PWWD DEBUTS NEW WEBSITE

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Navigational features include information on “Conservation” and “Billing.” The site also will provide information regarding ordinances, public notices and helpful resources.

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The new, responsive website was designed and developed to provide a more streamlined, user-friendly experience for consumers. “It was important to the District that we stay up to date with emerging technologies and provide easy access to pertinent information and services. Our goal is to provide a valuable tool and reliable resource for all consumers,” commented Commissioner Peter Meyer.

Commissioner Peter Meyer, Secretary Mindy Germain, Treasurer

PWWD DEBUTS NEW WEBSITE

The Port Washington Water District (PWWD) is setting the benchmark for water conservation with its progressive and proactive Be Smart and Green, Save 15 campaign. Joined by local government officials, the District laid out plans last summer to reduce District-wide water consumption by 15 percent during the irrigation season.

The campaign reflects estimates by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) that pumpage amounts may be surpassing Nassau County’s permissible yields by 15 percent. “The Be Smart and Green, Save 15 water conservation campaign is vital to the sustainability of our sole source aquifer,” said David Brackett, Chairman of PWWD’s Board of Commissioners. “As we head into the peak part of the summer in terms of water consumption per resident, we implore the community to come together, to join this ever-important effort and to implement some simple yet effective conservation tactics to conserve our most precious natural resource.”

The campaign has been designed to educate residents and to provide helpful suggestions to effortlessly reduce their water consumption. “If we continue pumping at current levels, we will be jeopardizing the future sustainability of the peninsula’s water supply by introducing the irreversible effects of saltwater intrusion,” said PWWD Commissioner Mindy Germain. “The United States Geological Survey (USGS) is undertaking a study that will give us an exact picture of our pumpage yields and will allow us to fully understand what level of pumping will keep our supply sustainable. Until this study is complete, we ask that all residents strictly adhere to Nassau County’s ordinance of the odd-even watering schedule as this will have a positive impact and contribute to our conservation goals in a very significant way.”

Aside from educating residents, the District has expanded its water conservation program by implementing a distribution leak-detection program that has already identified 17 locations where water is being wasted. By fixing these leaks alone, the District anticipates achieving a water savings of more than 113,000 gallons per day!

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3
Protecting Our Water

As residents may be aware from previous community meetings and communications, PWWD will be replacing the Beacon Hill water tower in 2017. The current water tower has reached the end of its useful life, and a full tank replacement has been determined to be the best and most cost-effective option for the community. The tank replacement project will safeguard the continued health, safety and sustainability of the District’s water supply and distribution.

Bids for the project were solicited in January and after a thorough review of the bidder’s qualifications and experience, the project has been awarded to Caldwell Tanks, Inc. The tank contractor has been constructing portable water storage tanks in the United States since 1887. Their most recent and successfully completed project was for Manhasset-Lakeville Water District. Chairman of the PWWD’s Board of Commissioners David Brackett explained that PWWD will be replacing the Beacon Hill water tower project, visit www.pwwd.org/currentprojects.

Superintendent’s Message

Protecting Our Water

What is 1,4-Dioxane?

1,4-dioxane is a synthetic chemical used as a solvent and a chlorinated solvent stabilizer for industrial chemicals, predominantly 1,1,1-trichloroethane (TCA). It is used in a variety of applications as inks and adhesives. This is an issue that reaches far beyond drinking water and it applies to water supply systems because its presence is not limited to the everyday household products: Cosmetics, Detoxergens, Shampoo, Deodorants, Hair Care, Sunscreen, And More.

What Levels of 1,4-Dioxane are Found in Our Water?

There is currently no chemical-specific Federal or New York State drinking water standard for 1,4-dioxane; however, it is regulated as an Unspecified Organic Contaminant by the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) at a maximum contaminant level (standard) of 50 parts per billion (ppb). Our 1,4-dioxane point of entry test results ranged from below detection limits to 1.90 ppb with an average of 0.75 ppb. These results are far lower than the New York State Health Department standard. Levels of 1,4-dioxane do not appear to be increasing on Long Island. Generally, detections of the compound have been fairly stable, not trending upward.

Did you know?

No Long Island water provider exceeds the New York State Health Department standard of 50 ppb.

Will the EPA be Setting a Standard for 1,4-Dioxane?

That is yet to be determined. The EPA regularly reviews drinking water standards as new science becomes available and is currently reviewing new 1,4-dioxane health effects information. Once the review is completed, the EPA will carefully review the conclusions and consider all relevant information to determine whether a drinking water standard for 1,4-dioxane is needed. The drinking water community is working with the EPA to review all relevant information on 1,4-dioxane including health effects, occurrence and treatment options. This work will help support the EPA in its decision-making process.

For more information, visit www.pwwd.org.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

In addition, the District will consult with its top water users to improve their water efficiency by reviewing existing irrigation systems to reduce water waste.

Last summer the District pilot-tested EPR WaterSense smart irrigation controller technology at its administration building, which resulted in a significant reduction in water use while maintaining a green lawn.

“The District is doing everything it can with the resources at its disposal to identify and to target locations throughout the District where water is unnecessarily being wasted,” said PWWD Commissioner Peter Mayer. “The use of state-of-the-art technology enabled us to save large sums of water. The District’s smart irrigation controller pilot program at our headquarters, for example, has kept our lawn and plants green while saving more than 32,000 gallons of water since we conducted the pilot last summer.”

To learn more about the PWWD’s Be Smart and Green, Save 15 water conservation campaign, please visit www.pwwd.org/conservation or www.facebook.com/pwwaterdistrict.

MINDY GERMAIN RE-ELECTED AS WATER COMMISSIONER

Congratulations to Mindy Germain on her re-election as a Water Commissioner of the Port Washington Water District. A 17-year resident, Commissioner Germain ran in 2012 because she believes clean, safe drinking water is essential to making Port Washington the best place to live and to raise a family. Commissioner Germain’s ongoing focus is strategic investment in infrastructure, open dialogue with the community and coordination with other Long Island water suppliers to create greater efficiencies and long-term planning.

Commissioner News

Supporting the water conservation campaign are: Former New York State Senator Jack Martins, Former Assemblywoman Michelle Schieler, Town of North Hempstead Supervisor Judi Bosworth, Town of North Hempstead Councilwoman Dina DeGiorgio, Village of Flower Hill Mayor Elaine Phillips, Village of Baster Estates Mayor Nora Haagenson, Village of Manhasset Trustees John Popolizio and Village of Port Washington North Representative Anna Fox along with other members of the team.

Be SMART and GREEN, SAVE 15

Be SMART and GREEN, SAVE 15 water conservation campaign and operational best practices.
What is 1,4-Dioxane?  
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- Cosmetics 
- Detergents 
- Shampoos 
- Deodorants 
- Hair Care 
- Sunscreen 
- And More 

What Levels of 1,4-Dioxane are Found in Our Water?  
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Will the EPA be Setting a Standard for 1,4-Dioxane?  
That is yet to be determined. The EPA regularly reviews drinking water standards as new science becomes available and is currently reviewing new 1,4-dioxane health effects information. Once the review is completed, the EPA will carefully review the conclusions and consider all relevant information to determine whether a drinking water standard for 1,4-dioxane is needed. The drinking water community is working with the EPA to review all relevant information on 1,4-dioxane including health effects, occurrence and treatment options. This work will help support the EPA in its decision-making process.

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