Our Department of Public Works is one of Weston’s hardest working departments. Under the Director of Operations and throughout every Division, several programs have been implemented to protect our infrastructure and capital investments, our natural and environmental assets, and our tax dollars. From coordinating and working with utility companies, sharing and repurposing resources, establishing road maintenance programs, rehabilitating drainage and water mains, adhering to best practices in water service, increasing recycling opportunities, and taking a complete inventory of the trees in the Town's right-of-way, the Department is living up to its mission.

Section 4: Department of Public Works
REPORT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

Mission Statement
The mission of the Town of Weston’s Department of Public Works is:

- To construct and maintain the physical infrastructure that provides for the public’s health and safety;
- To protect the environment;
- To enhance the quality of life, and to ensure that Weston continues to be a desirable place in which to live and conduct business.

The mission of the Department will be accomplished through an equitable and cost-effective delivery of the following services and products:

Activities to ensure community health and protect the environment:
- provision of water
- drainage of surface water
- street sweeping of roadways
- disposal of waste refuse
- recycling of waste
- composting of leaves and yard waste
- maintaining of parks, cemeteries and recreation areas

Activities to provide for the safety of pedestrians and motorists:
- construction and maintenance of roads and sidewalks
- provision of street signs, traffic signals, and pavement markings
- response to wind and rain emergency events to clear roadways and drainage infrastructure
- sanding/de-icing, plowing, and removal of snow

Public Works Administration
The Administration is responsible for the budgeting, planning, construction, maintenance and overall management of the entire scope of services provided to the citizens of Weston by this Department. The success of the Department would not occur without the talent and commitment that exists within its workforce, the support and guidance that is provided by the Town Manager and Board of Selectmen, and the cooperation that exists between Town departments.

Snow and Ice Operations
The management of snow and ice operations is considered one of the most important functions of the Department. During the winter of 2017-2018, the Town of Weston received approximately 85 inches of snow. The season’s largest snow event occurred during Tuesday, March 13th to Wednesday, March 14th in which Weston received in excess of 28 inches of snow. The winter snow operations included eight major plowing events, two scraping events, 41 road de-icing events, and three spot de-icing events while expending $784,666 to keep the Town’s roads and walkways safe.

Construction Projects
Road Paving – Reconstruction projects completed during the 2018 paving season were:
- Summer Street, just north of Robin Road to River Road
- Old Summer Road
- Perry Lane
- Sutton Place
- Conant Road, from Woodward Lane to Church Street
- Aspen Road
- Juniper Road
- Cherry Brook Road, from Juniper Road to approximately house no. 50
- Concord Road, from Merriam Street to Sudbury Road
- Glen Road, from Shady Hill Road to the Cliff Road/Oak Street intersection, including the Glen Road intersection
- Winter Street, from South Avenue to Brown Street
- Highland Street, from approximately Pine Street to South Avenue
- Fairview Road
- Montvale Road, from house no. 45 to house no. 62
- the public works building lot area, where the temporary Police Station was housed; and
- a small area of the parking lot of the Police Department

The above-mentioned resurfacing work amounted to approximately 4.8 miles of Town roadway and approximately 7,430 square yards of parking lot.

Gas main replacements - As part of the Town’s collaboration and coordination with National Grid on the Town’s roadway paving and the utility company’s gas main replacements, the 2018 construction season included gas main replacements within Glen Road, from Wellesley Street to the Cliff Road/Oak Street intersection, and a portion of Newton Street, from Wellesley Street to just south of Ash Street. National Grid experienced a labor strike this year, which halted the completion of the work within Newton Street, Gail Road, Pembroke Road, Wellesley Street, from house nos. 669 to 654, and Concord Road, from house nos. 1 to 81. Those replacements are anticipated to take place during the spring of 2019.

Sidewalk Reconstructions and Construction – A small section of sidewalk was reconstructed on Highland Street to facilitate capturing stormwater in a closed system versus flowing into private properties. While two sections of Merriam Street and the whole of Warren Avenue were under design during the 2018 construction season.

