

**STATE OF MAINE  
PUBLIC DRINKING WATER COMMISSION**



**2015 ANNUAL REPORT  
YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2015**

# **Annual Report of the Maine Public Drinking Water Commission**

for the period ending  
June 30, 2015

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## **Introduction**

The Annual Report of the Maine Public Drinking Water Commission (MPDWC) is prepared for the Commissioner of the Department of Health and Human Services, pursuant to 22 M.R.S. § 2660-C (4). The purpose of the report is to provide the Commissioner with an understanding of the issues the MPDWC and the Maine CDC's Drinking Water Program (DWP) faced during the last year, as well as outline the goals and work for the upcoming year. This report contains information about the DWP and its operations, with reports from the DWP Director and the Compliance and Enforcement, Field Inspection, Water Resources, Information Management and Subsurface Wastewater Teams, as well as the Laboratory Certification Program. Background information about the regulated public water systems is also provided, along with the current fee structure in place and an explanation of the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund. Copies of this Annual Report are also submitted to the members of the Health and Human Services Committee of the Maine Legislature.

## **Enabling Legislation**

Legislation relating to the MPDWC is found in 22 M.R.S. §§ 2660-B - 2660-G. The statutes were first established in 1993(c.410) and have been modified five times since (1995.c.581: 1995.c.21: 1997.c.705: 2001.c.232 and 2003.c.601).

The legislation includes Definitions, Membership Requirements, Chair Responsibilities, Duties, Compensation, an annual work plan submission to the DHHS Commissioner, the Authority to impose an annual public water system (PWS) operation fee, and how enforcement works.

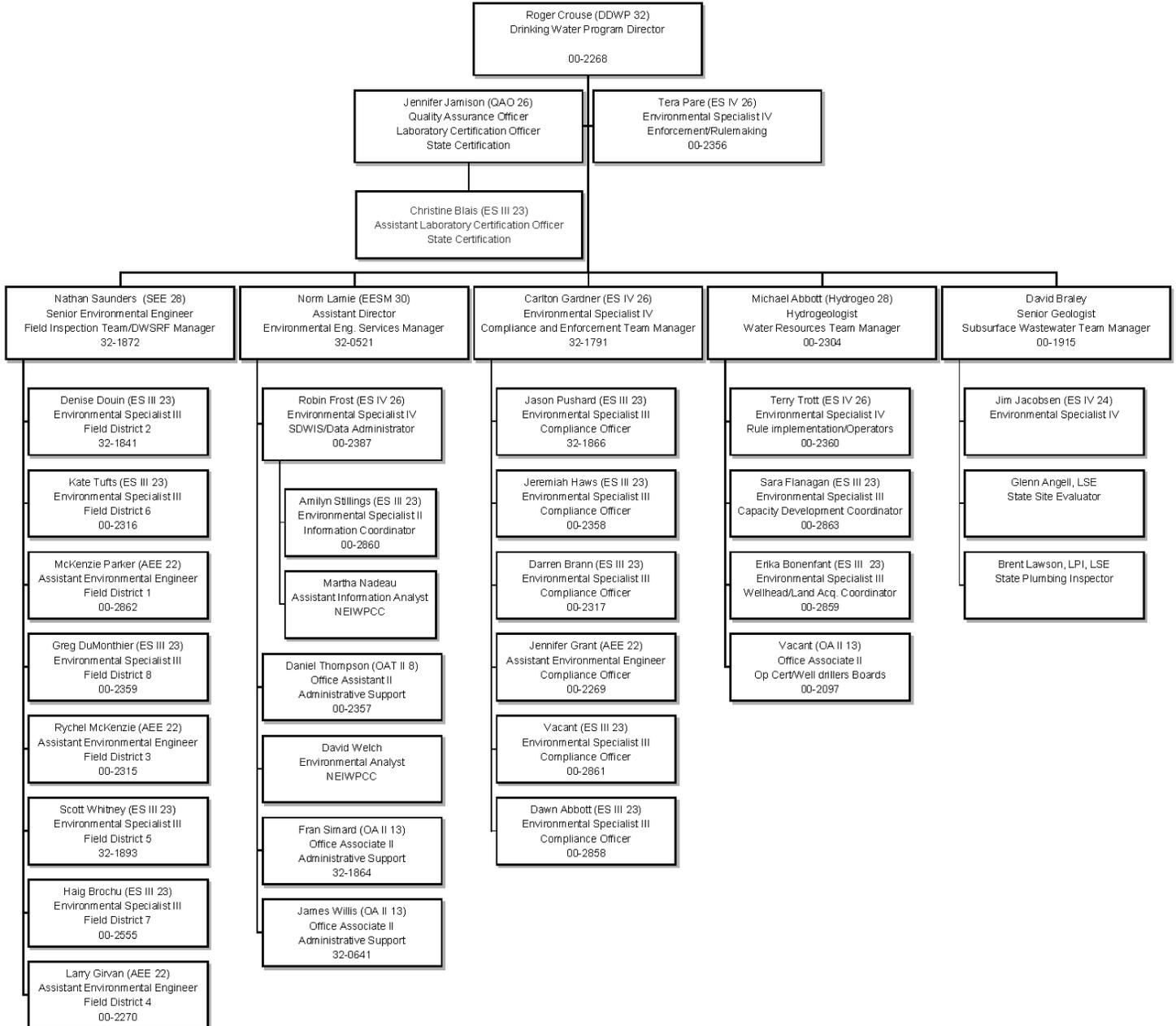
## Members of the Maine Public Drinking Water Commission

