hose caps. Below are hydrants that required repair this year.

1. Dead end of West Burt Street
2. Pine Street / Upton Street
3. 17 Mill Street
4. Refurbished all hydrants on Howland Avenue due to calcium chloride degradation (approximately \$12,200 in parts replacement for 9 hydrants)
5. 233 Columbia Street

### Winter Hydrant Inspections (winter months beginning in 2025)

In the winter, all hydrants are again utilized to complete leak detection of our system. While onsite at the hydrants we also inspect for ground water and ice buildup within the barrels, which could lead to an inoperable hydrant. Below are hydrants with ground water intrusion that required pumping.

1. 3 Water Street
2. 38 Greylock Avenue
3. 15 Burns Lane
4. 107 East Road
5. 62 Meadow Street
6. 85 East Street
7. 166 Orchard Street
8. HVHS gym hydrant
9. 4 Tower Avenue
10. Hoxie Brook Pumphouse
11. 161 Friend Street
12. 4 Columbia Street

### Meter Replacement Program

Our meter replacement program has been completed over the course of approximately 11 years by in house staff to minimize costs. We expect to begin implementing funding within the next three years to replace the metering system again as batteries life expectancy approaches.

### Water Quality Testing

Total Coliform samples are taken monthly throughout our distribution system. This year, we completed 180 samples with 1 positive Total Coliform from the raw water source of Well 2A, the finished water sample was clean. The well was isolated from the distribution system as a precaution to make necessary repairs to avoid any future issues. Repeat sampling indicated no further issues. Samples for Orthophosphate and Phosphorus are also taken monthly to evaluate the effectiveness of our Corrosion Control.

This year, we additionally sampled for Iron, Manganese, Nitrate, Trihalomethanes, Halo acetic Acids, and completed residential and school Lead and Copper samples.

We participated in the Federal UCMR-5 sampling for more PFAS contaminants in addition to Lithium, which unfortunately is finding its way into public water supplies throughout the United States. We had no detections for both rounds of sampling

for the multiple contaminants. For more information on this Federal sampling, google “UCMR-5” for information within the EPA website.

For more detailed information on all our test results, please see our “Adams Fire District Annual Drinking Water Quality Report.”

### **Chlorine Running Annual Average (RAA)**

MassDEP requires a minimum injection at our source of .20 PPM (Parts Per Million), with a maximum of 4.0 PPM. Our target injection rate is .3 PPM. To better understand this, .3 PPM is equal to .3 gallons added per million gallons of water. The RAA is a measurement of Chlorine left after a determined amount of contact time to protect our water from microbial contamination. We record these chlorine residuals every time we work on our system from water breaks to system improvements in addition to measurements taken during our monthly sampling sites to ensure the sustenance of our water quality.

This year our **RAA** was **.25 PPM**.

## **YEAR IN REVIEW**

In addition to the projects listed previously, we have been managing the following projects this year.

### **MassDOT Bridge Projects (3):**

Construction for the Quality Street has begun; we will be working closely with the Contractor to install temporary then permanent water mains to feed our Town water supply from our wells in Cheshire.

MassDOT is within the 25% design phase the Cook Street bridge, expected to be done in 2029. A Hydraulic Analysis was completed to see if we can remove the watermain on this bridge to make the replacement process more efficient for MassDOT. Unfortunately, results indicate it will have an excessive impact within the Crotteau Street area, as we try to match the areas Needed Fire Flow to the Available Fire Flow. The results have been conveyed to MassDOT as we will require the watermain to remain in service throughout the replacement process.

A bridge inspection by MassDOT in December revealed that 7 of our 11 pipe supports holding our 14” main to the bridge on Park Street require replacement. This project was unexpected and is currently ongoing.

### **Fire District Main Office:**

Our roof recover project for Columbia Street has been completed under budget, the new roof installed has a life expectancy of 20 years.

This year, a major undertaking was to complete studies that determined several building deficiencies, primarily the existing super structure and support columns. We tasked our Engineers to evaluate not only the weight within the structure, but the first time, the structure itself, including several concrete block additions that had been installed before regulation and engineering requirements implemented under today’s building codes.

Focusing on the existing eight columns supporting the span of the second floor Fire Department above the Water Department, a Geotechnical Study was completed revealing the ground under our building is not sufficient for holding the weight of our existing eight column footings. The Water Department space was reorganized to allow for the installation of a fifty-two column shoring system, now totaling 60 columns currently supporting the building.

