



Water Talk



2013 Budget No Water Rate Increase & Fully Tax Cap Compliant!

Everyone knows that these are difficult economic times, so good news is more than welcome. Despite rising costs from virtually every sector, the SHWD Board of Commissioners is pleased to announce that 2013 water rates will remain unchanged from 2012.

Further, for the second consecutive year, the tax rate will remain below the recently enacted New York State 2% Tax Cap Legislation. Even with these frugal budget measures, our vital infrastructure improvements will continue unabated throughout 2013.

"It's never easy," Commissioner Paul Tonna said, "but through prudent and sound fiscal planning, the District has been able to hold the line on the budget for 2013. That includes the continual upgrading of all our infrastructure, which, in turn, means excellent water quality for consumers."

Commissioner Dominick Feeny agreed, pointing out, "The upgrading includes the extensive renovation of Plant #7 Well and Treatment Facility in South Melville. It will receive GAC (Granulated Activated Carbon) updating to remove any impurities."

Checkin' Them Off!

The South Huntington Water District's mission to bring you a clean, safe and reliable source of drinking water 365 days a year, never ends. It requires constant maintenance and modernization of complex production, treatment and distribution facilities in multiple areas.

As the year draws to a close, let's review what we have accomplished in 2012.

✓ **Well Site #3, Amityville Road:**
The new treatment facility housing water quality enhancing Granulated Activated Carbon filters has been completed. It has received a complete overhaul, and the existing buildings, access way and security fencing have been improved.



✓ **Well Site #20, Rivendell Drive, The Villages:**
This building housing Granulated Activated Carbon filters also has been completed. Improvements were made to both the facility and access ways. The upgrading of Plant #20 was completely funded internally from a dedicated fund.

✓ **Administration Building Emergency Generator:**
Construction is currently underway for the replacement of our headquarters emergency power generator.

✓ **Well Site #7, Walt Whitman Road:**
Construction is slated to commence this Fall for the complete and total renovation of this vital Melville site. It will include water quality enhancing Granulated Activated Carbon and mechanical overhauls to both wells.

Recycling Pays

As you might be aware, the cost of metals has skyrocketed in recent years. Particularly hard hit are those commonly used in the water supply industry: copper, iron and brass. With costs increasing unpredictably, the SHWD is mitigating the increased expense with a comprehensive metals recycling program. Every bit of waterworks metal from a water service or main repair, fire hydrant replacement or water meter changeout is reclaimed. They go into our scrap recycling bin and are sold to a local recycling center. This yields substantial funds which are immediately returned to our operating budget and keeps valuable items out of the waste stream.



District Maintenance Mechanic Peter Tischner unloads copper piping for recycling following a water service repair.



SHWD Receives Award

New York State Insurance Fund Business Manager Catherine Carillo presents SHWD Commissioner Dominick Feeney with commemorative plaque. Behind Commissioner Feeney is District engineering consultant Ben Bletsch and to the right are Superintendent Kevin Carroll, Commissioner Ciro DePalo, Commissioner Paul Tonna, District legal counsel Michael McCarthy and District Office Manager Dianne Rapczyk.

The South Huntington Water District was recently awarded a handsome plaque by the New York State Insurance Fund. The award commemorates an 80-year business relationship spanning the period 1931 to 2011. The Insurance Fund representatives thanked us for our loyalty and commended the Water District on our outstanding safety record. Thank you New York State Insurance Fund, and thank you SHWD employees for your continuing commitment to workplace safety!

Keep Your Meter Pit Cover Clear

We read all water meters four times per year. In most instances, each quarterly visit entails locating the meter vault (or "pit"), then opening the lid to obtain the reading. While usually done without difficulty, we occasionally encounter obstructed meter pits. These obstructions slow down the meter reading process and at worst, result in a no-read, which results in an estimated bill to you.

Common obstructions encountered are pits buried beneath new lawns, new driveway and walkway installations, ornamental plantings and piled lawn wastes. Pit covers must be maintained flush with the surrounding grade and free of any overhead obstructions. Also, if you should ever require emergency turn-off of your water by a plumber or by the SHWD, that very same meter pit is where it will be done.

So, please help us and help yourself. Keep your water meter pit on grade and free of all obstructions. If you have questions or can't locate your water meter pit, please call us at 631-427-8190.



Notice of Election December 11, 2012

The annual election for the office of Water District Commissioner will be held:

- Tuesday, December 11, 2012
- 3:00 P.M. until 9:00 P.M.

The purpose is to elect one (1) Commissioner for a three (3) year term. Any resident who has lived in the South Huntington Water District for at least thirty (30) days and who is a registered voter is eligible to vote in the election. For your convenience, there are two polling locations:

1. King of Kings Lutheran Church, Old South Path, Melville.
2. Water District Administration Building, corner of Fifth Avenue South and West 13th Street, Huntington Station.

Updating Our Emergency Response Plan



The SHWD is extremely diligent in preparing for potential emergencies. Commissioner Ciro DePalo noted, "We're in the process of updating our Emergency Response Plan. If you are a home dialysis user or a commercial provider of such services, please contact the SHWD. We will include you on our priority/medical services water user list." Direct calls to 631-427-8190.

Snow and Hydrants Don't Mix

With Winter around the corner, can snowfall be far behind? When shoveling your driveway or walkway, please don't forget your local neighborhood fire hydrant. In a fire emergency, a visible and clear hydrant can save precious seconds...or a life!



Eight-Time Winner of Suffolk County's "Best Tasting Water"

WaterTalk

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Board of Water Commissioners

Paul J. Tonna, Chairman
Ciro DePalo, Treasurer
Dominick P. Feeney, Secretary
Superintendent, Kevin Carroll