<b>Name, Address, E-Mail</b>	<b>Seat # &amp; Expiration Date</b>	<b>Statutory Provisions for Seat</b>
Roger L. Crouse Director, Drinking Water Program 11 State House, Station Augusta, ME 04333-0011 287-5684 FAX 287-4172 E-mail: <a href="mailto:roger.crouse@maine.gov">roger.crouse@maine.gov</a>	<b><u>Seat 1</u></b>  Until Replaced	Commissioner of Health and Human Services or the Commissioner's designee
Rebecca Laliberte The Meadows PO Box 629 Greene, ME 04236 946-3007 E-mail: <a href="mailto:RLalib3967@aol.com">RLalib3967@aol.com</a>	<b><u>Seat 2</u></b>  August 31, 2015	Represent the water purveying community and be associated with a public water system serving a population of not more than 1,000.
Thomas J. Brennan, C.G. Nestle Waters North America – Poland Springs 123 Preservation Way Poland Spring, Maine 04274 998-6350 ext. 6350 FAX: 998-5181 E-mail: <a href="mailto:thomas.brennan@waters.nestle.com">thomas.brennan@waters.nestle.com</a>	<b><u>Seat 3</u></b>  August 31, 2017	Must represent the drinking water public
Robert N. MacKinnon, Jr. Yarmouth Water District, Superintendent PO Box 419, 14 Smith Street Yarmouth, ME 04096 846-5821 FAX 846-1240 E-mail: <a href="mailto:ywdbob@maine.rr.com">ywdbob@maine.rr.com</a>	<b><u>Seat 4</u></b>  August 31, 2015	Represent the water purveying community and be associated with a public water system serving a population of at least 1001, but not more than 10,000.
Jeffrey D. LaCasse, <b><u>Chairperson</u></b> Kennebec Water District, General Manager PO Box 356, 6 Cool St Waterville, Maine 04901 (207) 872-2763, FAX 861-8964 E-mail: <a href="mailto:jlacasse@kennebecwater.org">jlacasse@kennebecwater.org</a>	<b><u>Seat 5</u></b>  August 31, 2017	Represent the water purveying community and be associated with a public water system serving a population greater than 10,000.
Ben C. Worcester, III Smugglers Den Campground PO Box 787 Southwest Harbor, ME 04679-0787 (207)460-9033 E-mail: <a href="mailto:bcw@smugglersdencampground.com">bcw@smugglersdencampground.com</a>	<b><u>Seat 6</u></b>  August 31, 2013	Must be a user of a transient, non-community water system
Harvey A. Chesley, Jr. Pine Tree Camp 25 Hill Crest Drive Clinton, ME 04927 397-2141 FAX 397-5324 E-mail: <a href="mailto:hchesley@pinetreesociety.org">hchesley@pinetreesociety.org</a>	<b><u>Seat 7</u></b>  August 31, 2016	Must be a user of a non-transient, non-community water system
George Dugovic PO Box 603 Alfred, ME 04002 324-0180 E-mail: <a href="mailto:dugovics@roadrunner.com">dugovics@roadrunner.com</a>	<b><u>Seat 8</u></b>  August 31, 2015	Must represent the drinking water public
Vacant	<b><u>Seat 9</u></b>  August 31, 2017	Must represent the drinking water public