Guardrail Replacement – No guardrails were replaced this year due to the time taken by the Planning Board to review the aesthetics of available materials. The Planning Board submitted its report to the Board of Selectmen late in 2016 and the Public Works Director is reviewing it against the list of needed replacements.

Drainage Rehabilitation – Phase 1 of a three-phase drainage project was constructed in 2018 for Newton Street at/about Ash Street. The Highland Street Drainage Project, from Pine Street to Winter Street, and the Fairview Road/Montvale Road Drainage Project were completed this construction season. The drainage project at 83 Loring Road is ongoing and anticipated to be completed in early 2019. Several other drainage projects were also
completed during the season and in conjunction with the roadway reconstruction program: Summer Street; Cherry Brook Road; Winter Street; Conant Road at Church Street; and Oak Street. Additionally, work continued on Phase II of the multi-phase Southside Drainage Improvement Project by securing easements and obtaining required permits.

**Water Main Replacements** – The following projects were constructed during the 2018 construction season: Columbine Road / Dean Road, from Ridgeway Road to Old Colony Road, and Chiltern Road, from Ridgeway Road to Oxbow Road. The scope of the projects included the replacement of the existing hydrants and water services within the project limits. Approximately 3,132 linear feet of 8-inch, cement-lined ductile iron water main will replace the existing 6-inch transite water main.

**Hydrant Replacements and/or Rehabilitation** - 13 new fire hydrants were installed to replace older hydrants and four existing hydrants were rehabilitated to modern.

**Tree Inventory, Assessment, and Recommendation** – the second phase of a multi-year project was completed over August through October. Over 5,000 public right-of-way trees were inventoried and assessed. The contractor provided recommended actions and the Highway Division is overseeing this project. One more year is anticipated in order to complete the inventory process. So far, over 10,000 trees have been inventoried.

The following divisional reports contain our accomplishments for the year:

**REPORT OF THE ENGINEERING DIVISION**

The Engineering Division is responsible for the implementation of the Capital Improvements Program for the Department of Public Works, including water, roadway, and drainage system improvements consistent with the mission of the Public Works Department; implementation of the Geographic Information Systems (GIS) program; and assistance to various other departments and boards. This division consists of the Town Engineer, the Assistant Town Engineer / Stormwater Engineer, and the Capital Projects Engineer.

Drainage and Water Capital Improvement projects constructed in 2018 are listed in the Report of the Department of Public Works, above. These projects were designed in-house and construction oversight was provided by Engineering staff.

The Cook’s Pond Dam Improvements and the Paine’s Hill Telemetry Building were constructed in 2018 under the supervision of Engineering staff.

Ongoing design and planning projects include:
- Southside Drainage Project Phase II, including easement coordination
- Drainage and roadway improvements for Newton Street
- Drainage improvements in the Westland Road/Merriam Street area
- Merriam Street and Warren Avenue sidewalks
- Preparation and submittal of Notice of Intent to the Environmental Protection Agency and the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection for coverage under the Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) program based on regulations promulgated in July 2018
- Route 20 at Wellesley Street intersection, under design by a consultant. Construction is anticipated to be funded in a future year by the Massachusetts Department of Transportation
• Route 30 Corridor Improvements, from the Wayland line to the state layout near Route 95, which is under design by a consultant. Construction is anticipated to be funded in a future year by the Massachusetts Department of Transportation
• Relocation of the generator for the Black Oak Pumping Station

Other activities and ongoing projects include:
• Working with and advising the Traffic and Sidewalk Committee (see separate report)
• Oversight of the environmental monitoring at the former landfill
• Stormwater Permitting Authority (see separate report)
• Technical review of petitions for Grants of Location from the utility companies National Grid and Eversource
• Provision of official maps and records of the Town to the public as requested

REPORT OF THE HIGHWAY DIVISION

The Highway Division is responsible for the maintenance and care of the roads and sidewalks in Town as well as all street signage, guardrails, and pavement markings. We also perform roadside and island cutting, trimming, and mowing. As always in addition to the projects listed below, the Highway Division maintains safe road and sidewalk conditions to the best of our ability, year round. Responding to calls day or night, seven days a week. The six individuals that make up this division accomplished the following projects in 2018:

