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Bethpage Water District

25 Adams Avenue
Bethpage, NY 11714

BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS

William J. Ellinger, Chairperson
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Gary S. Bretton, Secretary

Michael J. Bouffis, Superintendent

Hours: 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., weekdays
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www.bethpagewater.com

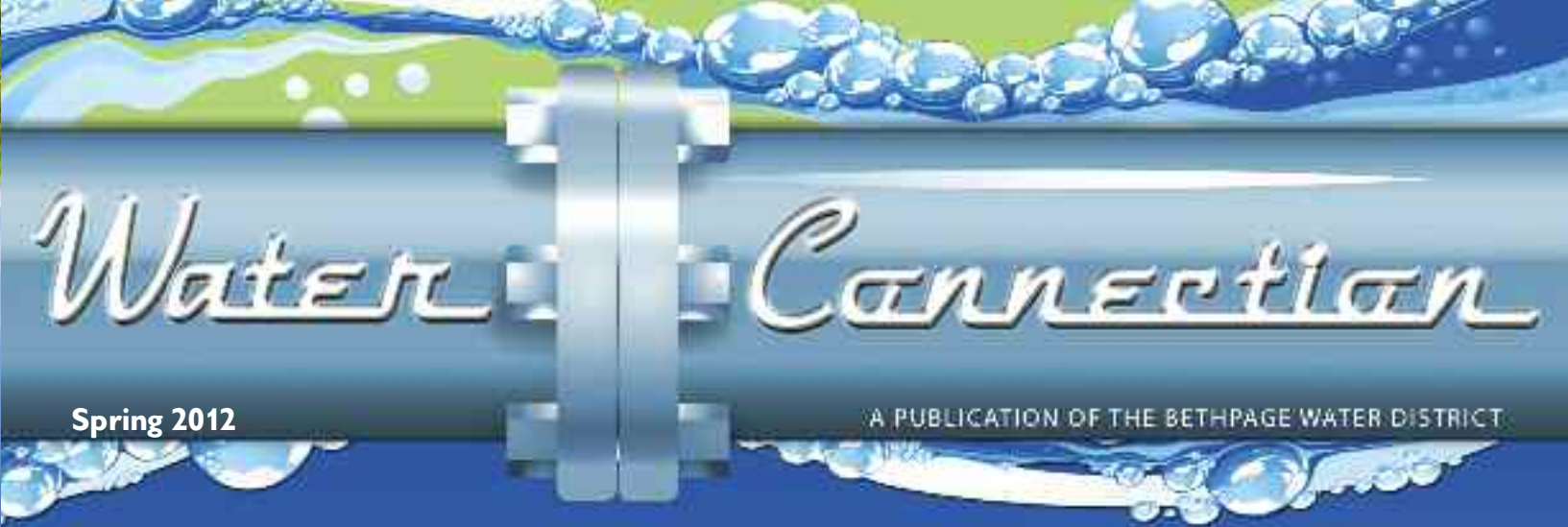
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- Water your lawn and garden early in the morning or at night to avoid excess evaporation.
- Nassau County ordinance prohibits watering between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. year round.
- Even numbered addresses and non-numbered homes can water on even numbered days; odd numbered addresses can water on odd numbered days.
- Install a spring-loaded shutoff nozzle on each garden hose to avoid water waste.
- Always remember to check underground sprinklers, pools and spas for leaks.
- For gardens, make small irrigation ditches along rows of plants and flowers.

So here are a few conservation tips to think about this summer season:

As conservationists, the Bethpage Water District urges our consumers to be mindful and look for ways to conserve water. To maintain peak performance and provide water without interruption, we turn to you, our consumers, for assistance.

Water Conservation Tips During The Summer



Spring 2012

A PUBLICATION OF THE BETHPAGE WATER DISTRICT

▶▶ VALVE TURNING MACHINE. EXERCISING THE SYSTEM!

It may come as a surprise that the Bethpage Water System needs regular exercise to stay in shape!

Most of our infrastructure has been in service for as long as 90 years, but it's the exceptional building skills and materials from long ago that have kept it intact and working perfectly today. Our crews keep every part of the District in top working order, which as you can imagine is a full-time job because of the over 100 miles of water mains involved.

Among the most critical of these parts are the control valves that regulate water flow. There are thousands of them! The integrity of the entire water system depends upon their reliable operation during routine maintenance and emergency situations.

Some of these valves are so large that turning them by manpower alone can be extremely difficult and has the potential to cause

damage to the valve or injury to the worker. But they must be turned or "exercised" regularly or they will become unworkable or even break.

To better maintain and protect our water, BWD recently acquired a Valve Turning Machine to do the exercising of the system. With this new piece of equipment and technology, our crews can open and close the valves with the aid of a hydraulic actuator and an on-board computer. This keeps the infrastructure operating freely and prevents it from "freezing" from corrosion.

The new Valve Turning Machine's computer is so advanced that it uses the District's GIS mapping system to help locate valves with pinpoint accuracy and stores useful data for our workers to operate the valves in the future. Because of its speed and efficiency, the important business of preventive care is expedited, which means we can continue to deliver a plentiful water supply to you, our consumers, throughout the District.



