



# Oyster Bay Water District Water News

A Newsletter Concerning Our Water Supply

Spring 2021

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## BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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**SUPERINTENDENT  
Edward Dupre'**

**ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT  
Robyn M. Hale**

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

## MAINTAINING OUR EXCELLENT WATER QUALITY

The Oyster Bay Water District prides itself on having some of the highest quality water on Long Island, always meeting the Federal, State and local drinking water standards. A summary of our water quality from 2020 is attached to this newsletter.

Every year the District is required to test for additional man-made chemicals to insure that they are not getting into our drinking water supply.

The New York State Department of Health recently established a new drinking water standard for three emerging contaminants: 1,4-Dioxane, PFOA and PFOS.

The District has tested for these contaminants and detected a low concentration of 1,4-Dioxane in one of our wells significantly below the new maximum contaminant level (MCL). However, the Board of Commissioners decided to be proactive and construct a treatment system to remove the 1,4-Dioxane at our Plant No. 2 located on Shutter Lane even though the concentration is about half of the allowable level.

The District has started the planning process and is currently completing an engineering design report to construct an Advanced Oxidation Process (AOP) treatment system. This AOP system will utilize an ultraviolet light reactor and add small amounts of hydrogen peroxide as an oxidant where as the 1,4-Dioxane will be destroyed.

The District expects the design of the new treatment system to occur this summer, with construction to commence later this year. The new treatment system should be on-line by mid to late 2022.

The estimated cost of the AOP system is \$5.429 million. The District is proud to announce that they were awarded a New York State grant in the amount up to \$3.0 million to help pay for part of the treatment system. The balance of the cost will be paid with municipal bonds through the Town of Oyster Bay.

The District is also taking legal actions against the manufacturers of 1,4-Dioxane to help cover the cost of treatment so the residents of Oyster Bay do not have to continue to pay for wellhead treatment.

The District will continue to be proactive to ensure our water supply remains the highest water quality possible.

I want to  
be here  
for you.

If only our water infrastructure could talk to us. The corner hydrant might remind us that only tap water protects us against the threat of fire, and that the pipes below our streets need constant attention to keep life-saving water flowing at the right pressure, 24/7, without fail.

We are all stewards of the water infrastructure generations before handed down to us, and our water bills keep that system strong and reliable. For more information about what your tap water delivers, visit [www.oysterbaywaterdistrict.org](http://www.oysterbaywaterdistrict.org)

Only Tap Water Delivers



Presented in cooperation with

 American Water Works Association



## DISTRICT IMPLEMENTS UPDATED WATER CONSERVATION PLAN

On a hot summer day, the Oyster Bay Water District delivers over 3 million gallons of water per day. That quantity of water is three (3) times what we pump on a typical winter day. This 300% increase in water use can mostly be attributed to lawn irrigation systems. It is estimated that upwards of 80 to 90 percent of the water pumped on a hot summer day is used for lawn irrigation.

The Water District needs to maintain a sufficient capacity of their supply wells and pump stations to meet the maximum day water demands plus a reserve for fire protection. Therefore, as our water use continues to increase, the District needs to construct new supply facilities - even though these facilities may only be necessary for a few peak days during the year.

One way to minimize the impact of the peak water use days is to encourage water conservation by the residents of the District. The District had implemented a water conservation plan back in 1986 - with the major component of the plan being enforcing the ODD/EVEN sprinkling restrictions, as outlined on Page 4 of this newsletter.

Over the past 10 years, the overall water use across Nassau County has continued to increase. The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) has stated their concern that if water conservation was not implemented on Long Island, there could be an adverse impact to the underground aquifer system.

The Board of Commissioners of the Oyster Bay Water District agreed that there was a need to continue with the District's Water Conservation Plan as a way to reduce the summer pumpage by approximately 15 percent, and in turn reduce the need to construct additional supply wells. The District prepared an Updated Water Conservation Plan in 2017 and is continuing to implement conservation measures. Besides reinforcing the irrigation restrictions, the District has been implementing the following water conservation measures:

- Conducted a Leak Detection Survey on the water distribution system
- Conducted an audit of the District's top 10 water users
- Continue with the Meter Replacement Program to ensure meters are accurate
- Increase public education and public awareness of the need to conserve water through a Public Outreach Program
- Reinforce and encourage compliance with irrigation restrictions.