As a result of numerous issues with the Main Office Building and the space incapable of fully supporting daily operations, a Building Advisory Group has been formed to evaluate the housing needs of the District moving forward. The District will be prudent and financially responsible when considering future building options.

### **East Orchard Terrace Tank/**

#### **Glen Street Pumping Station Modifications:**

Engineering is ongoing to replace our mixer within our tank and establish a SCADA system to utilize for communication between the tank and the pump station. The existing 1980s era pulse duration equipment being utilized is phased out throughout the industry in addition to Verizon discontinuing the analog BANA line wires this equipment utilizes to communicate.

### **EPA LCR, LCRR, LCRI:**

Multiple new regulations have been created for lead and copper rule, it was revised, then the revision improved while still operating under the original rule with exceptions that seem to change irregularly. These ongoing changes have not only been time consuming to follow but costly as well. At the moment, Federal regulation will soon require

us to excavate all galvanize service line connections and 10% of copper services to take pictures to validate connections to the EPA. This will equate to approximately 540 excavations with undetermined costs at this time. Encumbering this expense to satisfy EPA changing mandates are having an impact on our ability to manage our local assets that need updating or replacement to continue to provide cost effective services to our customers.

**Plan, Policies and Procedures:**

As a Public Water System (PWS) we are required to keep several policies, plans and procedures up to date for compliance with MassDEP. This year we have been working on updating the following: Emergency Response Plan, Asset Management Plan, EPA Risk and Resilience Assessment (2nd round) and our Capital Improvement Plan.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone here that contributes to making the operations of the Adams Fire District a success - our

Administrative Department, Fire Department, Water Department, and Committee Members. We are few in numbers, but charged with a critical task of providing public service that requires 24/7 dedication.

Chairman Thomas Satko has decided to retire after 10 years of serving on our Committee, amounting to 50 years of public service to Adams. His wealth of knowledge was an asset to not only the District, but for me within my career as Superintendent. It has been my honor and pleasure to have the opportunity to work, learn, and absorb the knowledge he admirably shared with me in my own pursuit in serving Adams. Your presence will be missed here. I hope you enjoy your well-deserved time in retirement, thank you for all the sacrifices you have given to Adams.

Happy trails, Tom!

John C. Barrett  
Fire District Superintendent

# Record of Special Adams Fire District Meeting - March 18, 2025

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Pursuant to the foregoing warrant, the inhabitants of the Town of Adams qualified to vote in elections and Fire District affairs, met at 3 Columbia Street, Adams, MA 01220, the time therein mentioned.

Moderator Biros of the Adams Fire District called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. with 23 District voters.

**ARTICLE 1.** To see if the Fire District will vote to appropriate from available funds in the treasury, a sum of money for the installation of building support shoring for existing floor slab support, construction, and engineering, or take any other action in relation thereto.

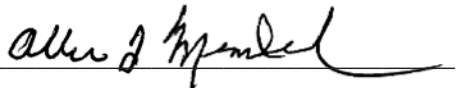
**RECOMMENDATION** We recommend that the Fire District vote to appropriate from surplus revenue, the sum of \$155,000.00, for the purpose stated above.

**VOTE** Upon motion made and duly seconded, the Fire District voters present unanimously voted to appropriate from surplus revenue, the sum of \$155,000.00, for the purpose stated above.

**ARTICLE 2.** To transact any other business that may legally come before said meeting.

**VOTE** There being no further business to come before said meeting, and upon motion made and duly seconded, it was unanimously voted that the meeting be dissolved, the time being 6:01 p.m.

A true record,

Attest; 

Allen J. Mendel  
Clerk & Acting Treasurer

# Record of Annual Fire District Meeting - May 13, 2025

Pursuant to the foregoing warrant, the inhabitants of the Town of Adams qualified to vote in elections and Fire District affairs, met at 3 Columbia Street, Adams, MA 01220, the times therein mentioned.

Allen J. Mendel, Clerk of the Adams Fire District, called the meeting to order at eleven forty-five a.m.

**ARTICLE 1.** To choose a Moderator to preside at said Meeting and all District Meetings until the next Annual Meeting.

The name of Ryan Biros was placed in nomination for the office of Moderator and duly seconded.

A motion to cease nominations was offered and seconded.

