

# All Systems Go!

### New 1,4-Dioxane Treatment System Up and Running at Plant No. 5



(L to R) Board Consultant Sal Greco, Nassau County Legislators Laura Schaffer and Rose Marie Walker, Bethpage Water District Superintendent Mike Boufis, and Bethpage Water District Commissioners John Sullivan (ret.), Theresa Black and John Coumatos unveil the District's new AOP system.

As part of Bethpage Water District's (BWD) strategic plan and commitment to delivering quality drinking water to its consumers, the District became the first water provider in the world to put a TrojanUVFlex<sup>™</sup> 100 treatment system online, utilizing this specific type of advanced oxidation process (AOP) to remove 1,4-dioxane from the community's drinking water at three of its plant sites. During 2020, the District put an aggressive construction program in place to ensure all water flowing to Bethpage residents will meet New York State's regulations ahead of the compliance date.

"The health, safety and overall well-being of our residents is and will always be the motivation behind

everything we do," said John F. Coumatos, Chairman of the Board, Bethpage Water District. "We are honored to lead the way on Long Island and be the first water provider in the world to have this specific, state-of-the-art technology that is proven to remove 1,4-dioxane from our drinking water. While we have always met or surpassed all federal, state and local drinking water quality standards, this latest upgrade will improve our community's drinking water now and for our future generations."

After receiving approval on the District's first AOP treatment facility at Plant 6 in January 2020, BWD quickly broke ground on three additional facilities ahead of new Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs) regulations set by the state on August 26, 2020. Plant 5 was the first of the three plant sites to go online using this brand new AOP technology. AOP, when used in tandem with granular activated carbon (GAC), is the only proven treatment method capable of eradicating 1,4-dioxane, PFOA and PFOS from drinking water. Well sites at South Park Drive and BGD are also now running with this state-of-the-art treatment.

"It's no secret that the Northrop Grumman/Navy Plume has created significant challenges in ensuring our drinking water meets all water quality standards, yet it has not stopped us from making the necessary

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## A Message From Superintendent MICHAEL J. BOUFIS



Michael J. Boufis

The past twelve months constitutes one of the most difficult and challenging times our country has ever faced. While vaccinations are on the rise, COVID-19 continues to be a major disruption to our way of life, even as we enter a new spring season.

One year ago we created a series of protocols, procedures and safety measures to prepare us for the pandemic, and we continue to adapt each and every day. From the start, we have been focused on ensuring the safety and health of our employees and continue to deliver an uninterrupted supply of quality water to our consumers.

I am most proud of our professional team of front line warriors who were deemed essential service providers from the very beginning. These dedicated individuals continue to work tirelessly on behalf of all our consumers.

Construction continues throughout our well sites and water plants. In this newsletter you'll read about our advancements to infrastructure, engineering ingenuity and the implementation of some of the most advanced technology the water industry has ever seen. Bethpage Water District has made significant investments to protect our water supply while holding polluters accountable for their previous actions.

Lastly, I'd like to thank our local elected officials, civic associations, advocacy groups and the residents of Bethpage for standing behind us for all these years. United we stand and we will continue to deliver quality drinking water, without ever wavering.

We appreciate your support, and as a community, stay strong, stay safe and stay healthy.

- Michael J. Boufis, Superintendent

### Long-Time Water Commissioner John R. Sullivan Retires



For 17 years, Water Commissioner John R. Sullivan served the District with great pride and dedication. He was the voice of the Board and worked diligently along side local and state elected officials in the

fight to protect Bethpage ground water. His persistence and tenacity precedes him and he had a reputation for never backing down to big corporations.

During his tenure, Commissioner Sullivan became Chairman of the Board for Bethpage Water District and was an active member of the Long Island Water Conference, American Water Works Association, and a member and former President of the Nassau Suffolk Water Commissioners' Association. As a former union plumber and foreman, he will continue to serve as an officer on the Finance Board of Plumbers' Union Local 200.

Thank you Commissioner Sullivan! You leave a legacy of tremendous accomplishments and contributions, and we wish you the very best during your retirement.