# Drinking Water Program Organizational Chart

## DRINKING WATER PROGRAM, DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH, MAINE CDC ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

August 27, 2015



## **Performance Review of the Drinking Water Program**

The MPDWC gets regular updates from the DWP, and assesses the performance of this State agency. The Director and the staff of the program are performing extremely well, especially given the ongoing budget and staffing constraints. Regulations and reporting requirements for drinking water systems continue to evolve under the direction of the EPA, and the DWP continues to handle the challenges of these increased responsibilities. In addition, the DWP has done an excellent job in continuing to work with the regulated community to creatively navigate through challenges in securing federal matching dollars for the State Revolving Fund. Organizational changes made within the program over the past few years continue to improve service to Maine's water systems and allowed more effective field work to ensure the safety and reliability of our Maine water systems.

Enclosed with this report are two additional reports produced by the Drinking Water Program that highlight the work done by the Program in 2014: 1) Public Drinking Water in Maine Annual Report 2014; and 2) 2014 Drinking Water Construction Project Report. Historically, the Annual Drinking Water Commission report has included a list of accomplishments by the Drinking Water Program. However, for this year, the Commission has decided to simply attach the supplemental reports rather than having staff create a separate list of accomplishments.

## **MPDWC Objectives for the Coming Year**

The MPDWC will continue to support and guide the DWP as needed and to continue to prudently oversee the alternative funding mechanism established to fund a portion of the program's budget. However, staffing and funding will continue to be extremely important issues for the program. In response to those concerns, the Commission in the upcoming year will:

- ◆ Continue to support and work to obtain the appropriate funding for the State match of the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund
- ◆ Be a resource and an advocate for the director and staff of the DWP
- ◆ Review DWP performance measures to evaluate the operations and effectiveness of the DWP

## **Acknowledgements**

The MPDWC would like to once again acknowledge the hard work and dedication of all employees of the DWP. There is clearly a culture of Teamwork within the organization that is a testament to the leadership of its Director Roger Crouse. As water issues continue to escalate nationally, statewide and locally, the DWP staff quietly and efficiently provides maximum effort to protect the safety and reliability of Maine's approximately 1,900 water systems as they *Work Together for Safe Drinking Water*.

## **Alternative Funding Mechanism Fee**

In 1993, the Legislature created legislation enabling the DWP to assess a fee on all public water systems. This fee is deposited in the Public Drinking Water Fund for the purpose of supporting the DWP. The fee, also known as the Alternative Funding Mechanism (AFM) Fee, is calculated by using a formula with a base rate and a population multiplier.

In State Fiscal Year 2015 the AFM fee paid the costs of 4.5 full-time employees. Each year, the MPDWC reviews the formula, the base fee, the per capita fee and the DWP budget to determine if any changes need to be made to the formula or fee rates. Revenues derived from the collection of these fees are used to retain primacy, or maintaining state control of the DWP, including funding five DWP staff positions.

For all water systems except bottled water and vending machines, the fee is equal to the minimum fee plus the per capita rate, multiplied by the population capacity of the system, minus the exempt population.

A summary of the rate structure for these types of water systems can be found in Table 1 below.