**VOTE THEREON BEING UNANIMOUS.**

On a voice vote, the ten (10) voters present unanimously elected Ryan Biros Moderator.

Ryan Biros was declared elected Moderator to preside at this meeting and all District meetings until the next Annual Meeting and was duly sworn to this office by the Fire District Clerk.

**ARTICLE 2.** To choose by ballot the following officer:

One Prudential Committee Member for a 3-year term

**ARTICLE 3.** To determine by ballot whether the position of elected Chief Engineer becomes an appointed Chief Engineer, effective July 1, 2025?

**ARTICLE 4.** To determine by ballot whether the positions of elected Assistant Engineers become appointed Assistant Engineers, effective July 1, 2025?

**ARTICLE 5.** To determine by ballot whether the position of elected Clerk and Treasurer becomes an appointed Clerk and Treasurer, effective July 1, 2025?

The election officers were duly sworn to office by the Fire District Clerk as follows:

<u>CHECKERS:</u>	
IN	OUT
Frances Oakes	Jean Kondej
Patricia Catelotti	Mary Ellen Sutliff
Janice Hayer	Frances Bassi

COUNTERS / TABULATORS:

Denise Sadlowski  
Barbara Lagowski

The ballot box was examined by Election worker Jean Kondej and Fire District Clerk and found to be in readiness. The keys to the ballot box were delivered to the Fire District Clerk.

The Fire District Clerk closed the District meeting at 11:47 a.m.

The Fire District Clerk officially opened the polls at 12:00 Noon and balloting commenced.

At 6:00 p.m., the Fire District Clerk declared the polls closed and the ballots were removed from the ballot box for counting.

Pursuant to the foregoing warrant, the inhabitants of the Town of Adams qualified to vote in Fire District affairs, met at the time and place therein mentioned on Tuesday, the thirteenth day of May 2025, to act upon the following articles.

The Moderator reopened the business meeting at 7:02 p.m., with forty-six (46) Fire District voters, iBerkshires reporter, Berkshire Eagle reporter and other members of the community present.

The ballots cast for the office and questions were sorted, counted, and recorded. The Fire District Moderator announced the results of the voting toward the end of the meeting as follows:

	VOTES CAST	VOTERS	ELIGIBLE VOTERS
Precinct 1	31	1,209	1,209
Precinct 2	34	1,314	1,277
Precinct 3	21	1,277	1,166
Precinct 4	29	1,256	1,120
Precinct 5	52	1,312	1,184
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>167</b>	<b>6,368</b>	<b>6,056</b>

Prudential Committee for Three Years

	<i>Total Votes Cast</i>
Blanks	21
Thomas A. Satko	145
<u>Write-Ins:</u>	1
	167

*The Moderator declared  
Thomas A. Satko elected  
Prudential Committee Member for a  
three-year term expiring in 2028.  
He was sworn to this office  
by the Fire District Clerk.*

To determine by ballot whether the position  
of elected Chief Engineer becomes an  
appointed Chief Engineer,  
effective July 1, 2025?

	<i>Total Votes Cast</i>
Blanks	1
Yes	81
No	85
	167

*The Moderator declared that  
the ballot question failed, and the  
position of elected Chief Engineer shall  
remain an elected Chief Engineer.*

To determine by ballot whether the positions  
of elected Assistant Engineers become  
appointed Assistant Engineers,  
effective July 1, 2025?

	<i>Total Votes Cast</i>
Blanks	1
Yes	81
No	85
	167

*The Moderator declared that  
the ballot question failed, and the  
positions of Assistant Engineers shall  
remain elected Assistant Engineers.*

To determine by ballot whether the position  
of elected Clerk and Treasurer becomes an  
appointed Clerk and Treasurer,  
effective July 1, 2025?

	<i>Total Votes Cast</i>
Blanks	1
Yes	81
No	85
	167

*The Moderator declared  
that the ballot question failed  
and the position of Clerk and Treasurer  
shall remain an elected Clerk and Treasurer.*

Moderator Biros stated that he would read all articles and if any voter wanted an article to be held for further discussion to please state so.

**ARTICLE 6.** To hear the report of the Prudential Committee and Officers, and act thereon.

**RECOMMENDATION** We recommend that the Fire District vote the Annual Report for the year 2024 as printed and distributed be accepted as the report of the Prudential Committee and Officers and placed on file.