Road Construction
Road preparation and supervision for the full-depth reclamation, grading, and paving of:

• Summer Street, from house no. 50 to River Road
• Perry Lane
• Sutton Place
• Cherry Brook Road, from house no. 150 to the end
• Aspen Road
• Juniper Road
• the back lot of the Public Works facility
• Montvale Road, from house nos. 45 to 59, and
• Fairview Road

Signage installation and necessary pavement marking improvements followed the road work. Pavement work totaled 16,190 tons of asphalt, as compared to 9,495 tons in 2017.
Road Maintenance
Through the skin overlay technique, a process that adds a smoother drivability factor to road surfaces that have reached or gone beyond its serviceable life, this division installed 759 tons of asphalt, as compared to 661 tons in 2017.

The cold patching technique was again employed this year. This process provides a temporary repair to larger potholes in the road surface. A total of 388 locations received this treatment, as compared to 804 in the previous year. This represents a 51 percent reduction due to the skin overlay process and various roadway reconstruction projects.

Additional Division Work
- Supervised, performed, and/or assisted, as necessary, stone wall repairs at:
  - 111 Bradford Road
  - the headwall at the High School
  - 375 Highland Street
  - School Street at Weston Public Library and Scout House property
  - School Street at Maple Road (the recreation field)
  - 33 Winter Street
  - 120 Summer Street
- Installed 120 yards of loam, compared to 90 yards in 2017. This is for roadway shoulder erosion repairs, winter storm damage, or finish work from paving projects
- In-house training programs were initiated this year for basic wood chipper operation, work zone safety, and basic sander operation. These programs were developed in response to seasoned employees reporting the need for a refresher of various aspects of these operations
- Oversaw the tree contractor in the removal of 115 trees, as compared to 38 in 2017. The increase can be attributed to two nor’easter snowstorms in March and an increased number of high-wind storms throughout the year. Most of the extensive damage was caused to dead/dying trees, most of which were confirmed through the Tree Inventory Program
- Responded to 353 tree service calls, as compared to 245 in 2017. The work consisted of removing fallen trees from roadways and/or sidewalks from storm damage. These calls vary in time and day
- Renovated the island on Brenton Road, which involved the removal of the expired landscape, area regrading, loam installation, and seeding to establish new growth
- Responded to 12 calls to remove the remains of a deceased deer, typically caused by a motor vehicle accident. These calls vary in time and day
- There were 148 signage and/or mailbox calls for service as compared to 101 in 2017. The majority was for the repair and maintenance of traffic and roadway signage
- Responded to two calls for service on traffic signals that had failed, as compared to 5 in 2017
- Responded to 157 calls of miscellaneous issues, as compared to 203 last year. These calls tend to consist of illegal signage, flooding, roadway debris, spillage cleanup, illegal dumping, snow drifts, sight distance issues, deicing, and assisting motorists
Winter Operations Statistics (outside of regular operations)

- 44 de-icing, a decrease from 45 in 2017
- Six full or general plowing, a decrease from 12 during last year
- Two Department-only plowing, as compared to six in 2017
- Two snow removals, one more than the previous year
- The amount of salt material used this year was 3,184 tons, which is less than the 3,970 tons, or 20 percent, due to one less operation
- This was the first full season of the Liquid Deicer Program, which used 5,500 gallons

The Liquid Deicer Program uses Pro Melt 1000, which is a magnesium chloride that combines a sustainable animal by-product solution. It is environmentally friendly and has no human or fire hazard factor. A rust inhibitor is added to protect vehicles, especially the application and emergency vehicles. Pro Melt 1000 has an 8 percent corrosion factor, which is significantly less than the formerly-used calcium chloride of 121 percent. The environmental friendliness, the lower corrosion factor, and pre-wetting the salt material as it is applied is proving to be a winning combination for the operation of Weston’s roadway safety.

