



# Oyster Bay Water District

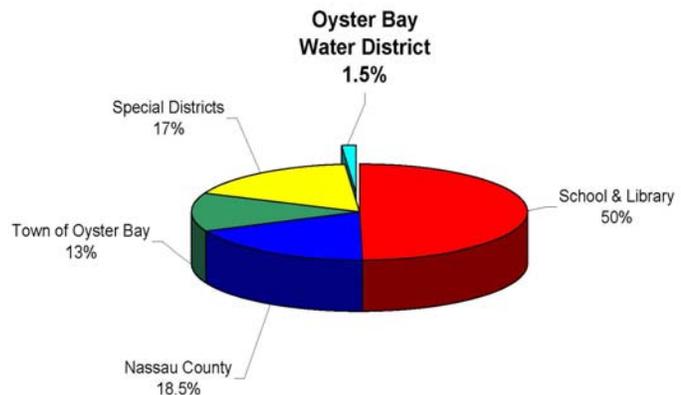
A NEWSLETTER CONCERNING OUR WATER SUPPLY

SPRING 2007

## PROVIDING HIGH QUALITY WATER AT A GREAT VALUE!

For over 80 years, the Oyster Bay Water District has provided a safe and reliable source of water to all the residents of our community. The Board of Commissioners and employees of our District take great pride in delivering one of the “Best Tasting” drinking water throughout the Oyster Bay Water District every minute of the year! For most of the District residents, all of this is being provided at a cost of pennies per day.

New York State and Nassau County officials have recently accused our Water District along with other Water Districts in Nassau County of levying excessive taxes. The Board of Commissioners would like our residents to understand the true facts concerning our Water District. As shown on the adjacent chart of the total property taxes for a typical homeowner in Oyster Bay, less than 1½ percent of the annual tax is due to the Water District. The School District represents 50 percent, with Nassau County totaling 18.5 percent, including the Police Department and Police headquarters. The Town of Oyster Bay represents 13 percent of the tax.



*Where Do Your Taxes Go?*

The Oyster Bay Water District has historically maintained low levels of taxes while continuing with the delivery of excellent service and an excellent product. Within this newsletter, we have enclosed a copy of our 2006 Water Quality Report that provides you with the details of our excellent water supply. Our water supply continues to meet all Federal and State drinking water standards. In addition, as explained in District Implementing Cost Reduction Programs, the District is always implementing programs and procedures to keep the cost of your water the “Best Buy” for your home.

The Board of Commissioners strongly believes that your local community control produces the best form of public water supply. The District pledges to continue to provide excellent water supply at the most reasonable cost.

### Water Quality Report Enclosed

Enclosed with this newsletter is the Oyster Bay Water District’s Annual Water Supply Report for 2006. This report presents the facts about the quality of our water supply and summarizes the water quality sampling test results taken throughout 2006. The District is proud to report that our water meets or exceeds all Federal and State drinking water standards. Should you have any questions concerning this report, please contact the Water District at (516) 922-4848.

# DISTRICT IMPLEMENTING COST REDUCTION PROGRAMS

Over the past few years, the District has implemented several programs to reduce our cost of delivering water. This reduction in expenses has allowed the District to provide water to your home at a cost of approximately 1/10¢ per gallon of water. That is much less than the \$1.50 per gallon for the bottled water being sold at the local store.

It's probably not a surprise, but electrical costs are one of our highest expenses. Our annual energy bill is over \$150,000 per year. However, last summer the District joined a cooperative effort with 12 other water suppliers on Long Island to participate in an energy demand reduction program. Under this program, the Water District would receive a cash rebate if we were able to reduce our electrical usage during peak demand days, when LIPA is having difficulty meeting the energy demands on Long Island. Because the Water District maintains emergency generators at several of our plant sites, we are able to disconnect from the LIPA system and generate our own electricity. The District received a total of \$12,000 in revenue for participating in this program in 2006. In addition, by participating in the program, LIPA and the other power utilities within New York State may reduce the need to build additional power generating plants.



*Commissioners and Supt. Dahlem inspect the emergency generator at a District pump station*

The District also has joined a cooperating cost saving program with the Town of Oyster Bay in which we purchase fuel for our vehicles at a reduced rate due to the larger purchasing power of the Town.

The Board of Commissioners continuously examines their budgets and expenses to evaluate efficiency improvements and cost saving measures. This includes purchasing equipment at discounted rates from State bids, negotiating cellular antenna lease agreements, being an active member of the Long Island Water Conference that provides free training to our water treatment plant operators and providing prudent District management. The Board will continue to examine financial strategies to stabilize the cost of water and maintain excellent fiscal management.