**DISCUSSION** Catherine Foster inquired about being able to review the Annual report prior to voting on acceptance. At that time, the annual reports were handed out.

**ARTICLE 7.** To hear the report of any special committees and act thereon.

**RECOMMENDATION** We recommend that the Fire District vote to table this article as there are no special committee reports.

**ARTICLE 8.** To see if the Fire District will vote to fix the salary and compensation of all elective officers of the Fire District, as provided by Section 108 of Chapter 41 of the General Laws, as amended, and if any of said salary and compensation shall be increased:

- Prudential Committee
- Clerk and Treasurer
- Chief Engineer

or take any other action in relation thereto.

**RECOMMENDATION** We recommend that the Fire District vote to fix the annual salaries and/or compensation of its elected officials as hereinafter listed, effective July 1, 2025.

**Prudential Committee:**

Chairman	\$ 1,153.59
Member	865.20
Member	865.20
<b>Clerk and Treasurer</b>	<b>2,167.42</b>
<b>Chief Engineer</b>	<b>\$ 29,989.49</b>

**ARTICLE 9.** To see if the Fire District will vote to raise and appropriate from District Taxes, such sum or sums of money as may be necessary to defray the ordinary expenses of the Fire District’s General Fund for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026, and to pay interest and loans maturing during this period, or take any other action in relation thereto.

**RECOMMENDATION** We recommend that the Fire District vote to raise and appropriate from District Taxes, the sum of \$689,232.65 for the General Fund, for the several specific purposes hereinafter designated and that the same be expended only for such purposes, under the direction of the respective officers and committees of the District, as follows:

**GENERAL FUND**

**Administration**

Prudential Committee Salaries	\$ 865.20
Clerk and Treasurer’s Salary, Elected or Appointed	650.23
Bookkeeper’s Salary or Appointed Clerk and Treasurer	27,890.27
Fire District Office Wages	38,715.75
Fire District Office Wages - Overtime	600.00
Legal Services & Claims	3,000.00
Audit of District Accounts	8,490.00
Office Expense	15,946.38
Building Expense	10,927.00
Communications	2,305.16
Actuarial Valuation Services	675.00
	<hr/>
	<b>\$ 110,064.99</b>

**Fire Department**

Chief Engineer’s Salary, Elected or Appointed	\$ 29,989.49
Chief Engineer’s Expense	2,275.00
Fire Department Expense	65,350.00
Certifications and Inspections	22,000.00
Fire Alarm System Expense	400.00
Firefighters Compensation	94,000.00
Grants	12,000.00
Capital Expense	52,030.00
Hydrants	10,500.00
Maturing Debt	50,000.00
Interest on Maturing Debt	23,625.00
	<hr/>
	<b>\$ 362,169.49</b>

**Street Lighting**

Street Lighting	\$ 144,000.00
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**Employees Benefits**

Employees Group Insurance	\$ 18,468.51
Unemployment Compensation Insurance	300.00
Contributory Retirement System	18,455.19
	<hr/>
	<b>\$ 37,223.70</b>

**Insurance**

Insurance	\$ 35,774.47
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Catherine Foster requested to hold Article 9 for further discussion.

**ARTICLE 10.** To see if the Fire District will vote to raise and appropriate from District taxes, a sum of money for the Town of Adams support fee for fiscal year 2026, as provided by Section 108 of Chapter 41 of the General Laws, as amended, or take any other action in relation thereto.

**RECOMMENDATION** We recommend that the Fire District vote to raise and appropriate from District taxes, a sum of \$2,000.00 for the purpose stated above.

**ARTICLE 11.** To see if the Fire District will vote to raise and appropriate from water rates, such sum or sums of money as may be necessary to defray the ordinary expenses of the Fire District's Enterprise Fund for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026, and to pay interest and loans maturing during this period, or take any other action in relation thereto.