Work with Public Work Divisions

Stormwater Division

- Worked together to calibrate all truck-mounted sanders. This is an annual process that allows the Department greater efficiency and control of its solid and liquid deicing materials and the wear and tear on a particular unit
- Worked to rebuild, repair, procure, deliver, and/or replace 205 existing drainage structures prior to the road reconstruction and other drainage structure repairs or replacements
- Prepared, supervised, and assisted the Stormwater Division and the contractor, as needed, for the drainage installation and improvements at
  - Summit Road
  - Perry Lane
  - Montvale Road
  - Fairview Road
  - Summer Street
  - Aspen Road
  - Cherry Brook Road, and
  - Juniper Road

Water Division

- Worked on the installation of new, upgraded water services, new hydrants, and replacement hydrants, as needed
- Assisted with emergency water breaks and scheduled fire hydrant replacements

Engineering Division

- Provided the oversight of the contractor installing new and refurbished road surface markings. The Highway Division oversaw the removal of 25,500 linear feet of traffic lines that were faded, damaged, or had reached the end of its life cycle. This newly-initiated road marking program called for the installation of 92,405 linear feet of epoxy traffic lines
• Assisted with year two of the roadway crack sealing program. This year 2,336 gallons of material was applied

Public Works Administration
• Working with the Conservation Department, as well, implemented and oversaw the second year of the successful Vegetative Management Program

Vehicle Maintenance Division
• Resurrected and made operational an all-steel wood chip box for the small dump trucks. This unit was out of service for many years because the vehicle it was designed for was replaced. The wood chip box was retro-fit to be used on any of the small dump trucks in the fleet

REPORT OF THE PARKS AND CEMETERIES DIVISION

The primary responsibility of the Park and Cemetery staff is the care, maintenance, and operation of the Town’s parks and cemeteries. This includes planning funeral arrangements with residents, carrying out interment and committal services, and tending to the perpetual care of the landscape. Staff within this division maintains the four cemeteries and 24 municipal locations including multiple scenic parks, the Town Green, and the grounds at many municipal buildings.

Cemeteries
Linwood Cemetery sits on 35 acres of rolling terrain, winding paths, native shrubs, specimen trees, and is a well-maintained example of the park-like, romantic style cemetery that became popular in the late 19th century. Dating from 1873, it is Weston’s largest and only active burial ground. This Division is committed to providing exceptional service to the residents of Weston and their families in guiding them through the daunting and often emotionally challenging process of selecting burial plots, making funeral arrangements, and carrying out committal services. It is our goal to help people get through one of the most difficult periods in their lives and ensure that when a family comes to Linwood Cemetery their experience is as pleasant and as well managed as possible.

The Division’s fiscal year 2018 statistics are as follows:
- Interments – 62
- Casketed - 32
- Cremation – 30
- Interment Fees Collected - $34,700

Lot Sale and Fees Collected:
- Lots Sold - 24
- Perpetual Care Trust Fund - $22,780
- Sale of Lots Fund – $34,170
- Town Clerk Recording Fees - $120

Memorials:
- Monuments – 16
- Foot Markers - 13
- Fees Collected - $8072.50

Total Cemetery Revenue - $99,842.50
Parks and Open Spaces
The 2018 Arbor Day activities included the planting of three native trees that were donated by the Eversource utility company. Two trees were planted in Case Park, a sourwood and a red oak, and a third tree, a red oak, was planted at the Field School by the Class of 2025. Weston has been honored by the Tree City U.S.A. award from the Arbor Day Foundation for 15 consecutive years.

The Town Green continues to be the center stage for many community events such as the High School Graduation, Pumpkin Fest, and Spring Fling; the Weston Community Children’s Association Winterfest and Summer Kick-off; the Recreation Department’s Annual Egg Hunt, Summer Concert Series, and Ice Cream Social; and Friday Night Flicks, co-sponsored by the Weston Public Library and Weston Media Center. A new event this year was the inauguration of the Winter Festival, a community-building event hosted by the Women’s Community League of Weston. This event brought together several Weston organizations on the Town Green and in Town Hall for winter and holiday merriment, which culminated in a tree-lighting and Christmas caroling on the steps of Town Hall. This promises to be a tradition in the making.

