

# WATER CONNECTION

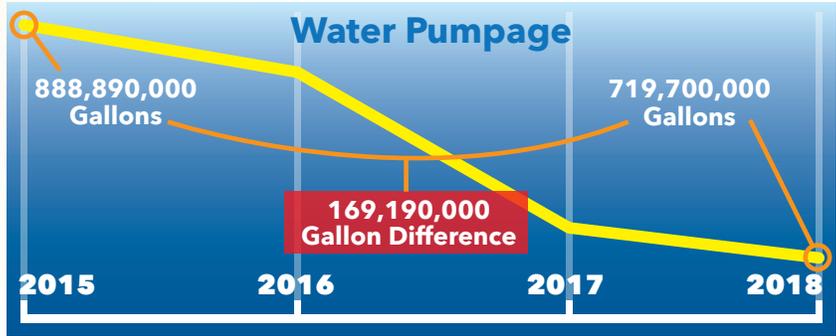
A Publication of the Port Washington Water District

## Water Conservation & Sustainability

### Think Smart Water Conservation

**W**ater conservation remains the most effective way of guaranteeing sustainability. Nearly 30,000 consumers rely on Port Washington Water District (PWWD) for potable water each and every day. To meet conservation and water quality goals, the District continues to work with scientists and Long Island's leading engineers to develop innovative ways to help residents conserve water.

Through our proactive program and policies, PWWD has set the benchmark for water conservation and we ask our consumers to be judicious in their water usage during peak pumping months. When our consumers take an active role in smart water conservation practices, everyone benefits. Whether it's fixing leaks or limiting outdoor water use, we all make an impact in preserving our water supply.



### Smart Controller Rebate Program Renewed for 2019

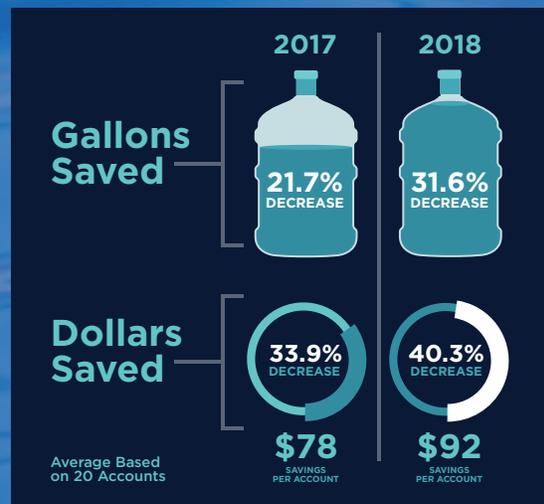
**F**or the third year in a row, our EPA Watersense Smart Irrigation Controller rebate program for residential properties is underway. The program provides a \$150 rebate to replace old analog controllers with new EPA Watersense Smart Irrigation Controllers. The 2019 program provides funding for 35 controllers, so we urge residents to apply for the rebate as soon as possible.

PWWD Commissioner Mindy Germain commented, "By using a Smart Irrigation Controller, you will immediately see a reduction in your water use without sacrificing the health and beauty of your lawn and garden. The Smart Irrigation Controller will give your lawn just enough water while eliminating water waste. It uses scientific information to adjust watering, as the technology accounts for weather conditions, plants and soil types."



## BIG Results

An analysis of 20 PWWD consumer accounts that have installed Smart Irrigation Controllers shows there was a notable 40.3% decrease in water consumption costs and approximately \$92 was saved per account in 2018. Additionally, an average of 22,440 gallons of water were saved per account. Overall, pumpage for 2018 was 4.4% lower when compared to 2017. That's smart savings!



## Start saving now!

If you would like to install a Smart Irrigation Controller, you can receive a rebate of \$150. To get started, go to [www.pwwd.org/smartcontrollerrebate](http://www.pwwd.org/smartcontrollerrebate) and fill out an application to receive a Smart Irrigation Controller. HINT! We've never turned anyone down! But hurry while supplies last.



# What is 1,4-Dioxane?

Recent media coverage on the detection of an emerging contaminant 1,4-dioxane in various Long Island drinking water wells has heightened public awareness of the issue.

To better educate our consumers, let's examine what 1,4-dioxane is and where it comes from. 1,4-Dioxane is a synthetic chemical that has reached area wells primarily because of industrial manufacturing operations that used a solvent containing 1,4-dioxane known as TCA, which was banned in the 1990s and is no longer used. 1,4-Dioxane is also used in small concentrations in a variety of applications such as inks and adhesives, and it is commonly found in products such as cosmetics, detergents, shampoos, deodorants, pharmaceuticals, and food packaging.



## Taking Proactive Measures to Treat 1,4-Dioxane

Port Washington Water District is taking every precaution necessary to test, monitor and assess all our water for 1,4-dioxane/PFAS.

