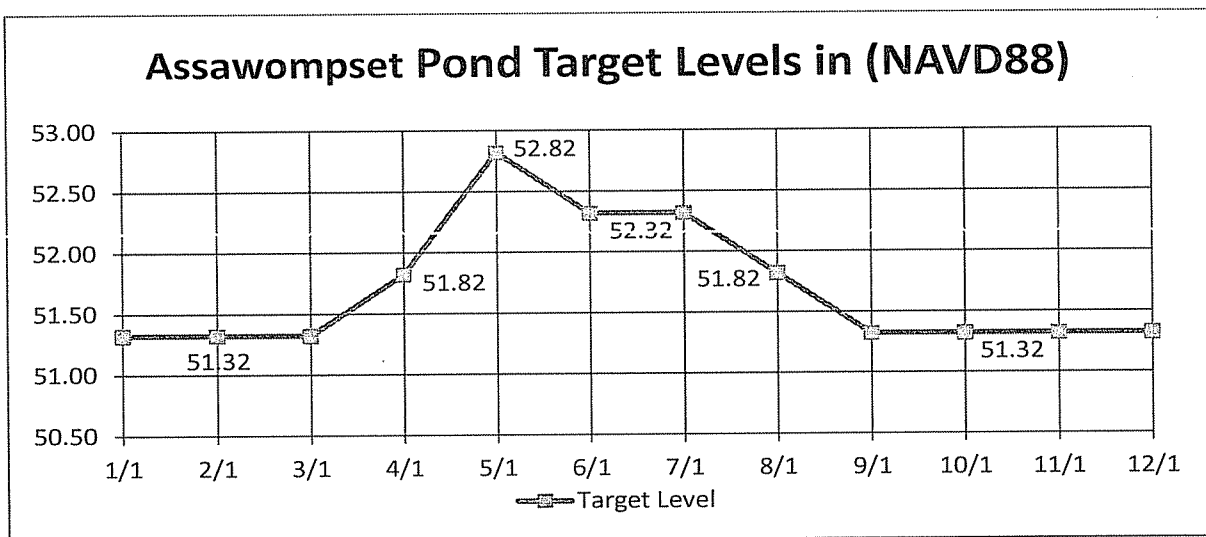


December 20, 2013

This is a written explanation of the datum change regarding the Assawompset Pond Complex water levels recorded by the City Taunton Water Department.

Recently, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) with the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) performed work to update flood hazard maps throughout the Narragansett Bay Watershed. This work included surveying various locations within the Assawompset Pond Complex (APC) and structures along the Nemasket River. One purpose for this work was to provide the local towns and water departments reference elevations all in same vertical datum, from which water levels could be measured. The vertical datum used was North American Vertical Datum 1988 (NAVD 88).

Historically, the vertical datum used by Taunton Water Department to measure the Assawompset Pond level was the National Geodetic Vertical Datum 1929 (NGVD 29). When comparing the NGVD 29 reference elevation to the NAVD 88 reference elevation at the Assawompsett Pump Station, there is a difference of 1.18 feet. Using relative numbers, target elevation 54.00 in NGVD29 is 52.82 in NAVD88. As a result, Assawompsett Pond Target Levels used by the Water Departments have been adjusted to account for the difference (see below).



1-Feb	1-Mar	1-Apr	1-May	1-Jun	1-Jul	1-Aug	1-Sep	1-Oct	1-Nov
51.32	51.32	51.82	52.82	52.32	52.32	51.82	51.32	51.32	51.32

Beginning January 1, 2014, the City of Taunton Water Department will be measuring and recording APC water levels based on these new reference NAVD88 elevations and will be included a Long Pond water level (Parkhurst Bridge) and a Nemasket River water level (Vaughn Street) with the weekly Assawompset Pond level (Assawompset Pump Station Rte.18) sent to the towns.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact Bill Schwartz, Taunton Water, wtpsaneng@tmlp.net 774.406.7296.