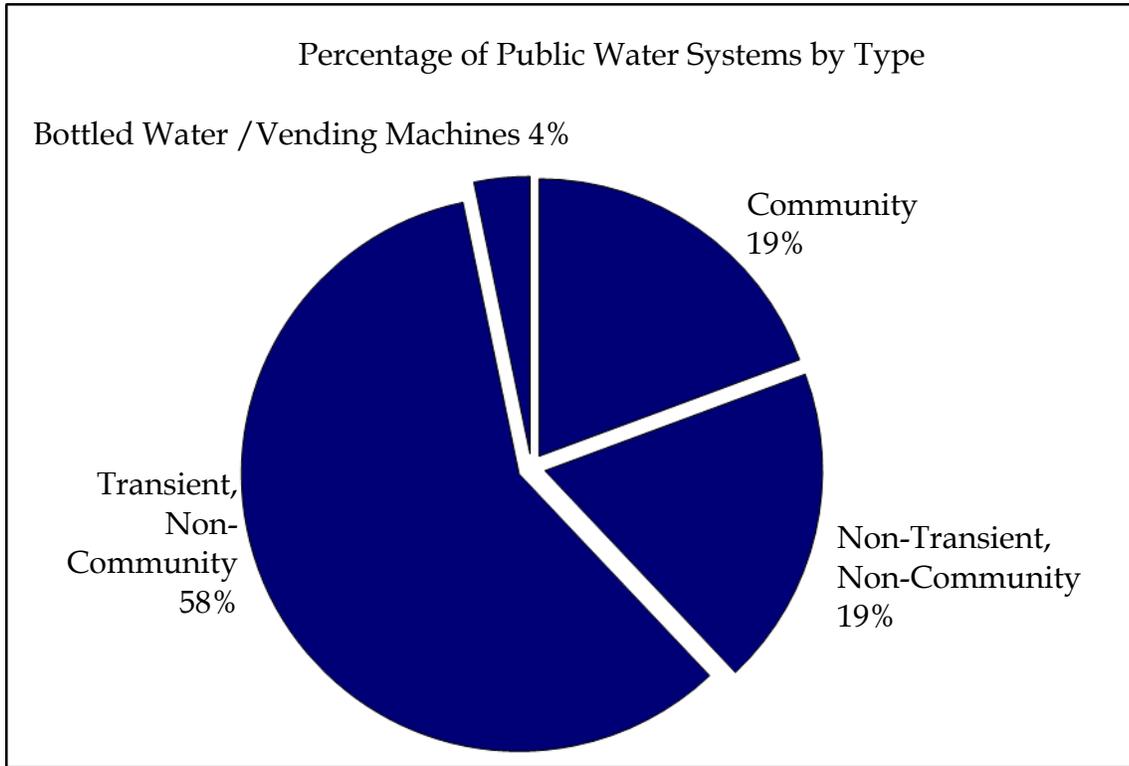
<b>Table 1 – SFY 2015 Rate Structure for all Public Water Systems except Bottled Water and Water Vending Machines</b>	
<b>Description</b>	<b>Rate</b>
Per capita rate (above base population)	\$0.45
Base fee	\$50
Base population	100

A separate formula and rate structure exists for bottled water facilities and water vending machines. A summary of the rates for these facilities can be found in Table 2 below.

<b>Table 2 – SFY 2015 Rate Structure Bottled Water Facilities &amp; Water Vending</b>			
<b>System Type</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b># of Systems</b>	<b>Rate</b>
In-State Small	Small (up to 250,000 gallons)	11	\$75
In-State Medium	Medium (>250,000 to 20 Million gallons)	6	\$225
In-State Large	Large (>20 Million gallons)	6	\$2,900
Water Vending Machine	Per Water Vending Machine	43	Minimum \$50, \$10 per machine up to \$150 maximum

During the May 5, 2015 Commission meeting, the MPDWC voted unanimously not to increase the fees for State Fiscal Year 2016, as projected revenues using the current fee structure should be adequate to cover all costs during the State Fiscal Year 2016.

