



# Oyster Bay Water District Water News

A Newsletter Concerning Our Water Supply

Spring 2010

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## NEW TREATMENT SYSTEM NOW IN SERVICE

The Board of Commissioners of the Oyster Bay Water District is proud to announce that the construction of a wellhead treatment system at Plant No. 2 on Shutter Lane in Oyster Bay Cove has been completed and the system is now in service. The new treatment system utilizes activated carbon filtration to remove the low levels of volatile organic compounds from the water. “This new system was installed to ensure that the water being supplied to our residents meets all Federal and State drinking water standards”, stated Commissioner Francis Bladykas.

The Water District worked very closely with the Village of Oyster Bay Cove and the Shutter Lane Homeowners Association in order to minimize the impact of this project on the local residents. Commissioner Robert McEvoy stated that, “We met with



Shutter Lane Granular Activated  
Carbon Treatment System

representatives of the Village and the local residents, listened to their comments and designed the treatment building to accommodate the public’s concerns. The District always tries to be a good neighbor. We are not a remote Authority or a big private utility. We are the local Water District that just wants to meet the needs of our local community.”



New Treatment Building (Left) and Existing Wellhouse No. 2-2 at Shutter Lane

## WATER STORAGE TANK REHABILITATION COMPLETE



The Oyster Bay Water District maintains over \$20 million of infrastructure including five (5) water storage tanks to assist in maintaining water pressure and providing sufficient fire flow capacity in case of an emergency. Every year, the District evaluates the condition of the infrastructure to determine when scheduled preventive maintenance will be needed. One of our water storage tanks is a 210,000 gallons elevated tank located on Berry Hill Road. This steel tank was originally constructed in 1995. The original coating/paint had recently reached the end of its useful life and small amounts of corrosion were observed.

The Board of Commissioners awarded a repainting contract in late 2009. The painting contractor conducted a complete rehabilitation of the tank, which included the sandblasting and repainting of the tanks interior and exterior. The work was completed in late March and the tank was placed back into service in April 2010.

The coating system should protect the structural steel of the tank from corrosion for approximately 15 to 20 years. If properly maintained, this tank should remain in service for the Oyster Bay Water District for 100 years. The project, which cost approximately \$800,000, was financed by a reserve account that was funded by cellular antenna reserve.



## COST REDUCTION MEASURES CONTINUE

The Board of Commissioners is proud to announce that several District operational programs have produced real cost savings at the District in terms of dividend checks and cash rebates. These cost savings will continue to allow the District to provide high quality water at reasonable costs.

The District continues to participate in an energy curtailment program where we utilize our on-site emergency generators during Long Island's peak energy usage days. The District has received a total of approximately \$4,529 for participating in this program from the winter of 2008/2009 and summer of 2009.

The District also participates in purchasing cooperatives with other municipal entities to obtain low costs including purchasing fuel for vehicles from the Town of Oyster Bay, and providing road restoration through the Town of Oyster Bay. Nassau County blanket orders are

utilized to purchase oil and diesel fuel and water treatment chemicals are purchased through the Nassau-Suffolk Water Commissioners Association cooperative contract. All of these programs help save thousands of dollars every year.

### Safety is Top Priority

By maintaining an excellent employee safety record for the past four (4) years, the District has received a dividend check in the amount of \$5,708 that represents a 25 percent reduction in our workers compensation insurance premium. This excellent safety record can be attributed to the District's current employee safety training measures that includes on-site safety training seminars and formalized safety procedures.

### MEETING SCHEDULE

Please note that the Oyster Bay Water District routinely schedules its meetings every Thursday morning at 9:00 a.m. at the Water District office located at 45 Audrey Avenue. All residents of the District are welcome to attend the meeting. Any changes in this Thursday meeting date will be published in the Enterprise Pilot and on the Water District's Website.

### COME VISIT OUR WEBSITE [www.oysterbaywaterdistrict.org](http://www.oysterbaywaterdistrict.org)

Please log on and register your email address so we may add you to our database. The district will use this database to notify our residents of the important events and District information. You can also register to be part of our emergency contact program - Swift Reach.