THREE GENERATIONS OF BWD CHAIRMEN



Seated (L to R) is current Board Chairman John F. Coumatos with former Board Chairman William J. Ellinger and recently retired Chairman John R. Sullivan.

## NORTHROP GRUMAN/NAVY PLUME TIMELINE

### 2015 - Present

Over the years, BWD has taken a proactive approach to remediation by constructing new wells and treatment sites throughout the District. Here's a look at our milestone achievements, as well as our strategic planning through 2023.



Project: Water Supply Well at South Park Drive Purpose: Develop water supply outside of plume Cost: \$4.6 million Paid by: BWD





2015

Superintendent Boufis Testifies Before Health & Environment Conservation Committees of Senate & House



SEP

## Permanent Groundwater Contamination Solutions Underway

### **Responsible Parties Footing the Bill**



All of society benefits when people and companies take responsibility for their actions. The Bethpage Water District's longstanding

goal of ending groundwater pollution and holding polluters accountable is becoming a reality as major infrastructure upgrades at Plant No. 6 on Motor Lane near completion.

Plant No. 6, which houses two vital supply wells, went through major infrastructure upgrades to enable the District to treat higher concentrations of contaminants in the water source due to the Northrop Grumman Plume. This renovation will cost upwards of \$15 million, and virtually every penny will be paid by the U.S. Navy.



For years, the District has dedicated time and resources while diligently communicating the need to treat the contaminant

concentrations within the plume – all in an effort to ensure that this burden does not fall on the backs of Bethpage taxpayers. The polluters, the Navy and Northrop Grumman, MUST be held accountable for their actions, and through our steadfast efforts we are pleased to complete this sizable renovation project at a minimal cost to taxpayers.

The Navy also will bear the financial burden for modifications or unforeseen requirements to the plume remediation project during construction, as well as all costs incurred from regular maintenance requirements at Plant No. 6 for 30 years.

#### The scope of work includes:

- Removal of outdated existing infrastructure
- Installation of two new air stripping units with vapor phase carbon filtration systems
- Installation of a new clear well with five times existing system capacity
- Updated housing units for wells 6-1 and 6-2

These new features will work in conjunction with the District's full-scale Advanced Oxidation Processing (AOP) facility and Granular Activated Carbon (GAC) Filtration units to increase the District's treatment capabilities exponentially. This will ensure residents continue to receive the highest quality water possible, meeting and exceeding all state and local requirements.

Well 6-1 is completed, and well 6-2 is expected to be completed in Spring, 2021.



## **New Water Main Construction Completed**

BWD recently completed several crucial water main replacement construction projects throughout the District.

Our strategic water main replacement program focuses on replacing water mains that have a history of main breaks as well as mains that will be instrumental in moving larger volumes of water throughout the District from production facilities outside of the plume.

Water main replacements were completed at the following locations:

- •Coronet Crescent North and South Between Broadway and Stewart Avenue
- •Wilson Lane, Hoover Lane, Adams Gate and East, West, North and South Millpage Drives.

Each of the older cast iron mains were replaced with wider diameter ductile iron mains. This allows for a higher

volume of water to be moved throughout the District from sources not impacted by the plume, while ensuring greater water pressure and flow for fighting fires. In total, BWD replaced approximately 8,000 linear feet of main.

"I wish to thank our construction crews



Water main construction crews were busy at work in 2020 laying new main throughout the District

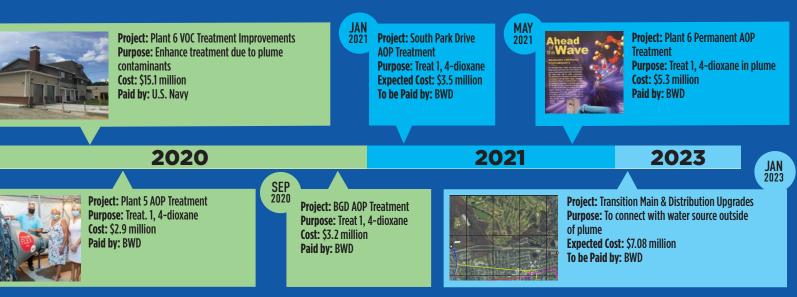
for their dedication to getting the job done even during the stressful time of New York Pause," commented Water Commissioner Theresa Black. "Construction continued as an essential service during the coronavirus pandemic and we're proud of our staff for stepping up to the challenge and delivering on time."

