



Water Talk

South Huntington Water District



South Huntington's Board of Commissioners at a recent business meeting (L to R) Ciro DePalo, Paul Tonna, Dominick Feeney

Suit Settlement Funds Water Quality Treatment

When it became evident that leaking underground gasoline storage tanks were contributing to the pollution of Long Island's groundwater, the Commissioners of the South Huntington Water District joined with other water suppliers in bringing suit against the major oil companies. After protracted legal action, a monetary settlement with the District and other Island water suppliers has been reached.

The Board of Commissioners elected to reserve our portion of the suit settlements funds in an account dedicated solely for the improvement of drinking water quality. Appropriately, the District has now chosen to take a portion of those monies for the installation of a Granulated Activated Carbon (GAC) filtration system at our Well #20 in Melville. A complex and expensive installation, the use of lawsuit settlement funds will substantially reduce the cost to our rate and tax paying customers.

The settlement of the suit is another example of how the South Huntington Water District actively participates in the leading groundwater environmental issues with the result of providing you with drinking water of the highest quality at reasonable and affordable rates.

Odd-Even Reminder

The hazy, lazy days of Summer are upon us and the demand for District water will soon be at its peak. Please follow the "Odd-Even" lawn watering schedule we have been advertising now for several months. Water your lawn only on odd-number calendar days if your house address is an odd number; water only on even-number calendar days if your home address is an even number. Thanks for conserving and for helping to even the odds!



Employee Service

Awards

The South Huntington Water District is more than just a place to work – it's a career. That is borne out by the long service records of so many of our employees. June of 2011 saw two more service milestones reached: Senior Maintenance Mechanic Dave DeGruchy celebrated his 30th year of employment and fellow Maintenance Mechanic Will Chavez notched his 10th year with the District.

Congratulations, gentlemen!



Maintenance mechanics Dave DeGruchy (Left) and Will Chavez (Right) display their awards and receive congratulations from Superintendent Kevin Carroll (Center).

“What Do I Fix?” & “What Does The Water District Fix?”

We're often asked this question when water suddenly appears on a customer's lawn or at the curb. No matter how well constructed and maintained, portions of any water system will eventually fail in some manner. When a water service – that is, the individual water pipe originating at the large main in the street and entering the customer's house – leaks, it needs to be repaired. Under the Ordinances of the South Huntington Water District, we will repair all portions of the water service from the main in the roadway up to the Town property line. The property owner is responsible for all water service repairs from the Town property line on into the home, including all necessary repairs in the water meter vault.

If you spot or suspect a water leak and are unsure of who is responsible for its repair, do not hesitate to call us! We will be glad to investigate it and then advise you accordingly.



Lest We Forget

As we go to press, we're reminded by the celebration of Armed Forces Day and Memorial Day of the tremendous debt we owe our veterans. The District has been honored to have employees who served in all branches of the military, including a former Army Major General! Two of our current employees are proud veterans: Maintenance Mechanic Ken Carsten served with the U.S. Coast Guard and Commissioner Dominick Feeney is a decorated Army combat veteran of the Korean War. Thank you Ken and Dom. And thanks to all the men and women, past and present, who have served our nation with distinction and sacrificed so greatly.



The Strong, Silent Type

Your local fire hydrants are the strong, silent type – so we'll tell you a few facts about them on their behalf:

- Most people don't realize it, but the familiar fire hydrant belongs to the water supplier, not the fire department. It's an integral part of our distribution system that provides fire protection and also a means to test our water and to flush our water mains. Please report any damage you see to a fire hydrant directly to us.
- Each of our hydrants is inspected annually by the people most dependent upon them – the local fire department.
- The bright paint job protects the metal and makes it more visible to fire fighters. It also identifies the water supplier. All of South Huntington's hydrants are painted red and silver.
- When a car hits a fire hydrant, people expect to see the Hollywood-inspired geyser. Fortunately, this is rather uncommon. Most modern hydrants are designed to “break away” upon vehicle impact, causing minimal water loss.
- Depending on water main size and water pressure, some District's hydrants are capable of supplying water in excess of 1,000 gallons per minute.
- Successful fire-fighting is often measured in minutes if not seconds. A hydrant hidden by shrubbery or snow, or obstructed by a retaining wall or a fence can cost the first responders those precious moments. Please keep your local hydrant clear and easily accessible at all times.



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WaterTalk

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Board of Water Commissioners

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