



March 22, 2022

RE: Water Softener Settings for Village of Merrimac Homes

Dear Merrimac Area Plumber or Water Treatment Professional,

Thank you for the services that you may provide to the homeowners in the Village of Merrimac. Due to the increasing concentration of chlorides in our wastewater treatment plant (WWTP) discharge, we are seeking to reduce excessive use of salt, particularly from water softeners.

Since your services may include installing or servicing water softeners, we wanted to provide you the information necessary to program the softeners. The parameters of our water, as determined by CT Laboratories is:

Hardness:	244 mg/L	(14.3 grains)
Total Iron:	0.13 mg/L	(0.5 grains)
Total Manganese:	0.083 mg/L	(0.7 grains)
<u>Safety Factor</u>		<u>(1.5-2.5 grains)</u>
<b>Total Grains:</b>		<b>17-18 grains</b>

We also request that you consider programming softeners for the lowest "salt setting." We understand this will cause softeners to regenerate more frequently; however, based on the cost of salt and the cost for the water typically used in regeneration, **the lowest salt setting is the most cost effective for the homeowner**, per gallon of water consumed. The lowest salt setting is also the kindest to our WWTP, resulting in 40 percent lower Chlorides in our effluent, compared to the highest setting.

We know you are busy these days and there are *a lot* of things you have to keep track of in your profession. If you have any questions/concerns about this information – or other suggestions – please feel free to contact Interim Deputy Clerk Margaret at Village Hall.

Sincerely,

Phil Budde, President

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**VILLAGE OF MERRIMAC**

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