**RECOMMENDATION** We recommend that the Fire District vote to raise and appropriate from water rates, the sum of \$1,688,004.85 for the Enterprise Fund, for the several specific purposes hereinafter designated and that the same be expended only for such purposes, under the direction of the respective officers and committees of the District, as follows:

### **ENTERPRISE FUND**

#### Administration

Prudential Committee Salaries	\$ 2,018.79
Clerk and Treasurer's Salary, Elected or Appointed	1,517.19
Bookkeeper's Salary or Appointed Clerk and Treasurer	65,077.28
Fire District Office Wages	90,366.73
Fire District Office Wages - Overtime	1,400.00
Legal Services & Claims	7,000.00
Audit of District Accounts	19,810.00
Office Expense	37,208.18
Building Expense	25,623.00
Communications	5,378.71
Actuarial Valuation Services	1,575.00
Superintendent's Salary	107,757.68
Assistant Superintendent's Wages	83,514.48
	<b>\$ 448,247.04</b>

#### Water Department

Superintendent's Expense	\$ 1,700.00
Water Department Wages	187,038.36
Water Department Wages - Overtime	40,888.96
Water System Expense	168,600.00
Pumping Stations Expense	137,500.00
Road Machinery Expense	23,200.00
Water Department Clothing Allowance	4,150.00

Engineering Services	10,000.00
Maturing Debt	277,693.09
Interest on Maturing Debt	61,409.71
	<b>\$ 912,180.12</b>

#### Employees Benefits

Employees Group Insurance	\$ 139,145.51
Unemployment Compensation Insurance	600.00
Contributory Retirement System	145,590.81
	<b>\$ 285,336.32</b>

#### Insurance

Insurance	<b>\$ 42,271.37</b>
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**ARTICLE 12.** To see if the Fire District will vote to appropriate from available funds in the treasury, a sum of money to provide for extraordinary or unforeseen expenditures, to be known as the Reserve Fund, from which transfers may be made from time to time by vote of the Prudential Committee, or take any other action in relation thereto.

**RECOMMENDATION** We recommend that the Fire District vote to appropriate from Free Cash, the sum of \$40,000.00 for the Reserve Fund.

**ARTICLE 13.** To see if the Fire District will vote to appropriate from available funds in the treasury, and to be fully reimbursed by a Firefighter Safety Equipment Grant, a sum of money for firefighter safety equipment, or take any other action in relation thereto.

**RECOMMENDATION** We recommend that the Fire District vote to appropriate from Free Cash, and to be fully reimbursed by a Firefighter Safety Equipment Grant, the sum of \$15,500.00 for the purpose stated above.

**ARTICLE 14.** To see if the Fire District will vote to appropriate from available funds in the treasury, and to be fully reimbursed by a FEMA Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency (Safer) Grant, a sum of money for two full-time firefighters, or take any other action in relation thereto.

**RECOMMENDATION** We recommend that the Fire District vote to appropriate from Free Cash and to be fully reimbursed, a sum of \$190,563.82 for the purpose stated above.

**ARTICLE 15.** To see if the Fire District will vote to appropriate from available funds in the treasury, a sum of money for Engineering Services for the Glen Street Pumping Station Rehabilitation Design, or take any other action in relation thereto.

**RECOMMENDATION** We recommend that the Fire District vote to appropriate from Retained Earnings, a sum of \$62,000.00 for the purpose stated above.

**ARTICLE 16.** To see if the Fire District will vote to appropriate from available funds in the treasury, a sum of money for Engineering Services for the Installation of Permanent Column Replacement for the existing floor slab, or take any other action in relation thereto.

**RECOMMENDATION** We recommend that the Fire District vote to appropriate from Retained Earnings, the sum of \$75,000.00, for the purpose stated above.

**ARTICLE 17.** To see if the Fire District will vote to raise and appropriate from water rates, a sum of money for a Utility Truck for Water Department, or take any other action in relation thereto.

**RECOMMENDATION** We recommend that the Fire District vote to raise and appropriate from water rates, the sum of \$101,300.00, for the purpose stated above.

**ARTICLE 18.** To see if the Fire District will vote to raise and appropriate from water rates, a sum of money for the Cheshire Pilot, or take any other action in relation thereto.

**RECOMMENDATION** We recommend that the Fire District vote to raise and appropriate from water rates, the sum of \$17,000.00, for the purpose stated above.

**ARTICLE 19.** To see if the Fire District will vote to authorize the Prudential Committee to sell timber, from time to time, upon such terms and conditions as the Prudential Committee deems advisable, or take any other action in relation thereto.

**RECOMMENDATION** We recommend that the Fire District vote to approve this article, which will enable the Prudential Committee to continue with timber sales as designated in the “Forest Management Plan for the Adams Watershed.”

**VOTE** Upon motion made and duly seconded, the Fire District voters present unanimously voted to pass Article 6 through Article 8 and Article 10 through 19 as stated.