The Weston Garden Club, as they have been doing for many years, placed wonderful hand-made Christmas wreaths on municipal buildings and Town offices. Members of the Garden Club take cuttings from evergreen shrubs around town and make each wreath individually. This same group is also responsible for the beautiful and seasonal displays at the historic watering trough in the center of town.

We would again like to thank all of the many Garden Club members, traffic island sponsors, and other residents who donate their time and knowledge towards the betterment of our public open spaces. The Town continues to benefit from this sense of community pride and spirit. There are many unseen hands involved in the planting, care, and watering of the trees, gardens, planters, and landscaped areas around town.

REPORT OF THE STORMWATER DIVISION

The Stormwater Division is responsible for the maintenance of the Town’s storm drains and waterways. This division is made up of three individuals whose focus is promoting Stormwater Management as prescribed by the Environmental Protection Agency. Areas of attention include street sweeping, catch basin cleaning, repairs to catch basins and drainage systems, and the clearing of brush and debris from brooks, streams, and waterways.

2018 Operational Highlights
• Repaired, rebuilt, and or replaced 78 existing drainage structures on Town roadways, as compared to 62 in 2017
• Repaired, rebuilt, and or replaced seven existing drainage culvert or pipes on Town roadways, as compared to six
• Installed new drainage structures with pertinent pipe at 120 and 217 Summer Street, 156 Cherry Brook Road, and 157 Oak Street
• Repaired, rebuilt, jet cleaned, and recorded video of five dormant drain structure and pipeline locations for placement back into service. These were areas previously thought to be unserviceable
• Pipe cleaning (jetting) and inspection of existing drainage issues for repairs at 10 locations, as compared to seven in 2017
• Responded to all snow and ice emergencies, as well as all reports of flooding in the Town. Considerable time was devoted to outstanding problematic areas and improvements to existing systems functions
• Swept 92 miles of roadway in town with many of the roads, such as problematic low areas, Town Center, and the main roads, schools, and public buildings being swept multiple times during the course of the year. Approximately 253 yards of material was collected, tested, and prepared for disposal, as compared to 400 yards in 2017
• Acquired 66 Dig Safe permits for various repair operations, as compared to 90 in 2017

Work with Other Divisions
Engineering Division
• Provided video assistance on existing drainage systems for the roads scheduled to be reconstructed or repaved
• Assisted with problematic drainage issues throughout the town. Engineering coordinated hired contractors to complete the required installations or repairs while Stormwater helped with the investigation of the problems and assisting during the construction, as needed
• Assisted the Stormwater Engineer with oversight and miscellaneous small projects with a contractor to clean debris from 1,659 catch basins, as compared to 1,338 in 2017
• Worked with the Health and Conservation departments to eliminate stormwater, wetland and pollution problems, which includes the installation of all work area erosion and runoff controls, to meet water quality standards
• Worked with the Conservation Department to improve drainage and stormwater quality units’ operations

Highway Division
• Prepared and executed the full-depth reclamation, grading, and paving of Summer Street, from house no. 50 to River Road; Perry Lane; Sutton Place; Cherry Brook Road, from house no. 150 to the end; Aspen Road; Juniper Road; the back lot of the Public Works facility; Montvale Road, from house nos. 45 to 59; and Fairview Road
• Created and installed the Department’s refurbished wood chip box for the small dump trucks
• Regularly assisted during emergencies and day to day operations, including the Road Resurfacing Program, tree emergencies, trucking, preparations for the winter season, etc.

Water Division
• Installed new upgraded water services, new hydrants, and replacement hydrants as needed on the Capital Roadway Program
• Assisted with the emergency water breaks and scheduled fire hydrant replacements
REPORT OF THE SOLID WASTE AND RECYCLING DIVISION

The Solid Waste and Recycling Division provides for the disposal of solid waste, as well as for recycling and reuse opportunities for residents at the Weston Transfer Station.

In 2018, Weston averaged .96 tons of solid waste per household, which is a slight decrease from recent years. This year also saw the recycling rate increase over the last few years. Recycling generated $21,411 in revenue and saved a total of $116,557 in avoided disposal costs. It not only helps to protect and preserve our environment but also reflects substantial cost savings to the Town. The Board of Selectmen has identified decreasing the average tons of solid waste per household as a top priority for the Town of Weston and the Division is working through active education and increased recycling opportunities to help meet this goal over the coming years.

