

WATER CONNECTION

A Publication of the Port Washington Water District

Water Conservation & Sustainability

Thanks to the participation of our residents and District initiatives, Port Washington Water District's pumpage for 2017 was down 12.2 percent compared to the prior year! Warm weather pumpage from May through September was also down by 18.4 percent which was below the NYSDEC goal of reducing warm weather pumpage by 15 percent.

Pumpage for 2017 Down:

Pumpage May Through September Down:



The cooler and wetter summer conditions, along with Water District conservation efforts, factored into the decrease in water demand.

Saving the *Smart* Way!

PWWD created the "Be Smart and Green, Save 15" water conservation campaign with the goal of reducing district-wide water consumption by 15 percent. To support this objective, PWWD created a smart irrigation video explaining the key benefits of replacing a standard irrigation timer with a smart irrigation system controller. This public service announcement showcases how this smart irrigation system controller technology plays a significant role in achieving conservation goals.

View our video at www.pwwd.org/save15

Smart Controller Rebates



\$150 Rebate Is Waiting For You!!

On top of education, as a way to reward conscientious customers that conserve, PWWD has launched a rebate program for customers adopting the use of smart irrigation system controllers. The rebate program is part of the "Be Smart and Green, Save 15" water conservation campaign, and PWWD will pay \$150 to qualifying applicants who convert to this water-saving technology

Smart irrigation system controllers are an effective tool for reducing landscape water use. They are designed specifically to optimize water usage, prevent overwatering and help keep lawns and gardens green and healthy. These controllers use information such as local weather conditions, plant type and soil moisture levels to determine accurate landscaping water needs. The controllers automatically adjust watering schedules based on these criteria allowing lawns and gardens to thrive under optimal watering conditions without having to manually adjust the controller.

In 2016, PWWD piloted an EPA WaterSense labeled smart irrigation system controller at the District headquarters and reduced our water consumption from the previous year by 70 percent!

We are not saying we expect to see this level of savings from each system, but we do expect the installation of these controllers to help make great strides

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Water Quality

Protecting Long Island's Drinking Water



PWWD Commissioner Mindy Germain takes the lead at a recent press conference addressing the importance of developing an independent sustainability study on the reopening of wells in Queens.

Local officials of the Western Nassau County Aquifer Committee (WNCAC) recently gathered for a press conference at the Nassau County Legislative building to present a letter addressed to Governor Andrew M. Cuomo stressing the importance of waiting for an independent sustainability study before granting permits to reopen wells in Queens.

It's been reported that New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) is considering allowing New York City to renew a permit to reopen wells in Queens in the event of a water emergency. These wells connect to the Lloyd and Magothy Aquifers, the source of water for millions of Long Islanders. Many town officials are concerned that if these wells are opened and an estimated 68 million gallons a day are pumped, saltwater or toxic plumes could be pulled into these Aquifers.

Port Washington Water District Commissioner Mindy Germain and Superintendent Paul Granger are members of the Steering Committee for the Water Supply Sustainability Study of Long Island. The DEC, in partnership with the United States Geological Study, is responsible for the study. Once the study is completed, PWWD will have a better understanding of the potential impacts of reactivating the wells in the Queens groundwater system.

"Long Island cannot afford ambiguity surrounding the impact of pumping 68 million gallons more water per day from our already strained and stressed aquifer," Commissioner Germain said. "We must continue to fight to prevent the DEC from issuing this permit until the study data is available. New York City has other options. We do not," she added.



Bar Beach Well 6

Since 2012, the District has completed or is nearing completion of many major capital improvement projects.

- Nitrate treatment facility installation at Well No. 4 to lower nitrate levels
- Packed tower aeration treatment system installed at Well No. 6 to treat water for organic chemicals
- New service lines, fire hydrants and over 4,000 feet of 8-inch water mains installed in the Manhasset Isle area
- 4,500 feet of water main replaced on Circle Drive
- Rehabilitated Sandy Hollow Wells No. 1 and 2, Neulist Well No. 1, and Wells No. 7 and 11 to improve reliability and production
- New access hatches and vents installed on Neulist underground storage tank
- Southport elevated water storage tank repaired
- Booster and transfer pumps repairs at Christopher Morley Park water treatment plant
- Construction of the new Beacon Hill water tower
- Successful upgrade of security system, new cameras and updated SCADA
- New computers installed with cybersecurity technology to protect internal IT

We are now embarking on a new five-year capital plan to proactively address future needs.