## NEW YORK STATE'S TOP OPERATOR

The Oyster Bay Water District is proud to announce that our own Water District Superintendent, Karl Dahlem, was part of the Long Island team that won that New York State Top Water Plant Operator Competition last month. The Top Op Competition is a quiz format contest where teams from across New York State tested their knowledge of water supply and treatment. Superintendent Dahlem along with his two (2) certified operator teammates from Long Island will now get to represent New York State in the International Top Ops Competition in Toronto, Canada in June.

“We have lots of confidence in Karl knowing he is responsible to ensure that our Oyster Bay water supply is always safe to drink and always available. His 30 years as a water supply operator was tested in the competition, but we test his knowledge every day on the job. This competition just proves that our water supply remains in good hands”, stated Commissioner Frank Bladykas.

The Board of Commissioners and the staff of the Water District wish Superintendent Karl Dahlem and his teammates good luck in the next competition.



*Board of Commissioners honoring District Supt. Karl Dahlem with New York State Top Ops Trophy*

### MEETING SCHEDULE

Please note that the Oyster Bay Water District routinely schedules its meetings every Thursday morning at 9:00 a.m. at the Water District office located at 45 Audrey Avenue. All residents of the District are welcome to attend the meeting. Any changes in this Thursday meeting date will be published in the Enterprise Pilot.

# EXCELLENT WATER QUALITY

Is your water safe to drink? You bet it is! The Oyster Bay Water District goes to extreme measures to ensure that the water being delivered to your home meets all federal, state and local drinking water standards. And it is perfectly safe to drink. The USEPA, the New York State Department of Health and the Nassau County Health Department oversee the operation of the Oyster Bay Water District and approve all design and construction of water improvements, conduct annual sanitary inspections and routine testing of the water quality.

In addition to regulatory agency oversight, the District has established its own operation and maintenance procedures to ensure the highest quality water. Each water treatment plant operator is certified by New York State Department of Health after completing a rigorous training and examination program. The water treatment operators conduct numerous tests everyday checking the water quality of our supply wells. Continuous water quality testing analyzers operate 24 hours a day checking the water as it leaves the well site. These analyzers have alarm systems that will detect if the water quality is outside an acceptable range and automatically shut down the well pumps.

The District also collects hundreds of water samples per year throughout the community and sends the samples to an independent testing laboratory. The water is analyzed for approximately 144 different water quality parameters and potential contaminants. Should any sample not meet the stringent drinking water standards, the well is immediately removed from service. As shown on the enclosed 2006 Water Quality Report, the Oyster Bay Water District's water always meets or exceeds the drinking water standards.

The Oyster Bay Water District staff takes pride in delivering the best tasting water on Long Island. It should be noted that the Board of Commissioners, plant operators and office staff, along with their families, all drink Oyster Bay water. You can be sure that we will continue to do everything to ensure that our water is always safe to drink.



**Do you know  
how often you  
turn me on?**

If only the water faucet could talk to us. It might remind us how often we turn to it for safe water to drink, to wash our clothes, to prepare our food, to provide us with the everyday quality of life we enjoy. It might remind us that the water pipes below our streets make so many everyday conveniences possible.

Our water bills pay to keep our community tap water safe, reliable and there for us — 24/7 without fail.



**Only Tap Water  
Delivers<sup>SM</sup>**

**OYSTER BAY  
WATER DISTRICT**

Presented in cooperation with



American Water Works Association



**Come visit our  
new website at**

[www.oysterbaywaterdistrict.org](http://www.oysterbaywaterdistrict.org)

**Please log on and register your e-mail address  
so we may add you to our database. The  
District will use this database to notify our  
residents of important events and District  
information.**

**A Newsletter From:**  
**Oyster Bay Water District**  
45 Audrey Avenue  
Oyster Bay, New York 11771  
(516) 922-4848

Presort  
3<sup>rd</sup> Class Mail  
Bulk Rate  
U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
Permit No. 49  
Oyster Bay, NY 11771

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

Robert J. McEvoy – Chairman  
Francis Bladykas, P.E. – Secretary  
Richard P. Niznik –Treasurer

**SUPERINTENDENT**

Karl W. Dahlem

**SECRETARY TO THE BOARD**

Robyn M. Hale

---

**NASSAU COUNTY SPRINKLING RESTRICTIONS  
STILL CONTINUE!**

The sprinkling restrictions that were in effect last year will still apply this year, as follows:

- All water sprinkling for lawns, gardens and shrubbery is PROHIBITED between 10 AM and 4 PM.
- Even-numbered addresses are allowed to water on even-numbered days during prescribed hours.
- Odd-numbered addresses are allowed to water on odd-numbered days during prescribed hours.
- Nassau County ordinances provide for a \$50 civil penalty against first-time violators, with increased fines for repeat offenders.

Please cooperate with our **WATER CONSERVATION EFFORT!**