Article 9 was revisited for discussion.

**DISCUSSION** Catherine Foster asked why the District does not follow Proposition 2 ½ guidelines, and why taxes have increased over the last five years. It seems that money keeps being added to the retained earnings and District profit has increased to \$2,500,000.00.

Chairmen Satko stated per DOR the District is not limited under Proposition 2 ½. Per DOR, the District does not have taxing authority however though MGL CH 48, SS 73 the Town of Adams provides taxation support. The District does not complete the Tax Recap process due to the lack of taxing authority.

Catherine Foster asked if the town was allowing the District to collect too much. Chairman Satko indicated that due to a previous lawsuit, the District commits an amount to be collected to the Town, they assess it, collect the money, and pass it along. The District is allowed to collect more and put it into retain earnings for future projects. He stated that grants and SRF funding is drying up. The District is trying to keep up on infrastructure and needs to save money for this purpose. Catherine Foster questioned why District profits keep increasing.

Assistant Clerk & Treasurer Lassonde stated that the District’s certified free cash as of June 30, 2024, was \$883,147.00 and \$155,000.00 was approved

at a recent special meeting to be used from free cash, leaving a balance of \$728,147.00. The prior years free cash was \$1,018,347.00. This information is available on the DLS website.

Catherine Foster stated that the District collected an additional \$100,000.00 in taxes for FY24's General Fund. Bookkeeper Fletcher responded that the District collects only the amount needed to cover the budget and the tax rate is set based on that. The money is used for operating expenses, and any excess goes back to surplus revenue. Chairman Satko reiterated any excess goes back to surplus revenue for future projects, where upon Catherine Foster stated that money could be given back to the residents. Catherine Foster then requested to amend the article. Moderator Biros stated she could do so in writing with a one sentence amendment.

**AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE 9** To reduce the total amount of taxes collected by \$50,000.00; \$689,232.65 reduced to \$639,232.65.

**VOTE ON THE AMENDMENT** Upon motion made and duly seconded, the Fire District voters present voted by majority against the amendment.

**VOTE ON ARTICLE 9** Upon motion made and duly seconded, the Fire District voters present voted by majority to pass article 9 for the original amount of \$689,232.65.

**ARTICLE 20.** To see if the Fire District will vote, as authorized under MGL Chapter 41, Section 1B to change the position of Chief Engineer to an appointed position from an elected position, or take any action in relation thereto.

**RECOMMENDATION** We recommend that the Fire District vote to change the position of Chief Engineer to an appointed position from an elected position, as authorized under MGL Chapter 41, Section 1B.

**VOTE** Upon motion made and duly seconded, the Fire District voters present voted by majority to pass Article 20 as stated.

**ARTICLE 21.** To see if the Fire District will vote, as authorized under MGL Chapter 41, Section 1B to change the positions of Assistant Engineers to appointed positions from an elected positions, or take any action in relation thereto.

**RECOMMENDATION** We recommend that the Fire District vote to change the positions of the Assistant Engineers to appointed positions from elected positions, as authorized under MGL Chapter 41, Section 1B.

**VOTE** Upon motion made and duly seconded, the Fire District voters present voted by majority to pass Article 21 as stated.

**ARTICLE 22.** To see if the Fire District will vote, as authorized under MGL Chapter 41, Section 1B to change the position of Clerk and Treasurer to an appointed position from an elected position, or take any action in relation thereto.

**RECOMMENDATION** We recommend that the Fire District vote to change the position of Clerk and Treasurer to an appointed position from an elected position, as authorized under MGL Chapter 41, Section 1B.

**DISCUSSION** Mike Therrien asked what is the term for this position? It was indicated that it is a three-year term.

**VOTE** Upon motion made and duly seconded, the Fire District voters present voted by majority to pass Article 22 as stated.

**ARTICLE 24.** To see if District voters will authorize the position of an appointed Chief Engineer to become a full-time paid position as of July 1, 2026.

**RECOMMENDATION** We recommend that the Fire District vote to authorize the position of an appointed Chief Engineer to become a full-time paid position as of July 1, 2026.

**VOTE** Upon motion made and duly seconded, the Fire District voters present voted by majority to pass Article 24 as stated.

Moderator Biros announced the election results, previously recorded. Due to the failure of the questions on the ballot, the votes taken for Articles 20, 21, 22 and 24 were invalidated and therefore did not pass.