Community News

Beacon Hill Tank Update

PWWD has moved forward with the replacement of the existing Beacon Hill water tower. The original water tower had reached the end of its useful life, and after extensive community outreach a full tank replacement was determined to be the best and most cost-effective option for our community. The tank replacement project will safeguard the continued health, safety and sustainability of the District's water supply and distribution system.

Planning for the final site restoration and landscaping is currently underway. The tank is scheduled to be put into service by late spring and final restoration to be completed during the summer. "We are pleased to report that the project is on budget and on schedule," commented Commissioner Peter Meyer, Port Washington Water District. For additional information on the Beacon Hill water project, go to www.pwwd.org/currentprojects or visit the District's Facebook page.



PWWD Superintendent Paul Granger (center) speaks on behalf of the Drinking Water Quality Council about setting a standard for 1,4-dioxane

Port Washington Water District's Superintendent Paul Granger was recommended by the State Senate and appointed by New York State Governor Andrew Cuomo to serve on New York State's new 12-member Drinking Water Quality Council this past fall. Paul's selection to the Council by the State Legislature was supported by his decades of experience as a water professional and his proven commitment to protect Long Island's most precious natural resource.

"Accepting this new position on the Drinking Water Quality Council is a large responsibility that I do not take lightly," said Paul Granger, Superintendent of Port Washington Water District. "I'm prepared

Government

PWWD Superintendent Paul Granger Appointed by Governor Cuomo to Serve on New York Drinking Water Council

to stand side by side with the members of this council and work collaboratively to tackle the host of challenges that surround water quality throughout the state, particularly here on Long Island."

The Council has the responsibility of advising the State's Health Commissioner on all issues involving water quality with a specific focus on recommending safe levels of currently unregulated contaminants in ground water. The group's initial priority is working to develop standards for assessing maximum contaminant levels for contaminants 1,4-Dioxane, Perfluorooctanoic and Perfluorooctanesulfonic (PFOA).

1,4-Dioxane Update

Water experts from New York State recently gathered to discuss what level of currently unregulated toxins are safe in drinking water. Superintendent Granger was one of the participants discussing the issue. "We have to listen to the science and the studies and determine how to regulate emerging contaminants that are not regulated by the federal government or New York State," Granger stated. "To treat these chemicals there is a significant investment needed in order to provide optimum public health protection."

Chairman's Message

Check out these numbers...

In New York State, 10,147 regulated water systems provide clean water to 20 million New York residents. On Long Island, over

50 public and private water systems provide potable water to a population of more than 3 million people. The Port Washington Water District provides safe and reliable service to the 30,000 residents in our community.

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Public & Private Water Systems

Million People

LONG ISLAND

To keep our drinking water system reliable and working at optimal efficiency, a proactive investment in our infrastructure is required. Statewide the latest estimate for repairing, replacing and updating drinking water infrastructure is projected to be \$38.7 billion over 20 years. Drinking water regulations have increased significantly over the past 30 years, and these regulations apply to systems of every size and water source. As research technologies change and improve, additional regulations may be enacted as new potential health effects of various contaminants are discovered.

The cost of complying with new and increasingly stringent regulations is a challenge that all water systems face. Therefore, it is vital to stay ahead of the curve through proactive planning to address water system upgrades, address emerging contaminants and replace aging water mains. We are pleased to announce that the District is moving forward with developing an updated five-year capital improvement plan, and we will update the community with the planning process.

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toward reaching our 15 percent reduction goals, and saving money for our customers.

"As a conservation-minded District, this is one of the many steps we are taking to reduce water consumption by 15 percent," commented David Brackett, Chairman of the Board of Port Washington Water District. "We have a far greater responsibility than most water suppliers as we continue to protect our coastal community from the dangers of saltwater intrusion."

Rebate Program Terms

In order to qualify for the rebate program, the applicant must be a PWWD customer and the property owner of the installation site with a fully functioning irrigation system compatible with an EPA WaterSense labeled smart irrigation system controller. Rebates will be issued to qualified applicants on a first-come, first-serve basis and offered while funding is available. Other terms and conditions apply. For more information about how to apply for the smart irrigation system controller rebate program, please contact PWWD at (516) 767-0171 or visit the District's website at www.pwwd.org.