We're also taking steps to prepare for New York State Department of Health's adoption of new, stricter standards for 1,4-dioxane/PFAS, and that includes taking the polluters to court so that they, not our customers, pay for the treatment costs needed to meet those new standards.

When you make a mess, you clean it up. The defendants are responsible for putting these contaminants in our water, and they should be responsible for the costs of removing them.

These contaminants will be expensive to remove, and those costs should be borne by the industrial chemical manufacturers who are responsible for their presence in our water supply.

**For more information, please visit our website and download our "1,4-Dioxane Fact Sheet" at [www.pwwd.org/fact-sheets](http://www.pwwd.org/fact-sheets).**

### Water Conservation & Sustainability

#### PWWD WATER SAVING TIPS

- Promptly repair any leaks in and around your taps, pipes and outdoor spigots.
- When washing dishes, never run water continuously.
- When brushing your teeth, turn the water off while you are actually brushing.
- Wash only full loads in your washing machine.
- Nassau County Ordinance prohibits lawn watering between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m.
- Do not over-water. Soil cannot store extra water.
- Install a rain sensor on your irrigation system—it will prevent sprinklers from going on in the rain.
- Do not irrigate in windy conditions, which increases evaporation of water.
- Aerate your lawn every two to three years for better water absorption.

## Pharmaceutical Drug Take Back Day Program

**Responsible Disposal –  
Secure & Convenient**



Coordinating with Port Washington Police District, PWWD recently launched a Pharmaceutical Drug Take Back Day program to encourage residents to safely dispose of expired or unused prescription drugs in a convenient location, further preventing pharmaceuticals, which contain nitrates, from entering our groundwater.

“We want to thank the community for participating in our pharmaceutical drug take back events and in between our annual events we encourage residents to drop off any unused or expired meds at the police precinct,” stated PWWD Commissioner Mindy Germain.



Mindy Germain, Water Commissioner

Port Washington Police and shipped to a certified disposal site.

Last fall, our Take Back Day attracted many community members to toss out their medications into a large collection bin at District headquarters. The discarded medication was taken by

## Planning Our Water Future



To ensure proper prioritization and optimize financing, the District is embarking on its most comprehensive planning effort to date. It will be based on data, science, condition assessments and trend analysis. This plan is very important as we proactively address saltwater intrusion concerns, emerging contaminants and the impact of additional water demands on our operations. Our plan will help ensure that a safe and reliable supply of high-quality water will be available to our residents and future generations.

“Our major objective is to prolong the life of our water system now, and into the future,” commented PWWD Commissioner Peter Meyer. “This takes dedicated planning and an investment in time and resources. To that end, we’re fully committed to making this plan a reality.”



Peter Meyer, Water Commissioner

The Board anticipates completion of the Master Plan by summer 2019. It will be available on [pwwd.org](http://pwwd.org).

### Commissioner News



## David Brackett RE-ELECTED AS WATER COMMISSIONER

Congratulations to David Brackett on his re-election as Water Commissioner of Port Washington Water District. The annual election of a PWWD Water Commissioner is for a three-year term.

A life-long resident of Port Washington, David has proudly served the community as a Water Commissioner for the past 27 years, and as Chairman for the past six 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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## District News

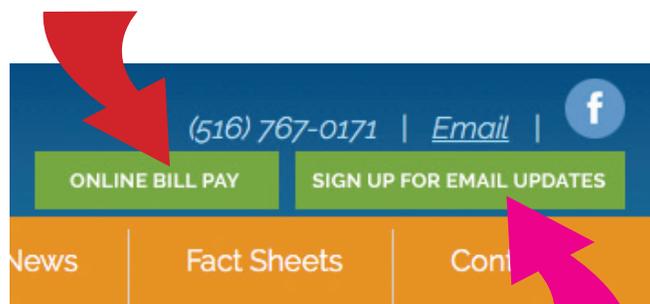
# Beacon Hill Tank Update



The replacement of the Beacon Hill water tower was successfully completed in November 2018. The original water tower reached the end of its useful life and a full tank replacement was 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 system. The PWWD Board of Commissioners appreciates the cooperation and understanding of the community.

## Don't Forget...You Can Pay Your Bill Online!

For your added convenience, the PWWD website features a secure and easy-to-access payment system. Simply visit [www.pwwd.org](http://www.pwwd.org) and click the green "Online Bill Pay" button in the upper right-hand corner. Have your water bill handy to reference your Account Number and Online Confirmation Number (also called Online ID Number) when you register for the first time.



## Sign Up for Updates

Part of our public service is to keep our consumers up-to-date with news and important information. If you would like to receive periodic email communications from PWWD, visit our website at [www.pwwd.org](http://www.pwwd.org) and click the green "Sign Up for Email Updates" button.