The Solid Waste and Recycling Division increased educational outreach to residents by adding new signage around the Transfer Station, as well as writing articles and creating videos to help make recycling easier for citizens. In addition to providing educational information, the articles and videos also asked residents to find one item that is not a part of their regular household recycling practices and to add a new item to their recycling habits. These articles and videos were published through Town communication channels, the Town’s website at Weston.org/RSW, the local paper, and Weston Media Center.

Furthermore, the Division provided additional recycling opportunities to provide income back to Weston’s recycling program, such as:
- Weston Textiles bins, which provided a $100 dividend to the recycling program for every ton of textiles recycled
- A collection bin for 5 cent refundable glass bottles, which not only saved on the cost to recycle glass by keeping it out of that stream, the collected redemption money brought in additional income to the recycling program
- A scrap wood collection bin, to keep that weight out of the solid waste stream
- A bin for bulky plastic, to keep it separate from solid waste
- A dedicated bin for aluminum, which is worth more as scrap than mixed in with other metals, so it provided extra income to the program

These new collection areas are in addition to the established efforts to assist residents to recycle more, which include:
- Residential yard waste (brush, leaves, grass and other yard trimmings)
- Glass containers
- Newspaper, mixed paper, cardboard
- All metals and tin cans
- Plastic
- Televisions, computer monitors, and electronic components
- Fluorescent light bulbs, rechargeable batteries, and mercury-containing components
- Reusable household goods, books, and bicycles for charities, as well as the Swap Shed

Weston High School students volunteering at the transfer station
The removal of these items from the solid waste stream will result in a continued reduction of expenditures on Solid Waste and Recycling operations as well as aiding us in our goal for a cleaner and healthier environment. A complete list of all of the items that are accepted for recycling can be found on the Town’s website and the annual permit mailing. Residents who do not use the Transfer Station to dispose of household solid waste can obtain a recycling permit in order to take advantage of the recycling and reuse opportunities offered at the Transfer Station. Everyone who participates in Weston’s recycling program helps clean-up our environment and helps keep Transfer Station costs down.

Weston’s annual Household Hazardous Waste Day was held on April 7th and it was a huge success. Over 250 residents brought about 1,755 pounds of waste to the Public Works facility so these items could be disposed of responsibly.

The Solid Waste and Recycling Division is continuing its initiative to collect recyclable products from municipal and school buildings and process them through the Transfer Station. By doing so, we help ensure these materials are removed from the solid waste stream and processed according to Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection regulations, as well as lowering overall disposal costs and increasing the Town’s recycling rate.

**Fiscal Year 2018 Solid Waste and Recycling Numbers by Comparison:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>FY18 (+/- from previous FY)</th>
<th>FY17 (+/- from previous FY)</th>
<th>FY16 (+/- from previous FY)</th>
<th>FY15 (+/- from previous FY)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Annual Recycling Rate</td>
<td>50.83%</td>
<td>47.48%</td>
<td>45.96%</td>
<td>45.74%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recycling Rate Excluding Yard Waste</td>
<td>37.17%</td>
<td>34.15%</td>
<td>32.58%</td>
<td>33.69%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average Cost to Process Recycled Product</td>
<td>$27.73/ton (- $5.56)</td>
<td>$28.29/ton (- $8.27)</td>
<td>$36.56/ton (+ $4.85)</td>
<td>$31.71/ton (+ $5.14)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average Cost to Process Solid Waste</td>
<td>$100.99/ton (-$1.17)</td>
<td>$102.16/ton (+$2.87)</td>
<td>99.29/ton (-$5.16)</td>
<td>$104.42/ton (-$2.18)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overall Processing Cost of Solid Waste and Recycling</td>
<td>$63.36/ton (-$1.57)</td>
<td>$64.93/ton (-$5.53)</td>
<td>$70.46/ton (-$0.70)</td>
<td>$71.16/ton (-$1.90)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Tons of Recycling Material</td>
<td>1,591</td>
<td>1,565</td>
<td>1,440</td>
<td>1,469</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Tons of Solid Waste</td>
<td>1,540</td>
<td>1,730</td>
<td>1,693</td>
<td>1,742</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Tons of Materials Processed</td>
<td>3,137</td>
<td>3,295</td>
<td>3,313</td>
<td>3,211</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recycling Revenue Generated</td>
<td>$21,411</td>
<td>$19,417</td>
<td>$8,742</td>
<td>$11,019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recycling Savings (Avoided Disposal Costs)</td>
<td>$116,557</td>
<td>$115,606</td>
<td>$90,331</td>
<td>$106,804</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Revenue for Fiscal Year 2018**