## Types of Public Water Systems Regulated by the DWP



## Fee Billings and Collections

State Fiscal Year 2016

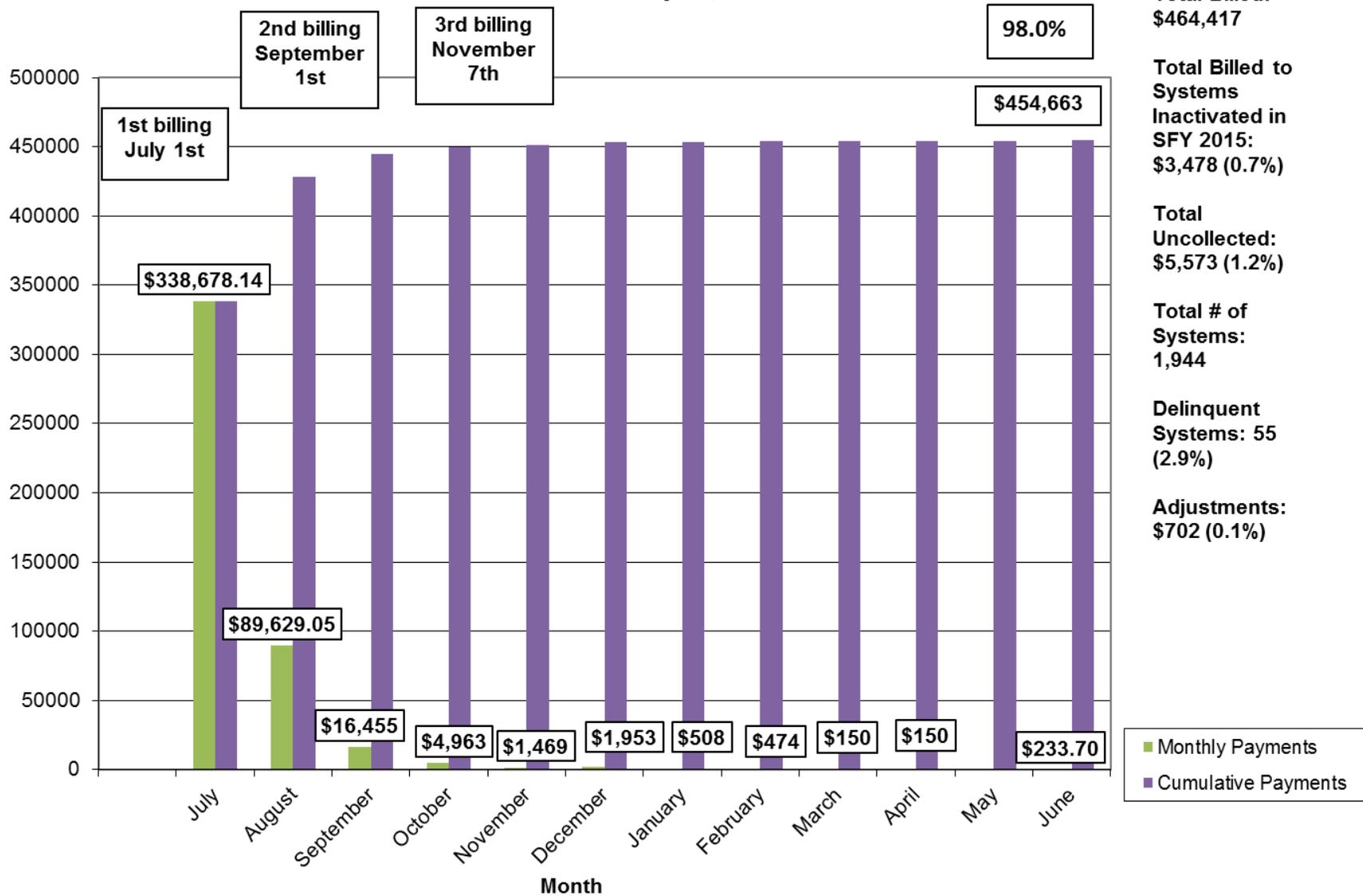
Summary of AFM Fee Billings

Data as of June 2015

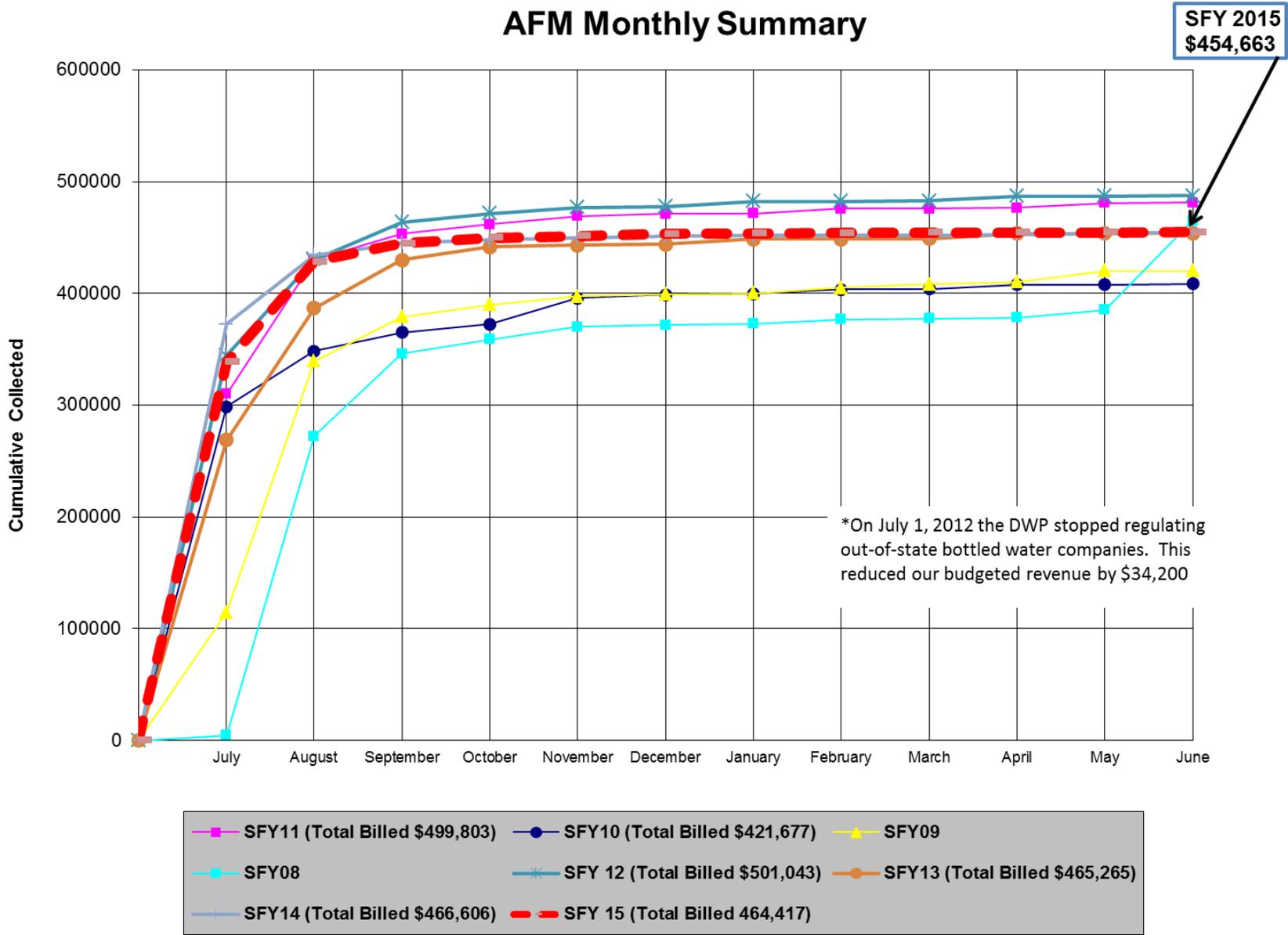
Types of PWS	Number of Public Water Systems	% of total Public Water Systems	Population Served	Calculated Revenue	% of Total Calculated Revenue
Community	374	19%	669,976	\$306,368.85	67%
Non-Transient, Non-Community	376	19%	65,640	\$35,245.75	8%
Transient, Non-Community	1,143	58%	180,378	\$98,379.90	21%
Bottled Water / Vending Machines	66	4%	N/A	\$19,845.00	4%
<b>Totals</b>	<b>1,959</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>915,994</b>	<b>\$459,839.50</b>	<b>100%</b>

