waterauthorityofgreatnecknorth.com

Summer 2019

Authority Joins Other Public Water Providers to Make Polluters Pay for Cleanup Costs

t is anticipated that a new standard will soon be released by the New York State Department of Health for the maximum level of 1,4-Dioxane in public drinking water. 1,4-Dioxane is a contaminant that got into our water supplies from industrial chemical manufacturing from the 1950's through the 1990's. Those manufacturers knew or should have known about the hazards posed by their products, but they did not take appropriate steps to warn others of the threat or to prevent the contamination from occurring.

The Authority has an unwavering commitment to provide water to its customers that meets or exceeds all federal, state, and county standards, and whenever there is a need for treatment, the Authority will invest what is necessary to ensure those standards are met. The processes of removing 1,4-Dioxane are complex, expensive, and still being tested. Like other water providers on Long Island, we are investing in proactive actions to implement effective wellhead treatment as soon as practicable.

The Authority and other public water providers on Long Island believe that it is the manufacturers, and not the Continued on page 3

Water Authority of Great Neck North

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Public Hearing Set for Proposed Rate Changes

he Water Authority of Great Neck North will present proposed changes to water rates at a public hearing on Tuesday, May 28 at 6 p.m. at Kings Point Village Hall, located at 32 Steppingstone Lane in Kings Point. Proposed changes to fees for use of fire hydrants and other facilities, services rendered and commodities furnished by the Authority will also be presented.

The current rates have been in effect since January 1, 2008.

Copies of the proposed changes are on file for examination during regular business hours at the Authority's offices at 50 Watermill Lane in Great Neck and posted on the Authority's website at www.waterauthorityofgreatnecknorth.com.

Time will be allowed during the hearing for public comment and questions. Anyone who wishes to attend and requires special accommodations because of a disability should call the Authority at (516) 487-7973 at least two business days prior to the hearing date.

See Inside for \$\$\$ Saving Tips

Turn to page 2 for valuable water conservation tips for reducing your water costs.

Warm Weather Tips for SAVING

rrigation accounts for the majority of the water used by residential customers, so trimming 20 percent from each sprinkling cycle is a great way to conserve AND reduce your water bill. Set the timer to irrigate each zone twice, at 40 percent of the time previously allotted, to minimize runoff and provide more water to the roots.

Here are a few more tips for producing a beautiful landscapes and plush green lawn, while using less water:

- Keep the grass trimmed to a height of two inches, as taller blades shade the roots and hold soil moisture more efficiently.
 - **Cut the lawn frequently** with a mulching mower and leave behind the clippings, which help retain moisture and provide essential nutrients as they decompose.
 - Add a layer of organic mulch to the flower beds to help moderate soil temperature, retain moisture and suppress weed growth, while providing nutrients to the soil.
- Work with a landscape professional to determine areas that may benefit from the use of soaker hoses. They deliver a slow, steady flow at the soil line, so the water directly reaches the root zone without loss to evaporation or runoff.
- Local nurseries can be a great resource for learning about drought-tolerant ornamental grasses, shrubs, perennials and annuals available on Long Island. Some vegetables and herbs will also produce generous yield with less water.
- **Check regularly** to ensure irrigation systems are functioning properly and have no leaks or broken sprinkler heads. Heavy puddling can be a sign of a leak.
- **Look for trickling** where the garden hose connects to the spigot, nozzles and manual sprinklers. Replace the washers each season to create a tight seal.

Backflow Devices and Testing Mandatory

The New York State Sanitary Code requires water suppliers to enforce regulations that backflow devices be installed with irrigation systems, hot tubs, pools, new construction or other sources that could connect non-potable water with the potable (drinking) water supply. The device is critical for preventing back-siphoning or reverse flow of potentially impure water back into the public drinking water supply.

Pursuant to the Code, Authority regulations require



residents to have their backflow devices tested annually by a certified backflow tester. The paperwork must be submitted to the Authority each year by the required due date, located on the bottom of your second quarter bill.

Customers with in-ground sprinkler systems must also have their rain gauge/moisture sensors tested annually.

A link on the Authority's website home page waterauthorityofgreatnecknorth.com provides information about the Backflow Testing Program as well as an email address backflowprogram@wagnn.org for the convenience of submitting annual inspection reports via email.

LEAK DETECTION SURVEY PERFORMED

During November 2018, the Authority contracted a third party leak detection company to survey 117 miles of distribution system piping.

Eighteen leaks were located, saving approximately 106,200 gallons of water. The savings of reducing lost water through leaks more than pays for the survey cost.



n the spirit of preserving our most precious natural resource, the Authority is making newly designed complimentary conservation kits available to its customers. The kits contain a modern high-efficiency chrome shower head with adjustable spray patterns; a swivel spray stream kitchen faucet aerator; water saving bathroom faucet aerators; toilet leak detection dye tablets; toilet displacement bags and a drip vial to measure leaks.

The toilet is the largest indoor waster of water as a silent leak can go undetected for a long period of time. Simply, add a dye tablet or a few drops of food coloring to the tank and refrain from flushing overnight. If the color appears in the bowl in the morning, a leak is present and should be addressed.

Easy to follow instructions for installing the water-saving devices, designed to reduce water use in the bathroom and kitchen areas, are included in the free kits, which can be picked up at the Authority's office in Great Neck.

Authority Joins Other Public Water Providers

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Authority's customers, who should be paying the initial construction and annual maintenance costs of the treatment facilities required to meet the new standards. On that basis, the Authority has joined other public water providers on Long Island in actions against those responsible to try to ensure that those manufacturers ultimately pay that cost.

Please be assured that the Authority will continue to honor its commitment to you that it will only deliver water that meets or exceeds all federal, state, and county standards.

Water Quality Report AVAILABLE ONLINE

onsumers can conveniently access the Authority's 2018 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report by logging on to www.waterauthorityofgreatnecknorth.com/waterquality.pdf.

Results show the drinking water provided to con-

sumer's taps around the clock is of excellent quality and has consistently met or exceeded strict federal and state standards, which are enforced by the Nassau County Department of Health.

The water is tested throughout the year by an independent laboratory for more than 140



parameters, to ensure quality standards are met without fail. The process is so exacting that contaminants in quantities as small as one-part-per-billion can be detected. That would be like locating a shiny copper penny among a stack of 1 billion dimes, which would exceed 838 MILES in height.

Printed copies of the report are available at the Authority's administrative office at 50 Watermill Lane in Great Neck. Consumers can call the Authority at (516) 487-7973, extension 4, to receive a mailed copy.

Presorted Standard US Postage PAID Permit No.1532 Flushing, NY



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.

UPDATE:

WATER MAIN Improvement Projects

East Shore Road – Construction will be completed sometime in 2019 for the replacement of approximately 7,200 feet of water main including valves, hydrants and services along East Shore Road, from approximately Twin Ponds/Foxwood Road to Hick's Lane.

Middle Neck Road – A project is in the design phase to replace approximately 6,000 feet of water main including valves, hydrants and services along Middle Neck Road, from approximately Appletree Lane to Great Neck Road. Additionally, services will be transferred from approximately 4,000 feet of existing 8-inch main to 12-inch main with abandonment of the 8-inch main.