



Water Talk

South Huntington Water District

Teamwork Works!

The Huntington Town fire departments and the South Huntington Water District have always had a symbiotic relationship. Firefighters require a dependable water supply and well-maintained fire hydrants to deliver it. The South Huntington Water District relies upon the 24-hour emergency services provided by the fire departments to protect our vitally important operation and all the people within the District. Teamwork works!

So when the Huntington Manor Fire Department recently needed to upgrade its emergency communications capabilities, it was natural for them to turn to us for assistance. The Water District welcomed the opportunity to help, dedicating space at our Plant #13 tank site so that Huntington Manor could build a small radio repeater facility there. In that same spirit of cooperation, Huntington Manor is providing the Water District with space for its own communications gear as well as giving us access to generator power for use in blackouts.



Kevin Carroll

SHWD Commissioner George Kopp and HMFD Commissioner Lou Agioste

So it is a win-win situation and another fine example of small agencies banding together to help keep the community safe and to keep costs down.

A Vital Link

The South Huntington Water District is an independent and self-sufficient water supplier, capable of producing and distributing over three billion gallons of water per year to our customers. But did you know that we maintain our own "Internet Pipeline"?

No, it has nothing to do with the cyberspace Internet. It's actually a web of water main "interconnections" with our neighboring water suppliers. These mains link us to the suppliers that share geographical borders with our District. Although normally closed by a series of valves, when they are opened in an emergency, these interconnections allow the South Huntington Water District to share water across those borders within an hour or less.

With each of Long Island's municipal water suppliers linked to one another, it is theoretically possible to transfer drinking water from Manhasset to Montauk!

And with the South Huntington Water District strategically placed on the Nassau-Suffolk border, we are a vitally important link in that network. This is just another example of strong, independent water suppliers acting in unison when an emergency situation may arise.

Infrastructure Renewal

Since the District was created in 1925, the expansion and renewal of our infrastructure has been an unending task. There's a lot to maintain. As the second largest water supplier in Suffolk County, the South Huntington Water District owns and maintains 21 active supply wells, 7 reservoir tanks and more than 250 miles of water mains. If all those mains were placed in a straight line, they would stretch from Huntington to Washington D.C., with a few miles to spare!

Since 1925, a lot has changed. Not only have we had to cope with an ever-growing residential population, but we've had to plan and construct a supply system to service our prized commercial customers. Add to that mix the increasingly stringent water quality requirements of both the state and federal governments, and it is easy to see why our infrastructure improvements are an expanding part of our budget.

The last of our Phase I Projects are now either underway or scheduled to begin shortly. The Granulated Activated Carbon (GAC) filtration system at our Plant #15 well site (Downs Road) is currently on schedule for completion in the early part of 2010. The renovations

of the District's Reservoir #13, (the Jayne's Hill tank depicted in our logo), is scheduled to begin in the Fall of this year.



Kevin Carroll

Plant #15 GAC Treatment Construction

Looking ahead:

We are currently planning for Phase II Projects. This work will largely center around GAC filtration for our Well #3 (Amityville Road), Well #4 (New York Avenue) and Well #7 (Walt Whitman Road). These important infrastructure improvements will begin in 2010 and run through 2012. They will be funded through low-interest bonding. Rest assured that the District is committed to keeping your rates and taxes low, while also making certain that our facilities are capable of producing an abundant and safe water supply.



Fire Hydrant Vigilance



Fire hydrants are silent sentinels, ever ready to provide a source of water to firefighters in an emergency. While our hydrants are thoroughly checked and serviced at least once per year in conjunction with local fire departments, your alertness can help supplement those checks.

The District does allow a limited number of contractors to use our hydrants upon fee payment and adherence to a strict set of rules. Others sometimes avoid those rules and illegally take water from the hydrants. Properly permitted contractors will have a bright yellow permit bearing the Water District logo and the legend "2009" on their trucks. The hydrant permit decal is shown to the left.

So if you have any questions about whether someone should be using a hydrant, or if you spot a leaking or damaged hydrant, please give us a call at our 7-day, 24-hour phone number: 631-427-8190.

A Silver District Career!

The Water District recently marked another employee milestone in May of this year: General Administrator Richard Wurtz completed his 25th year of service with us. Rich has headed up the administrative wing of the District since 1984, overseeing customer service and billing, employee records and benefits and District budgetary matters. In recognition of this important milestone, Rich was recently awarded a handsome plaque by the Board of Commissioners, and we all join in congratulating him for his valuable contributions.



Kevin Carroll

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WaterTalk

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