



Plastic Water Bottles are Costly *economically & environmentally*

Virtually every piece of plastic that's ever been manufactured still exists in some form today. Approximately 8 million tons of that plastic are dumped into the world's oceans each year and the number is expected to triple by 2025. Some reports estimate that there will be more plastic than fish in the sea by 2050. Much of the waste finds its way into one of five spiraling vortexes known as gyres, where the trash accumulates by way of circular currents.

The Great Pacific Garbage Patch is the largest of the gyres and scientists have recently discovered that its size is greater than originally believed, 16 times larger in fact. The enormous area of floating garbage, which is equivalent to three times the size of France or 618,000 square miles, is located in the Pacific Ocean about half way between California and Hawaii and has been identified as the "largest accumulation zone of ocean plastic on earth."

In 2014, the average American consumed 40 gallons of



bottled water and together throw away 2.5 million plastic bottles every hour. Those statistics are steadily increasing each year. Ironically, it takes about three gallons of water to produce one gallon of bottled water, most of which is drawn from municipal taps. Manufacturing, bottling, expensive marketing campaigns, trucking and refrigeration are all contributing factors to the high price consumers pay for the product.

The bottled water brands that line the aisles of the supermarkets cost up to 1,900 times more than the water provided by the Water Authority of Great Neck North.

Unlike the bottled water industry, which is monitored by the Food and Drug Administration, the Authority routinely tests for more than 140 primary and secondary water quality standards and supplies high quality water that meets or exceeds all EPA standards. With safe, clean water flowing from the faucet, residents should get in the habit of filling a glass or reusable container with tap water to quench their thirst, protect the environment and save their hard-earned money.

Water Authority of Great Neck North

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Summertime Conservation Tips

Since irrigation accounts for the majority of the public's demand for water, it's a great place to focus efforts to conserve our most precious natural resource. Landscape specialists and licensed irrigation professionals can be helpful resources for exploring and identifying ways to improve irrigation efficiency and save water, while still maintaining a healthy landscape and beautiful garden beds.

CONDUCT IRRIGATION SURVEY

Each year, a survey should be performed on the overall irrigation system so heads can be replaced or redirected and leaks can be detected. Keep in mind, a hole measuring 1/16" can waste up to 74,000 gallons of water in a quarterly billing cycle.

With many new options available in the marketplace, it is likely there are a variety of ways to improve, modernize and update older underground irrigation systems to yield better results. Sprinkling zones should also be analyzed to gauge how each is responding to irrigation techniques and to accommodate varying soil conditions, sloping, sun exposure and other factors that may influence effectiveness.

ASSESS THE LANDSCAPE

Additionally, the landscape design should also be reviewed to identify areas that need to be cut back and plantings that should be relocated or removed altogether. Consideration should be given to introducing specimens that can thrive with less water. A large variety of drought-tolerant shrubs, grasses, perennials and annuals are available at local nurseries, where horticulturists can assist with identifying selections to suit your taste.

CHECK RAIN SENSORS

Rain sensors are required to be installed with irrigations systems. The settings on the rain sensors are required to be checked and adjusted annually to ensure the devices are properly positioned and in good working order. Additionally, a visual inspection needs to be conducted to address landscaping, roofing, canopies or anything else that may be blocking or interfering with the equipment.

Backflow Devices and Testing Mandatory

In the interest of public health and safety, 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 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 the 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 water-authorityofgreatnecknorth.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.

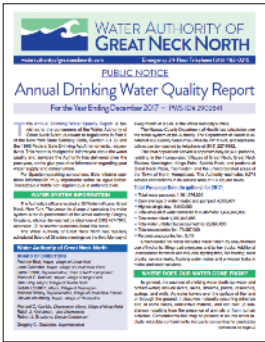
2017 Quality Report AVAILABLE ONLINE

Consumers can conveniently access the Authority's 2017 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report by logging on to www.waterauthorityofgreatnecknorth.com/waterquality.pdf.

As outlined in the report, 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 can be compared to finding a shiny copper penny among a stack of 1 billion dimes, which would exceed 838 MILES in height.

Results show the drinking water provided to consumer'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.

Printed copies of the 2017 Annual Drinking Water Quality 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 ext. 4, to receive a mailed copy.



Residents have reported receiving mailings by a company offering to test their home drinking water, under the false pretense that the company represents the Authority and with the intention of convincing unsuspecting consumers of purchasing expensive home filters.

Don't be fooled by mailers, slick advertising or smooth talking sales representatives for home filtering systems. Historically, the water provided by the Authority to the tap exceeds stringent quality standards set by federal and state health departments.

Furthermore, if not properly maintained, a home water treatment system can actually become harmful to your health. Faulty installation or infrequent changes of filters



Lottery Encourages CONSERVATION

The Long Island Commission for Aquifer Protection (LICAP) recently offered a lottery to residents for a free Smart Sprinkler System Controller and a rebate of up to \$250 for installation. The equipment is designed to manage residential irrigation systems by monitoring water use via a Smartphone, tablet or laptop to increase efficiency, reduce water consumption and lower costs.

The drawing was held on April 26 at the Great Neck House. Joining some of the happy lottery winners are Mayor of Kensington and Water Authority of Great Neck North Director Susan Lopatkin (center row, left); Water Authority of Great Neck North Superintendent Gregory C. Graziano (far right); and Long Island Commission for Aquifer Protection Director, Office of Strategic Initiatives and Suffolk County Water Authority Lead Hydrogeologist Tyrand Fuller, P.G. (back row, third from left)

can allow bacteria growth and movement into the tap water, among other concerns.

The Authority delivers some of the best drinking water in the nation to consumers at a reasonable price. Our sole mission is to provide residents with safe, clean water around-the-clock with no profit motive.



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waterauthorityofgreatnecknorth.com



Lawn Sprinkling Rules + Regs

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 Projects

As part of the Authority's continuing Capital Improvement Program, an extensive water main replacement and hydrant change out project is underway. The initiative, which is expected to take place over a seven month period, was undertaken to improve the Authority's ability to provide an adequate supply during peak demands and improve fire flows to the hydrants.

The Authority is currently replacing approximately 14,000 feet of water main including valves, hydrants and services in Great Neck Estates and Saddle Rock Terrace.

We apologize for any inconvenience this long term project may cause our residents. We will try to keep any disruption to traffic, water service or driveway access to a minimum. Any resident with questions, concerns or special needs should contact the Authority at (516) 487-7973 extension 4. Thank you for your cooperation.