



## Beacon Hill Tank Update

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 Bracket explained that

water tanks designed today are more resilient, easier to maintain and better equipped to optimize water pressure during times of peak demand and fire emergencies. "Replacing the tank now with one that meets today's stringent safety and structural standards will guarantee this vital component of our water supply infrastructure is in sound condition for decades to come."

This summer PWWD will hold an additional community briefing meeting to review the detailed work schedule and construction mitigation measures. Physical construction work at the site will begin in late August. For additional updates on the Beacon Hill water tower project, visit [www.pwwd.org/currentprojects](http://www.pwwd.org/currentprojects).



Current Water Tank at Beacon Hill.



Rendering of new, proposed Water Tank.

## Superintendent's Message



Water suppliers have the vital responsibility to protect public health and safety. Proactive water sustainability measures have far reaching environmental, financial, emergency preparedness and operational

benefits for water suppliers and the communities they serve.

Efficient and sustainable use of potable water will reduce energy demand. This is because the deep well pumps utilized by the regional water purveyors to distribute water rely on a significant amount of electric power. High capacity electric pump motors, ranging in capacity from 60- to 200-horsepower, provide the primary power required to draw water from the aquifer and ultimately to the home. The wise use of our precious drinking water supply will lower electric demand on the Water District and on the power system.

Not only does the reduction in power demand improve electric system reliability, it also has far reaching environmental benefits. Less usage, particularly under peak conditions, allows water suppliers to better manage pumpage from its supply wells, thereby reducing stress on the local aquifer. This also ensures that an ample supply of water will be available during an emergency. In addition, lessening the stress that is placed on a local aquifer segment reduces the potential for drawing contaminants deeper into the groundwater system.

Proactive planning and implementation of sustainable measures to reduce water use will ensure that future generations will have a safe and adequate supply of drinking water.

I look forward to working with our community as we develop and implement sustainability measures to ensure our delivery of a reliable and sustainable drinking water supply now and well into the future.

— Superintendent Paul J. Granger, P.E.

## Be SMART and GREEN, SAVE 15

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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](http://www.pwwd.org/conservation) or [www.facebook.com/pwwaterdistrict](http://www.facebook.com/pwwaterdistrict).



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

## Protecting Our Water

### PWWD STAYS ON TOP OF 1,4-DIOXANE CONCERNS

Port Washington Water District has always taken a proactive approach to testing and reporting on potential emerging contaminants, specifically with 1,4-dioxane. Initial testing was conducted during 2014, and the District volunteered to conduct a repeat sampling in 2016. Resampling and testing will continue to take place in the coming months.

Recent media coverage on the detection of 1,4-dioxane in various Long Island drinking water wells has heightened public awareness of the issue. PWWD Superintendent Paul Granger, P.E. is the chair of the New York Section AWWA Water Utility Council and is currently working with other water health professionals to ensure that every precaution is being taken to protect our water supply. He has prepared the following overview and outline of 1,4-dioxane to further educate consumers.

#### 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 such 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 so pervasive in these everyday household products:

- Cosmetics
- Detergents
- Shampoos
- 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.

The Federal Consumer Product Safety Commission continues to monitor for 1,4-dioxane in consumer products, and legislation has been proposed to regulate and to restrict chemicals such as 1,4-dioxane.

#### 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](http://www.pwwd.org).



## Commissioner News

### 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.