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Message from the Superintendent

Welcome to Bethpage Water District's Spring 2012 Newsletter

As part of our mission to deliver an uninterrupted supply of the best quality drinking water to our consumers, we are continually updating, upgrading and improving our existing facilities and infrastructure. We're happy to report that Plant 4 on Sophia Street is up and running, we're close to completing all construction at Plant 6 on Park Lane, and the Nitrate Removal Facility at Plant 1 is operating with 100% efficiency. These capital improvements were all completed on time and within budget and will service our community for generations to come.

As we approach the summer months, we ask that you be mindful of conserving water and acknowledge Nassau County water ordinances. We've listed a number of water conservation tips within this Newsletter for your reference.

Lastly, we're proud to unveil our new logo which has become the official seal of the Bethpage Water District, as well as launching our new website. I hope you find the website informative, and we will be updating it on a regular basis to keep our consumers up-to-date with the latest news from the District. There is also a contact request form for you to email us with any questions or concerns.

As always, have a safe and healthy summer and enjoy the warm months ahead.

— Michael J. Boufis, Superintendent



SCADA Goes Online at BETHPAGE WATER DISTRICT

SCADA (Supervisory Control And Data Acquisition) is a safe, secure computerized system that enables the Bethpage Water District to monitor and run all operations from its central office or from any remote location through a wireless network. Through this network, officials can control all wells, pumps and operations at any time of the day without having to be present in the pump stations.



SCADA systems are widely used to gather and analyze real-time data. They enable officials to monitor and control a plant or equipment in industries such as telecommunications, water and waste control, energy, oil and gas refining and transportation. What does this mean to our consumers? The system can detect trouble anywhere in the system, then transfer the information immediately to a central office where the necessary remedial actions can be taken in real time.

In public services systems such as the BWD, the benefits are:

- Continuous monitoring of water quality
- Consistent service
- Security from invasive actions
- Immediate response to any malfunction or threat to the public water supply
- Remote access
- Efficiency and cost savings in manpower

SCADA systems were first developed in the 1960s. They can be relatively simple for monitoring environmental conditions of a small office building, a municipality like BWD or a highly sophisticated system such as a nuclear power plant. The updates and upgrades made by BWD to its new SCADA system will keep track of all functions of our water system.

Meet The Future of Water Meter Reading

Bethpage Water District meter readers working in our neighborhoods have been a familiar sight for decades.

Our meter readers perform the critical role of recording the water meter readings of every household and business in order to accurately measure how much water is being used.

Transitioning to the future, meters will be read by new applications of radio wave technology that is amazingly precise and completely non-intrusive. Soon, BWD will be implementing a remote system which will enable our personnel to read water meters without having to travel to your home or place of business.

This is how it works: Battery powered transmitters, with a life of 20 years per battery, will be placed on the water meter of each home or business to read the usage. A radio antenna will be installed strategically on BWD tanks and pump stations to pick up the signals from the meters. The reading will then be relayed directly to BWD's main computer and recorded in a database.

This system increases efficiency, and its accuracy is precise. What's more, it's far less intrusive for water meters to be read in this manner. Installation of this new technology will start in the Spring of 2012, and we hope to complete the installation program by Fall of 2015. It should be noted that this new technology will not increase consumer rates, and will not impact the District's workforce in a negative way.



Bethpage Water District Launches New Website

The Bethpage Water District recently launched our new website at www.bethpagewater.com. The revamped site offers a host of new online features that provide consumers with the most up-to-date news, services and public information.

Among the site's many new technical features is an easy-to-use navigational menu making it much more user-friendly for consumers. This allows site visitors to see more information at-a-glance and find what they are looking for quickly and efficiently.

The site features a "News" section on the home page so visitors can be informed immediately and made aware of the latest District happenings. The site also provides information regarding ordinances, public notices, budgets, billing, and "Frequently Asked Questions".

The new site provides downloadable PDFs of the most current drinking water quality reports and seasonal *Water Connection* newsletters. According to Commissioner John Sullivan, "The newly revised website is a powerful tool used to keep the community updated on major news and current events within the District. Without a doubt there was a need for a new website as our previous site had become outdated. It is the goal of the District that all consumers will use and appreciate the site as a valuable community resource."



Required Backflow & Underground Irrigation System Testing

It's important for the District to remind our consumers about required backflow regulations.

A backflow condition may arise when very low or negative street pressure occurs due to water main breaks, hydrants knocked over, etc. If you have had a backflow device installed in your home, it is required by law that it is tested annually by a New York State Certified Backflow Tester.

Bethpage Water Commissioner William Ellinger states, "Backflow prevention devices guard against backflow conditions, and Bethpage Water District will test the device for free until August 31, 2012. Please contact our office and set up an appointment with one of our skilled technicians."

You may visit our new website at www.bethpagewater.com for more information and regulations regarding backflow. Additionally, licensed plumbers or sprinkler/irrigation contractors are knowledgeable about these mandatory requirements if you wish to contract with someone privately.