- Resident Permit Sales: $333,890.50
- Commercial Haulers: $847.69
- Recycling Proceeds: $21,411.22
- Total Solid Waste and Recycling Revenue: $356,149.41
REPORT OF THE TREE WARDEN

The role and powers of a Tree Warden are defined under Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 87, Sections 1-13 and is more commonly referred to as The “Public Shade Tree Act.” The Tree Warden is responsible for the care and protection of public shade trees including the identification and removal of hazardous trees within the public right-of-way. The Tree Warden also serves as an advisor to the Tree Advisory Group.

The Tree Warden is responsible for setting up public hearings with the Board of Selectmen when a public shade tree is proposed for removal. When the public shade tree is located within the right-of-way on a designated scenic road, the Planning Board must hold a hearing for the proposed removal. If a public shade tree endangers travelers on a public way and the Tree Warden deems the tree to be an imminent hazard, it may be trimmed, cut or removed without notice or hearing.

In 2018, the Town of Weston was once again designated a Tree City USA by the National Arbor Day Foundation for the 15th straight year. On April 27th, the Town held a special Arbor Day celebration at Weston’s Case Park and Field School. The utility company Eversource donated the three native trees that were planted; a sourwood and a red oak were planted in Case Park and a red oak was planted by the Field School by the Class of 2025.

In addition to the hazard trees that were removed by the Town, Eversource provided a comprehensive tree pruning program this past year. Eversource worked with the Tree Warden on the pruning of trees that were not only hazards to their infrastructure but also presented potential hazards to the public.

Additionally, the second year of the Inventory, Assessment and Recommendation Program was conducted, which inventoried an additional 5,382 public trees. It is anticipated that one more year will be needed to complete the inventory of the Town’s right-of-way trees.

The preservation of the health and beauty of shade trees along Weston’s public roads is essential to the rural character of the town. The Tree Warden is grateful to the employees of the Highway Division and Parks and Cemetery Division of the Public Works Department for their hard work and commitment during all hours and weather conditions in order to address emergency tree problems, particularly during the two March nor’easters in which several trees and tree limbs fell during the events.
REPORT OF THE VEHICLE MAINTENANCE DIVISION

The Vehicle Maintenance Division is responsible for the maintenance and care of 122 Town-owned vehicles. Further, this Division responds to after-hour emergencies such as snow and ice events, water main breaks, and vehicle break-downs. The four individuals that make up this Division accomplished the following this past year.

Maintenance Activity
- Performed the maintenance on 61 Public Works Department vehicles, 20 Police Department vehicles, and 31 vehicles for the School Transportation Department. The funding for this work is a portion of the Division’s annual budget appropriation.
- Performed the maintenance on four Recreation Department vehicles, one bus for the Council on Aging, one Building Department sedan, and seven vehicles for the Facilities and Grounds Department. The funding for materials for this work is from the corresponding departments’ budgets. The Division absorbs the labor expenses.
- Supervised the maintenance and upkeep of the Town’s fuel station, which pumped approximately 48,000 gallons of gas and 61,000 gallons of diesel.
- Assisted other Public Works Divisions and Town Departments with the maintenance of small equipment, such as lawnmowers, leaf blowers, etc. The maintenance responsibilities fall with the division or department that owns the equipment.