**ARTICLE 23.** To see if the Fire District will vote to amend Article II of the District's By-laws, to be effective July 1, 2025, which shall read as follows:

## ARTICLE II

### Officers

- Section 1.** The officers of the Adams Fire District shall consist of an elected Prudential Committee consisting of three (3) persons, plus the following officers who shall be appointed by the Prudential Committee: one (1) Clerk and Treasurer; one (1) Chief Engineer (also known as Fire Chief); and up to four (4) Assistant Engineers (also known as Assistant Chiefs and/or Deputy Chiefs).
- Section 2.** The term of office of the members of the Prudential Committee shall be three (3) years, with such members to serve staggered terms, such that one such member shall be elected each year. All persons seeking such office shall be legal voters of the Town of Adams residing within the District.
- Section 3.** The term of office of the Clerk and Treasurer, Chief Engineer, and the Four Assistant Engineers, shall be three (3) years.
- Section 4.** All officials shall hold office until their successors are chosen and qualified.
- Section 5.** Vacancies occurring in the office of the Prudential Committee may be filled by written ballot at any legal meeting of the Fire District called for that purpose, and the person elected to fill that vacancy shall do so for the balance of the unexpired term.

In the event a vacancy occurs in the offices of the Clerk and Treasurer or Chief Engineer, or if they are temporarily prevented from performing their duties, the Prudential Committee shall, in writing, appoint an acting Officer to fill the vacancy for the balance of the unexpired term. The acting Clerk and Treasurer shall give bond in a like manner as the appointed Clerk and Treasurer.

In the event a vacancy occurs in an office of an Assistant Engineer, the Prudential Committee may, in writing, appoint an acting Officer to fill the vacancy for the balance of the unexpired term.

**Section 6.** The officers of the District shall respectively receive for their services such compensation as the District may determine at any Annual Meeting.

Or take any other action in relation thereto.

### AMENDMENT TO RECOMMENDATION

A motion to amend the Committee recommendation to not change the bylaws was made due to the election results, seconded, passed, 2-0,1 abstention.

**RECOMMENDATION** We recommend that the Fire District vote not to amend the Bylaws of the Adams Fire District as stated above.

**VOTE** Upon motion made and duly seconded, the Fire District voters present unanimously voted to not change the District by-law.

**ARTICLE 25.** To transact any other business that may legally come before said meeting.

**VOTE** There being no further business to come before said meeting, and upon motion made and duly seconded, it was unanimously voted that the meeting be dissolved, the time being 7:48 p.m.

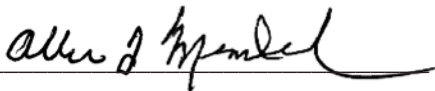
SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDED APPROPRIATIONS

	To be raised by District Revenue	To be raised by Taxation	Free Cash	Free Cash Fully Reimburse	Retained Earnings
Article 9		\$ 689,232.65			
Article 10		2,000.00			
Article 11	\$ 1,688,004.85				
Article 12			\$ 40,000.00		
Article 13				\$ 15,500.00	
Article 14				190,563.82	
Article 15					\$ 62,000.00
Article 16					75,000.00
Article 17	101,300.00				
Article 18	\$17,000.00				
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$ 1,806,304.85</b>	<b>\$ 691,232.65</b>	<b>\$ 40,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 206,063.82</b>	<b>\$ 137,000.00</b>

Total Voted Fiscal Year 2026 Budget:

\$ 2,880,601.32

A true record:

Attest 

Allen J. Mendel  
Fire District Clerk

# Specimen Ballot for the Adams Fire District - Tuesday, May 13, 2025

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**OFFICIAL BALLOT**

**FOR THE**

**ADAMS FIRE DISTRICT**

**TUESDAY, MAY 15, 2025**



**CLERK OF ADAMS FIRE DISTRICT**

**To Vote, Mark a Cross  in Space at right**

Prudential Committee for Three Years	Vote for One
<b>THOMAS A. SATKO</b>	Candidate for Election 57 Melrose Street
WRITE IN	

**Warrant Article 3:**

Shall the position of elected Chief Engineer become an appointed Chief Engineer, effective July 1, 2025?