## All Systems Go! ...continued from Page 1

investments to remediate our water," said Water Commissioner Theresa Black. "The completion of this latest treatment facility is a huge win for our community and will also enable us to meet the water pumping demand for water during the spring and summer season."

Bethpage Water District had been working on the design and implementation of its needed AOP plants well before Governor Andrew Cuomo's July 8, 2019 initial announcement outlining the New York State Department of Health's proposed regulations for emerging contaminants. While water providers have up to three years to construct and implement treatment systems to remediate these contaminants, BWD's plan was to get these systems up and running without any delay.

"We still have a lot of work to do to right the wrongs of those who polluted our groundwater, but we will never stop working on behalf of our community and the residents of Bethpage to deliver quality drinking water," added Coumatos.



## Water Conservation Poster Contest Takes on a Digital Twist

## Congratulations to our WINNERS:

The challenges created by the coronavirus pandemic almost put the District's sixth annual Water Conservation Poster Contest in jeopardy. Yet with some creativity and support from the Bethpage School District, we developed a fully digital program so students could participate safely while learning from home.

The program teaches students about the importance of water conservation and to preserve Long Island's solesource aquifer for future generations. In 2020, the District received 57 entries from Central Boulevard, Charles Campagne and Kramer Lane elementary schools. BWD would like to thank David Schneider, Bethpage School District Superintendent and Mrs. Lorraine Marcis, Science Enrichment, 21st Century Coordinator, each of whom were instrumental in putting this program together and continuing this tradition.



Visit www.bethpagewater.com/blog to see the incredibly amazing artwork submitted by each student.

## Meet Our New Water Commissioner, Scott Greco

In early December 2020, district voters came out to cast their ballot for a new water commissioner and elected Mr. Scott Greco. His term began on January 1, 2021 and he'll serve a three-year term.



A life-long resident of Bethpage, Scott Greco graduated from Bethpage High School in 1980 and later earned his degree in Aeronautics from the Academy Of Aeronautics. He was a partner in Greco Bros Fuel Corp. which operated for 53 years until the organization was sold to Petro, Inc. in 2000. Greco has remained with the company, and currently works within Petro's service department.

"It's been a great start working along side my fellow commissioners and our talented and professional staff," said Water Commissioner Scott Greco. "Our goals align to continue safeguarding the drinking water we deliver to our consumers...today into tomorrow."

An active member of the Bethpage community, Greco is a trustee in the Bethpage Fire Department, and has been a volunteer fireman for the past 33 years. He is also a member of the Knights of Columbus since 2006. "I am looking forward to working along side my fellow commissioners and our talented and professional staff to safeguard the drinking water we deliver to our consumers."

Commissioner Greco has been married to his wife Calliope for 26 years and they raised their four children within the Bethpage community.



### **2020 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report**

Our water meets and exceeds all local, state and federal regulations and our latest report can be found online at: www.BethpageWater.com/Water-Quality

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### **BOARD OF WATER COMMISIONERS**

John F. Coumatos Theresa M. Black Scott A. Greco

Michael J. Boufis, Superintendent

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## **FORWARD THINKING** Treating the Plume and Establishing New Water Sources Outside of It

Finding new water sources outside of the Northrop Grumman/Navy Plume has been just as much of a priority to the District as ensuring the sources within the plume are receiving the most state-of-the-art treatment available.

Here are some additional upgrades being made at existing facilities, as well as our new well facility:



**BGD at Plainview Road** 

- New ground storage tank with a capacity of two million gallons
- New booster pumping station (provides pressure to the distribution system)
- Advanced Oxidation Process (AOP) treatment for 1,4-dioxane is now in service



 Advanced Oxidation Process (AOP) treatment for 1,4-dioxane is under construction and expected to come online in Spring 2021

### New Well Facility



- To be constructed just 2,000 feet south of original BGD well
- Outside the boundaries of the plume
- Will supply an additional 2.9 million gallons of water per day to the District