Repair Activity
In calendar year 2018, a total of 1,088 Repair Orders were completed on the Town’s fleet. These could also consist of multiple issues per order.
- School Transportation Department - 382
- Department of Public Work - 538
- Police Department - 131
- Recreation Department - 10
- Facilities / School Grounds Department - 21
- Council on Aging Department - 6

Training and Communication
- Assisted with the Public Works Capital Equipment Budget and the specification and purchase of all Public Works equipment.
- Implemented a communication system to division and department supervisors for more clarity in the details of the vehicle repairs in order to properly serve, schedule, and reduce crisis repairs.
- Reduced school bus inspection failures by 75 percent in comparison to previous years through additional training and maintenance program efficiencies.
- Supervised and trained a cooperative intern student from Waltham Public Schools through the summer (full time) and by semester (part-time) throughout the school year. This is the second student that has gone through this training program.
Additional Shop Work
- Refurbished and fabricated a sidewalk snow blower in a complete restoration overhaul to serve as the second sidewalk snow blower attachment
- Up-fit two new vehicles, H-1 and S-4, to the Public Works fleet with lighting and decals
- Performed body and paint repairs to H-3 and S-1 for rot and rust to pass for safety inspection
- Retrofit and fabricated an existing wood chip box as a universal fit to adapt to multiple trucks in the fleet. This was a resurrection of a piece left dormant for over 10 years
- Serviced and installed all sander units and individual pre-wet treatment systems making all eight units ready for winter season operations
- This was the second year the Division participated in the Waltham Public Schools’ National Automotive Technicians Education Foundation (NATEF) accreditation program to better serve the automotive training program safety and curriculum

REPORT OF THE WATER DIVISION

The Water Division is responsible for the provision of safe and potable drinking water to 11,389 residents of Weston and responds to all water system emergencies including system leaks, loss of service, poor water quality, and low water pressure. The four individuals that make up the division maintain over 116 miles of water main, 964 hydrants, the Wellesley Street Pump Station, and three water storage tanks that contain 2,621,000 gallons of water. The Town’s water is supplied by the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority, which uses ozone treatment as the primary disinfectant and chloramines for residual disinfection in order to provide the safest drinking water possible. Water Division personnel also serve the community by performing a variety of public works related tasks, including snow and ice emergencies.

This year, Weston’s Water Division received the 2018 Public Water System Award for Outstanding Performance and was recognized with Achievement in the Consecutive System Category in 2017 from the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection.

Operational highlights of 2018 include:
- Emergency repair of two water main breaks
- Replacement of 12 fire hydrants, six refurbished or rehabilitated to meet modern specifications, and one new hydrant added to the water distribution system
- Working with the Highway Division to replace one main-to-curb water services on West Cliff Road to eliminate a lead link from the distribution system
- Installation of three new water gates at the intersection of Merriam Street and Aberdeen Road, and two new line gates on Merriam Street prior to the roadway construction project
- A full comprehensive leak detection survey of the water distribution system, which found six fire hydrant leaks and four service leaks, all were promptly repaired and will reduce the amount of unaccounted water
- Performing pre-excavation DigSafe mark-outs to over 2,000 locations
- Continuing the cross-connection control and preventative maintenance program as required by the Department of Environmental Protection
- Upgrading over 125 water meters to modern metering equipment
- Overseeing the installation of 1,394 linear feet of ductile iron water main including new services on Columbine Road, Dean Road, and Chiltern Road
- Collected lead and copper samples from 15 residences and two schools. All samples were well below the federal action levels for lead and copper.

During 2018, Weston consumed 600,305,000 gallons of water, which was a decrease of approximately 28,805,000 gallons of water from the previous year. The average daily consumption was 1,645,000 gallons of water and the greatest amount of water pumped in one day was 4,180,000 gallons, which was on July 16th. During the summer of 2016, the Board of Selectmen ordered a mandatory water restriction, which restricted outdoor watering to an odd/even schedule and during nighttime hours. This restriction remains in place to this date.

The Division collected over 120 bacteria, samples to ensure that the quality of water provided met U. S. Environmental Protection Agency and Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection drinking water standards.

The Weston Water Division was honored for the third time in four years for outstanding performance and achievement in public water service by the Department of Environmental Protection Drinking Water Program.