waterauthorityofgreatnecknorth.com

## Water Authority Seeking Volunteers FOR LEAD & COPPER TESTING PROGRAM

News from WATER AUTHORITY OF

**GREAT NECK NORTH** 

ublic water suppliers throughout New York State are required to test the drinking water to determine the lead and copper levels (if any) contributed by the plumbing fixtures in the homes.

To remain in compliance with the statues of the New York State Sanitary Code, Subpart 5-1:40 through 5-1:49 for the Nassau County Department of Health, the Water Authority of Great Neck North is required to perform the test every three years. The Authority is currently updating its list of volunteer homeowners who wish to participate in the Lead and Copper Testing Program the next time it is scheduled to be conducted.

Participants who volunteer to provide a water sample can obtain valuable information about the water in their home, while contributing a public service to the community at large. The test is simple and it is completed **FREE OF CHARGE**.

If you are interested in participating, please call the Authority at (516) 487-7973 (extension 12) or send an email to lschlichting@wagnn.org. Under the program guidelines, apartment residents are not eligible.



## How Much is Enough? Irrigate Wisely



n average, a lush green lawn can be achieved by applying between one to two inches of water a week, including rainfall, depending on variables such as soil composition, air temperature, type of grass, relative humidity, degree of shade and amount of thatch. When irrigation is called for, water deeply to encourage roots to grown downward, producing sturdy, heathy plants that will have a long life.

While it's common knowledge that lack of water can have serious consequences for most plant life, so too can overwatering be detrimental. Too much irrigation promotes fungus, encourages weeds and causes the soil to become full of water, preventing enough room for oxygen to get in and carbon dioxide the get out. Unable to breath, the grass will eventually die.

July 2017

## Credit Card Payments NOW an Option

The Water Authority of Great Neck North has partnered with Paymentus, a third party payment card provider, to offer residents the convenient option of paying their water bills with a credit card – exclusively online or through an automated phone system. **Credit card payments cannot be accepted in the office.** 

A link to online payment choices is available on the Authority's website at **www.waterauthorityofgreatnecknorth.com**. At the bottom center of the home page, the "Payment Options" link brings visitors to a page that explains and provides access links to the new Credit Card Payment option, as well as the pre-existing Direct Debit Payment option.





### **CREDIT CARD PAYMENT**

Paymentus will charge users a \$5.95 processing fee per transaction. The processing fees are not shared by the Authority. Transactions are limited to \$750. (The fee for a \$1,500 bill would be \$11.90). Multiple transactions can be made to cover bills that exceed that amount. Additionally, bills can be paid with a charge card via an automated phone system by calling 1-844-291-3575.

### DIRECT DEBIT PAYMENT

By completing and submitting the authorization form available on line, consumers can grant the Authority permission to automatically debit their identified bank account each billing period, 10 days from the bill date. There are no service fees associated with the Direct Debit Payment.

## Residents with Medical Concerns

O ccasionally, a water main break or other emergency may require the Water Authority of Great Neck North to temporarily shut off a customer's water supply. In the event such a situation arises, it would be helpful for the Authority to know in advance of residents who may be homebound, have medical conditions (e.g. kidney dialysis) or other similar concerns.

Anyone with a household that falls into this category

should notify the Authority at **(516) 487-7973, ext. 12**, or email **Ischlichting@wagnn.org** to have the address added to the *Residents with Medical Concerns* list.

For situations that have been reported in the past, but are no longer applicable, the Authority should be contacted so the information can be removed from the list. Your cooperation is appreciated and will enable the Authority to continue to provide consumers with the best service possible.

# UPDATE on EFC Projects

Last year, the Authority submitted an application for funding through the Storm Mitigation Loan Program, which is administrated by the NY State Environmental Facilities Corporation (EFC), along with the DEC and Department of Health. Capital was made available through the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund, which was provided \$56.6 million under the Federal Disaster Relief Appropriations Act, signed soon after Superstorm Sandy to make improvements to infrastructure that protects vital public services from future storms.

After all of its proposed projects were deemed to be eligible for funding, the Authority received an estimated \$15.038 million from the EFC — \$3.759 million in the form of grant money. The remaining was an \$11.279 million zero interest bond.

With a June 2019 completion deadline stipulated in the grant application, the Authority is continuing to take steps to harden its infrastructure by raising wellheads to protect against flooding and adding more stand-by power sources — among other projects.

**WELL 2A** The design is completed to construct a new well house approximately 8 feet higher than the existing building, which is slated to be demolished. While the current well will be reused, the pump and motor is to be replaced and a new chemical feed system installed. Construction is expected to be completed by the fall of 2018.

**WELL 5** The existing building will be demolished and replaced with a new well house. The pump, currently in belowgrade vault, will be replaced with a new pump, to be installed above flood elevation. A new screen will also be installed. The Authority is currently reviewing a cost analysis of replacing the entire building vs. constructing a new building just for the pump. Designs will be completed once the results of Salt Water Intrusion Modeling become available.

**WELL 6** A portion of the building currently on site will be demolished and reconstructed to position a new well pump and associated equipment above flood elevation. Designs will be completed once the results of Salt Water Intrusion Modeling become available.

**WELL 8** The existing building, which is below grade and potentially subject to flooding, will be demolished and replaced with a new well house. Additionally, a new well will be drilled. Designs will be completed once the results of Salt Water Intrusion Modeling become available.



**WELL 11A** The new well is operational and has been on line since May 17, 2017. The new well house and installation of associated electrical and SCADA (automated controls) equipment has been completed.

## Use Lawn Chemicals Conservatively

Groundwater contamination is not always caused by commercial and industrial activity. The seasonal habits of the average homeowner can be equally harmful. A prime example is the improper use of fertilizers and lawn chemicals, which can adversely impact the environment and threaten our precious drinking water supply. The follow guidelines are strongly recommended when chemicals are being applied to the landscape:

 Prior to purchase, become familiar with the product's impact to ensure it is suitable for the application.

- Apply the minimum amount of pesticides and fertilizers in accordance with the instructions on the manufacturer's label. Always refrain from overuse.
- Give consideration to using alternative less-hazardous products such as slow release fertilizers; organic fertilizers like cottonseed meal, bone meal and manure; or biodegradable insecticides and fungicides
- Keep chemicals sealed in clearly labeled original leak proof containers and store in well ventilated cool dry locations.
- Ensure spills are quickly contained, cleaned and properly disposed of.



Water Authority of Great Neck North

50 Watermill Lane Great Neck, NY 11021 (516) 487-7973

Administrative Hours Monday to Friday 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

**24-Hour Emergency** (516) 482-0210

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### No watering between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m.

**Odd numbered addresses** may water on Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

**Even numbered addresses** may water on Tuesday, Thursday and Sunday.

- Sprinkling is prohibited during periods of precipitation.
- A rain gauge or moisture sensor is required for all automatic lawn irrigation.

### Water Authority of Great Neck North

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