Yes  No

By choosing YES, the Adams Fire District Bylaws shall be amended to remove the provision which requires the Chief Engineer shall be elected by the voters, and instead shall be appointed by the Prudential Committee for a 3 year term. The current Chief Engineer will hold the office until their term expires or the office is vacated.

By choosing NO, the Adams Fire District Bylaws shall remain the same and the position of the Chief Engineer shall be elected by the District voters for a 3 year term.

**Warrant Article 4:**

Shall the positions of elected Assistant Engineers become appointed Assistant Engineers, effective July 1, 2025?

Yes  No

By choosing YES, the Adams Fire District Bylaws shall be amended to remove the provision which requires the Assistant Engineers shall be elected by the voters, and instead shall be appointed by the Prudential Committee for a 3 year term. The current Assistant Engineers will hold their office until their term expires or the office is vacated.

By choosing NO, the Adams Fire District Bylaws shall remain the same and the positions of the Assistant Engineers shall be elected by the District voters for a 3 year term.

**Warrant Article 5:**

Shall the position of elected Clerk and Treasurer become an appointed Clerk and Treasurer, effective July 1, 2025?

Yes  No

By choosing YES, the Adams Fire District Bylaws shall be amended to remove the provision which requires the Clerk and Treasurer shall be elected by the voters, and instead shall be appointed by the Prudential Committee for a 3 year term. The current Clerk and Treasurer will hold the office until their term expires or the office is vacated.

By choosing NO, the Adams Fire District Bylaws shall remain the same and the position of the Clerk and Treasurer shall be elected by the District voters for a 3 year term.





# TIPS FOR SAVING WATER

When in Drought or Not – Please Do Your Part!



OUTDOOR WATER USE



## 1 LIMIT LAWN WATERING, ESPECIALLY DURING A DROUGHT<sup>1</sup>

Lawns naturally go dormant during dry conditions. They'll revive when conditions improve.

- If you are in a region at Drought Level 3, **Critical Drought** (Severe Drought Conditions) or Drought Level 4, **Emergency Drought**: Do not water your lawn.
- If you are in a region at Drought Level 2, **Significant Drought** (Moderate to Severe Drought): Limit watering to hand-held only or drip irrigation. Water after 5PM or before 9AM to avoid evaporative losses.
- If you are in a region at Drought Level 1, **Mild Drought** (Abnormally Dry Conditions): Limit watering to 1 day per week at most. Water after 5PM or before 9AM.



## 2 MINIMIZE LANDSCAPE WATER NEEDS THROUGH WATER-SMART LANDSCAPING PRINCIPLES<sup>2</sup>

- Maintain healthy soils (a minimum of 6-inches in depth, where possible).
- Choose native plants or plants and turf that need less water.
- Use mulch to reduce evaporation and moderate soil temperature.
- Leave grass clippings on lawn to shade and return nutrients to soil.



## 3 MINIMIZE YOUR USE OF WATER OUTDOORS

- Sweep driveways, walks, patios, and other outdoor areas with a broom rather than hosing them off.
- Wash vehicles using a bucket and sponge, employing a hose with a shut-off nozzle for rinse only, or, if available, use a commercial car wash that recycles water (most do).
- Cover swimming pools when not in use to prevent evaporation.

INDOOR WATER USE



1. Choose high-efficiency plumbing products and appliances (look for the WaterSense or Energy Star labels).



5. Fix leaks! Dripping faucets and leaking toilets, pipes, and appliances can add up to hundreds of gallons of water lost per week.



2. Turn off water while brushing teeth or shaving: "Never Let the Water Run."



6. Create a kitchen compost bin instead of using the garbage disposal.



3. Take shorter showers (5 minutes or less) and use water-saving showerheads.



7. Collect and reuse clean household water (water running while you wait for hot water to reach your faucet or shower; leftover water from cooking, etc.) and use this to water plants.



4. Wash only full loads of laundry and dishes.

<sup>1</sup> Certain water uses are not subject to mandatory restrictions, such as water used: for health or safety reasons; for the production of food and fiber; for the maintenance of livestock; to meet the core functions of a business (for example, irrigation by plant nurseries as necessary to maintain stock).

<sup>2</sup> Adapted from Water-Smart Landscapes Start with WaterSense (EPA WaterSense)

To check your drought region and status go to:  
[mass.gov/ma-drought-management](https://mass.gov/ma-drought-management)



[mass.gov/conservemawater](https://mass.gov/conservemawater)