

# Water Connection

FALL 2014

A PUBLICATION OF THE BETHPAGE WATER DISTRICT

BethpageWater.org

## Bethpage Water District Prepared to Ensure Community Safety

The Bethpage Water District (BWD) would like to reassure our residents that the District has been preparing for higher levels of the plume and that BWD has taken the necessary measures to ensure that all members of the community continue to receive high quality, treated and safe-to-drink water at all times. At no time will the health or safety of our community's water supply be comprised. Furthermore, the District will continue investing in additional wells — outside of the plume — to ensure the long-term safety of our most precious natural resource.

As Bethpage residents, we are completely appalled at the lack of support so far provided by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC). Despite the DEC's inaction we will continue to relentlessly advocate on the local, state and federal level on behalf of residents. Since 2007, the District has urged the DEC to test the water at deeper levels but they have refused our multiple requests. The Board of Commissioners and District personnel are well aware of our residents' concerns, and the District will continue to pursue remediation and explore every option to ensure the safety of our water supply for generations to come. In addition, the Bethpage Water District will be amending its lawsuit to further hold Grumman and all relevant parties accountable for their transgressions.

Since January 2014, the District has completed over 1,000 tests beyond the number required by the Nassau County Department of Health. In addition to testing more frequently, the Bethpage Water District tests its water supply using parts-per-trillion as its point of reference, a significantly more extensive and thorough testing process than the parts-per-billion required by the Nassau County Department of Health. The District enforces this procedure using the most advanced technology available to ensure the greatest water quality. As both residents and water providers, District personnel are dedicated to the Bethpage community, and we will continue to advocate on behalf of our neighbors.

To keep updated, please visit the Navy's website at <http://go.usa.gov/DyXF> and the District's Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/bethpagewaterdistrict](http://www.facebook.com/bethpagewaterdistrict).

## WATER MAINS INSTALLATION

As part of the 2014 capital improvement projects, the Bethpage Water District has installed a total of 2.39 miles of water main. More than 3,000 feet of brand new water main was installed, and more than 9,000 feet of existing main was replaced with newer and larger materials. "We are always looking for new ways to improve and serve our community," said Bethpage Water District Secretary Gary S. Bretton. "Our highly trained staff is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, to provide the safest water supply possible."

### BETHPAGE WATER DISTRICT BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS



*William J. Ellinger*  
Chairman



*John R. Sullivan*  
Treasurer



*Gary S. Bretton*  
Secretary

# New Bethpage Well to Provide Water Beyond the Plume

## *New High-Quality Water Supply Will Save Residents Money on Treatment Costs*

The Bethpage Water District Board of Commissioners is proud to announce that construction has begun on a brand new well on South Park Drive in Bethpage State Park. The South Park Drive well is part of the District's effort to tap into new sources beyond the plume to provide the highest quality of water to residents without the extra cost for advanced purification treatments of groundwater from existing sources.

"We are always looking for new ways to deliver the best quality water possible to our community efficiently," said Bethpage Water District Chairman William J. Ellinger. "This new well will provide three million gallons of water to residents daily, from a brand new source."



The new well will be the ninth well the District has constructed in an effort to explore alternative water-source options. Progress on the new well's development includes the delivery of the caustic soda chemical storage tank now in place and the completion of interior piping, in addition to the installation of roof trusses, siding and electrical work.

"The District is utilizing the most advanced technologies to best serve our consumers and their water needs," said Bethpage Water District Treasurer John R. Sullivan. "We are looking toward the future with this new well that has no connections to past sources and includes the highest technological features to efficiently deliver the highest quality of water."

The Bethpage Water District worked with the state to determine a location that would allow the District to deliver high-quality water without costly purification treatments. The new well, to be constructed on South Park Drive in Bethpage State Park, is projected to save residents money by eliminating treatment expenses.

"You cannot put a price tag on the safety of our community. As Bethpage residents, we aim to protect our families and our neighbors whenever we make decisions regarding our water," said Bethpage Water District Secretary Gary S. Bretton. "This new well is an example of our commitment to delivering the safest water supply to our neighbors for the lowest possible cost."

## Election Notice

The Bethpage Water District is holding its annual election at the District offices, located at 25 Adams Ave., Bethpage, on Tuesday, December 9, 2014, between the hours of 6:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m. for the purpose of electing a water commissioner for a term of three (3) years.

