

## Fire Chief Comments (Email Extracts)

May 14

OK. In answer to Bruce's question [has the fire department designated areas that are in need of fire resources], pretty much every area of Madbury could benefit from the addition of a cistern. If you're more than 1500' from an existing water supply, we will be hauling water.

I would recommend a sign off from the Fire Department for any cumulative subdivision reaching 4 or 5 houses (so if someone does 2 now, and 2 later down the road to avoid this requirement). If there is a good water supply in the area, they get approved with no burden, if there isn't they need to supplement.

Tom Perley  
Fire Chief/EMD  
Town of Madbury

Sep 12

Fire ponds are not really an acceptable solution, as they require a lot of upkeep and maintenance which we really don't have anyone to do. Cisterns, of 30,000 gallons or more are the better choice as they are a closed system, thus don't have silting problems, and require minimal maintenance, essentially checking the water level a couple times a year and some paint every few years. The development of water supplies not only benefit the new lots, but surrounding properties as well. Ultimately, I would assume that the town would assume the maintenance costs, but that should come after a set warranty period where the integrity of the installation has been proven. As a footnote, cisterns smaller than 30,000 gallons are not recognized by ISO (Insurance Service Organization) and would not be able to help lower insurance ratings and costs.

Again, wording, which you have, needs to be included to exclude this requirement if there is an existing water supply close to the subdivision.

Hopefully this helps,

Tom Perley  
Fire Chief / EMD  
Town of Madbury