Be SMART and GREEN,
SAVE 15

PWWD Congratulates Local Resident

Port Washington resident Mitch Rosen was one of the first residents to implement the smart irrigation technology to reduce his consumption. "I am happy to be part of the solution, and I have reduced my consumption using the smart irrigation technology, commented Mr. Rosen. "It is definitely worth the investment as I have already started saving money on my water bill, and I encourage other residents to consider installing it to preserve our water supply."

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 EPA 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 Meyer. "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 52,000 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.



Port Washington resident Mitch Rosen (center) receives a rebate from PWWD Commissioners (L to R): Mindy Germain, Peter Meyer, (far right) David Brackett.

Commissioner News



Peter Meyer RE-ELECTED AS WATER COMMISSIONER

Congratulations to Peter Meyer on his re-election as Water Commissioner of Port Washington Water District. Serving as Commissioner since 2000, Commissioner Meyer will serve another three-year term as Secretary on the District's Board of Commissioners.

The results of the December 5, 2017, special district election provides Commissioner Meyer with opportunity to continue serving the community he has lived in for more than 40 years.



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Port Washington Water District
38 Sandy Hollow Road
Post Office Box 432
Port Washington, NY 11050

Tel: (516) 767-0171
Fax: (516) 767-1145
www.pwwd.org

Commissioners:
David R. Brackett, Chairman
Peter Meyer, Secretary
Mindy Germain, Treasurer

Superintendent:
Paul J. Granger, P.E.

Board Meetings:
Every Wednesday at 8:00 a.m. All meetings are held at the District Office unless otherwise announced.

Business Hours:
8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., weekdays

24-Hour Emergency Number:
(516) 767-0171

Member:
American Water Works Association
Nassau Suffolk Water Commissioners' Association
Long Island Water Conference

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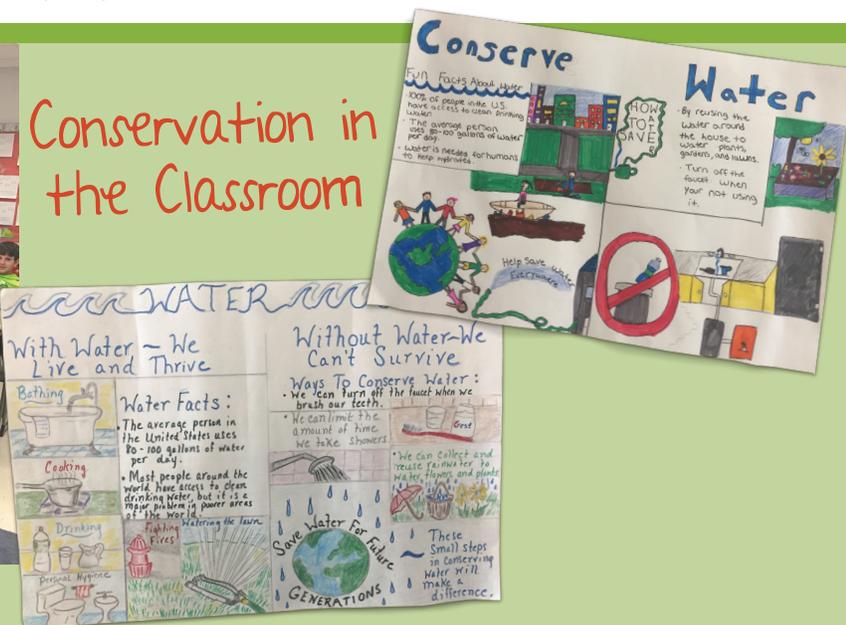
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Water Conservation Education



Conservation in the Classroom



PWWD visits South Salem Elementary School

In a continuing effort to educate our youth, Port Washington Water District Commissioner Mindy Germain recently visited Mr. Talbot's fifth grade class at South Salem Elementary school this spring to speak with students on the importance of water conservation. Commissioner Germain also shared important facts on the source, quality and quantity of our water supply and how water is delivered to their homes every day.

PWWD has expanded its education commitment to South Salem School as well as other local schools. The District extends this educational initiative invitation to any interested organization and school within the community.

Meaningful Topics Covered In Pre-K To Grade 2 Include:

- Why Is Water Important?
- Why We Need Water To Live?
- The Difference Between Salt Water And Fresh Water
- What People Can Do At Home To Conserve And Protect Our Water

Additional Topics Covered In Grades 3 To 5 Include:

- The Water Cycle
- Long Island's Aquifer
- Port Washington's Water Supply System

Local educators are encouraged to schedule a classroom visit by calling (516) 767-0171.