All candidates for District office shall be residents of the Water District and shall file their names and nominating petitions with the secretary of the board of commissioners. All such nominations shall be submitted in petition form subscribed to by not less than twenty-five registered voters of the District in accordance with the Town Law and Election Law of the State of New York. Petitions must be filed at the office of the Bethpage Water District between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. on any business day in accordance with this notice of election.

# Getting Digital at the Bethpage Fair

The Bethpage Water District Board of Commissioners attended the Bethpage Fair to inform residents about the new digital water meter system EyeOnWater. The District's booth highlighted the system's new features, including an email alert that warns residents of any leaks or complications.

"We thank everyone who came out to the fair and visited us at this year's booth to learn about the services their new digital meter system provides," said Bethpage Water District Chairman William J. Ellinger.



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## New Online Portal for Residents to Track Water Usage

### *Meter System's New Digital Feature Will Conserve Water and Save Money*

The Bethpage Water District recently introduced a new online feature in conjunction with an effort to improve Bethpage water meters. The new online, radio read meter system EyeOnWater, helps residents better recognize trends within their daily water usage quickly and efficiently. Residents can view any detected problems via the new digital monitoring account and will receive alerts in the event of a leak. More improvements, including a new mobile application, are planned in the near future.

"EyeOnWater provides residents with more convenience when reading their meter, in less time and for no cost," said Bethpage Water District Secretary Gary S. Bretton. "With constant digital access to meter data, residents can actively adjust water consumption to ensure a smaller bill and to help conserve water."



The Bethpage Water District encourages residents and local commercial business owners in need of this upgrade to call the District at (516) 931-0093 to make an appointment for their new meter to be installed. Installation will take approximately 30 minutes, and once it is completed, residents are encouraged to visit the District's website for instructions on setting up their digital monitoring account.

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## New Hydrant Replacement Project

### *Hydrants to Maintain Water Pressure and Ensure Resident Safety*

The Bethpage Water District Board of Commissioners announced the replacement of water hydrants to upgrade the District's infrastructure. The upgrade is part of an ongoing program for long-term capital improvements. Each year the District assesses its hydrants and works in conjunction with the fire department to determine which ones are in critical need of repair or replacement. The program will replace more than 10 hydrants throughout the community this year.

Eight of the new fire hydrants were recently installed near Bethpage schools to better protect students in the event of a fire emergency. Installations have so far included two new hydrants near Bethpage High School, three near John F. Kennedy Middle School, and another three near the elementary schools. In addition, the District updated 11 existing hydrants throughout the community to improve water service and keep families safe.



**Bethpage Water District**  
25 Adams Avenue  
Bethpage, NY 11714

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#### **BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS**

William J. Ellinger, Chairperson  
John R. Sullivan, Treasurer  
Gary S. Bretton, Secretary

Michael J. Boufis, Superintendent

Hours: 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. weekdays  
24-Hour Emergency Number: (516) 931-0093

[BethpageWater.com](http://BethpageWater.com)

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[Twitter.com/BethpageW](https://Twitter.com/BethpageW)



## Check Pipes Before You Fly South

As temperatures begin to drop, many Bethpage residents may choose to lock up their Long Island homes and head towards warmer weather. The Bethpage Water District Board of Commissioners reminds homeowners to keep the following in mind before leaving homes unattended for the winter season:

- Please consult with a heating professional if you decide to drain the internal plumbing in your home.
- If you choose not to drain your internal plumbing, the thermostat should be set to a temperature no lower than 60 degrees.
- Insulate all hot water pipes in unheated areas to prevent freezing or bursting.
- Disconnect and drain all outside hose bibs.
- Make sure your lawn sprinkler system is properly drained for the winter.

## Alert: Reports of individuals posing as Bethpage Water District employees to gain access to resident homes.

The Board of Commissioners asks residents to be aware of the current situation and the precautions they can take to ensure their safety. It is important to remember that Bethpage Water District personnel will never visit a residence unless there was an appointment made prior to the visit. All District employees are required to wear Bethpage Water District uniforms and carry photo identification cards. If you have any questions, please contact the Bethpage Water District at (516) 931-0093.