## COST OF WATER

Recent studies have shown that the electric costs for the typical Long Island water supplier is approximately 20 percent of its operating budget. The same study also determined that the cost of electricity on Long Island is one of the highest unit costs in the

nation, averaging approximately 21 cents per kilowatt/hour. It is the second highest energy cost in the nation, only behind the State of Hawaii. This energy cost is three times the cost of electric in States such as North Dakota and Idaho. Even with this extreme energy cost and high energy use, the Oyster Bay Water District

is able to provide water to its residents at a cost of approximately \$1.00 per 1,000 gallons. This cost is still less than the average cost of water in the nation.

We pay \$3.00 for a gallon of gasoline, \$3.10 for a gallon of milk and \$2.50 for a gallon of bottled water. The Oyster Bay Water District sells its water at a cost of **1¢ for 10 gallons**. And that is delivered to your home. Not a bad deal!

So the next time you are shopping and you look to pick up that case of bottled water, think twice. Why not just take it from the tap? Save money and save the environment as well.



## DISTRICT FIRE HYDRANTS – READY WHEN NEEDED

Many people don't realize that it is the Water District that owns and maintains the fire hydrants located in the streets. The Oyster Bay Water District maintains 415 fire hydrants located throughout the service area. These hydrants are typically located approximately 750 feet apart and within 1,000 feet of your home. This close spacing will assist the firefighters by minimizing the amount of fire hose needed to be laid out during a fire.

The Oyster Bay Water District routinely tests the hydrants to ensure of their operation during an emergency. The District also repaints the hydrants when necessary.

The employees of the Water District work closely with the Oyster Bay Fire Company No. 1 and Atlantic Steamer Fire Company to ensure that there are properly operating fire hydrants with sufficient water flow to assist in firefighting.

Residents can assist the Water District by keeping their local hydrants free of obstructions and remember to shovel snow and ice away from the hydrants during the winter months. Residents are also reminded to contact the Water District, at 516-922-4848, should you see any unauthorized use of a hydrant.

## EXCELLENT WATER QUALITY

The Board of Commissioners of the Oyster Bay Water District is once again proud to announce that the water quality being provided to our residents exceeds all Federal, State and Local Health Department drinking water standards. The enclosed 2009 Annual Water Supply Statement/Consumer Confidence Report has been prepared to summarize the water quality of our water last year. As shown in the report, our water met all water quality standards and we did not have any water quality violations.

The District continuously tests the water quality from all of our supply wells and from our distribution system. We have the water tested by an independent New York State approved testing laboratory that conducts over 10,000 tests annually, checking for over 180 different parameters. These parameters include heavy metals, inorganic compounds, volatile organic compounds, herbicides, pesticides, as well as bacteriological tests.

The Oyster Bay Water District takes pride in providing a safe and reliable source of water to our local residents. Should you have any questions concerning the quality of our drinking water, please contact our office at 516-922-4848.

# I want to be here for you.

If only our water infrastructure could talk to us. The corner hydrant might remind us that only tap water protects us against the threat of fire, and that the pipes below our streets need constant attention to keep life-saving water flowing at the right pressure, 24/7, without fail.

We are all stewards of the water infrastructure generations before handed down to us, and our water bills keep that system strong and reliable. For more information about what your tap water delivers, visit [www.oysterbaywaterdistrict.org](http://www.oysterbaywaterdistrict.org)



Only Tap Water Delivers



Presented in cooperation with

 American Water Works Association





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## NASSAU COUNTY SPRINKLING RESTRICTIONS STILL CONTINUE!



The sprinkling restrictions that were in effect last year will still apply this year, as follows:

- All water sprinkling for lawns, gardens and shrubbery is **PROHIBITED** between 10 AM and 4 PM.
- Even-numbered addresses are allowed to water on even-numbered days during prescribed hours.
- Odd-numbered addresses are allowed to water on odd-numbered days during prescribed hours.
- Nassau County ordinances provide for a \$50 civil penalty against first-time violators, with increased fines for repeat offenders.

Please cooperate with our **WATER CONSERVATION EFFORT!**



## Water Quality Report Enclosed

Enclosed with this newsletter is the Oyster Bay Water District's Annual Water Supply Report for 2009. This report presents the facts about the quality of our water supply and summarizes the water quality sampling test results taken throughout 2009. The District is proud to report that our water meets or exceeds all Federal and State drinking water standards. Should you have any questions concerning this report, please contact the Water District at (516) 922-4848.