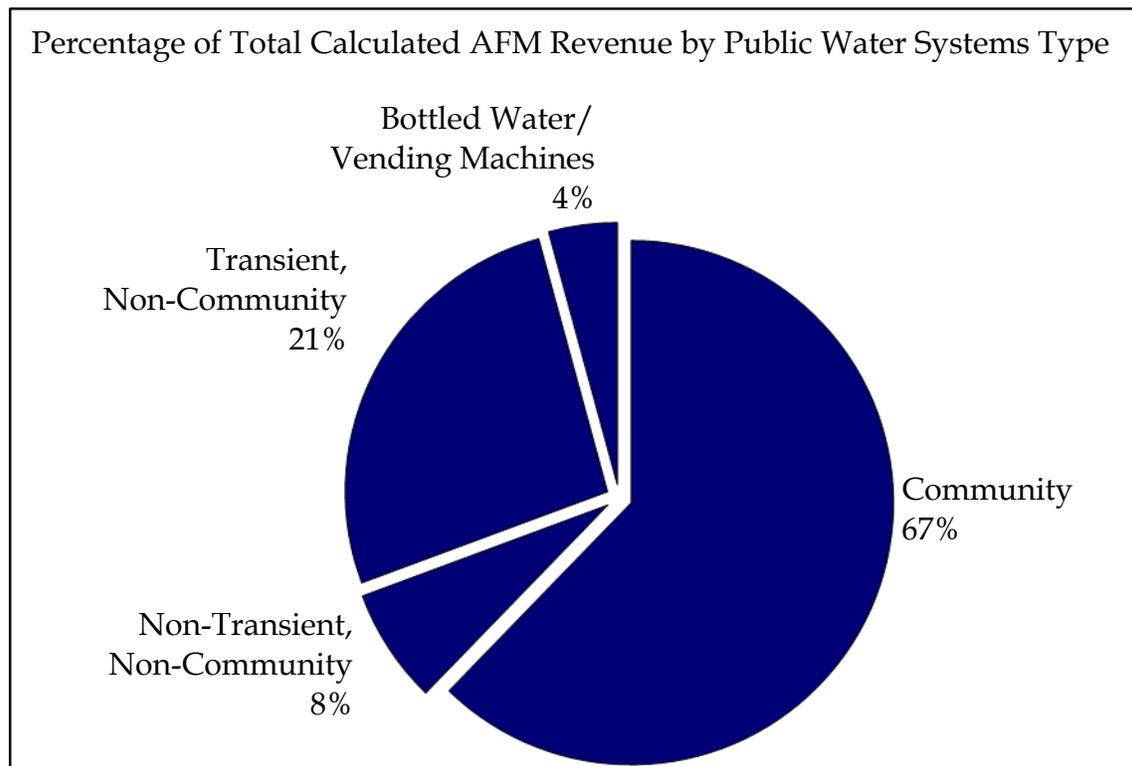
# Fee Collection Performance Measures

**AFM Payment Summary SFY 2015  
as of July 30, 2015**



# AFM Monthly Summary





## Annual Staff Meeting and Annual Staff Merit Award

The Drinking Water Program annual staff meeting was held on July 21, 2015 at Damariscotta Lake State Park in Jefferson. Amy Robbins and Bonnie Lam from Maine CDC’s Infectious Disease Epidemiology Program came to speak about water borne disease incidences and the reporting and tracking processes used at Maine CDC. Sevee and Maher Engineers also presented to discuss the upcoming project they will be working on in conjunction with the Drinking Water Program to help assess source water protection vulnerabilities in several Maine public water supplies that utilize rivers and riverbank wells as sources. Lastly, Darek Grant from the Maine Legislature provided an overview of how the process works in the Legislature for a bill to become a law. The staff meeting also included a team building exercise consisting of a Drinking Water Program major milestones and events timeline challenge.

An announcement and presentation of the Annual Staff Merit Award was also made. This award, given annually by the MPDWC, recognizes an employee of the Drinking Water Program who has made a significant contribution in the past year to the goals and mission of the program. Nominations are solicited and received from the drinking water “community” in Maine, including the DWP staff, other Maine water industry associations, and public water systems. This year, the Commission presented the award to Erika Bonenfant, the program’s Education and Outreach Coordinator.