The Board of Commissioners encourages all residents to consider water conservation in their every day lives. Let's save water for both emergency use and to ensure we have a sufficient supply of drinking water for generations to come.

## YOUR LOCALLY CONTROLLED WATER UTILITY

The Oyster Bay Water District has been providing an uninterrupted supply of water to the residents of Oyster Bay since 1924. As a Commissioner-Run District, we believe in local control. The District is administered by the three-person elected, Board of Commissioners. Each Commissioner lives in our community. Our families live in our District. We drink our water everyday! We take pride in providing the best quality water at a reasonable cost.

There recently has been some media reports suggesting that the consolidation of water systems in Nassau County would be able to address the high cost of water in investor-owned water systems in Lynbrook, Merrick and Sea Cliff. While consolidation may reduce the cost of water in these high cost areas, it will definitely increase the cost of water in the Oyster Bay area. The residents of the Oyster Bay Water District should not be required to subsidize the cost of water for other locations in Nassau County.

The Board of Commissioners of Oyster Bay Water District is not in favor of consolidation of our Water District with any other entity. We strongly feel that our current locally operated system provides the most cost effective and most responsive water utility for the residents of Oyster Bay.

***WE BELIEVE IN KEEPING LOCAL CONTROL***

## JOHN WALSH RETIRES AND EDWARD DUPRE' TAKES OVER AS SUPERINTENDENT

After 33 years of service to the Oyster Bay Water District, employee John Walsh has retired from his position of Superintendent of the Water District. A long time resident of Oyster Bay, John graduated from Farmingdale High School in 1984. John started his career in the water industry in 1988 as a general laborer. Over the course of his career, John was promoted through the ranks, designated Operator of Record in 2010 and was named Superintendent in 2017. John's dedication and commitment provided the residents of the District a safe and reliable source of drinking water.

The District is proud to announce that Mr. Edward Dupre' has been promoted to Superintendent and Operator of Record, taking over the responsibilities after Mr. Walsh's retirement. Mr. Dupre' is a graduate from the Oyster Bay High School and is currently a 38-year member of the Atlantic Steamer Fire Company of Oyster Bay. Mr. Dupre' has been with the Oyster Bay Water District for over 25 years and he maintains a New York State Health Department 1B Water Treatment Plant Operator license. Mr. Edward Dupre' and the rest of the Water District will continue to ensure a reliable source of drinking water that meets all Federal, State and local health department drinking water standards.



*Commissioner Robert McEvoy being sworn in by Former Nassau County Legislature Donald Mackenzie*

## COMMISSIONER ROBERT MCEVOY RE-ELECTED

On December 8, 2020, the residents of the Oyster Bay Water District re-elected Robert McEvoy to the position of Water Commissioner for a three-year term 2021-2023.

Mr. McEvoy brings over 35 years of municipal financing experience to the position of Water Commissioner and has assisted the District in maintaining one of the lowest water rates on Long Island.

Mr. McEvoy is a life-long resident of Oyster Bay and is currently serving his 20th year as Water Commissioner.

### MEETING SCHEDULE

Please note that the Oyster Bay Water District schedules its meetings every Thursday morning at 9:00 a.m. The meetings are normally held at the Water District office. **However, during this coronavirus situation where public meetings cannot be held, District meetings are being held remotely by video conference call.** Members of the public can contact the District office at 516-922-4848 to obtain the access information to view and listen to the meetings.

### SWIFT911 - EMERGENCY

#### NOTIFICATION SERVICES

If you haven't already, we urge you to sign up for the Oyster Bay Water District Emergency Notification System. The Swift911 Emergency Notification System automatically calls you with a pre-recorded message in the event of a water emergency. The system database is populated with all listed phone numbers within the District. However, should your phone number be unlisted, your number is not automatically in our system. In addition, you may want to add your cell phone number to our system so that we can notify you by Text Message or Email.

#### COME VISIT OUR WEBSITE

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

Please log on and register your email address so we may add you to our database.



A Newsletter From:  
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## 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!



## Water Quality Report Enclosed

Enclosed with this newsletter is the Oyster Bay Water District's Annual Water Supply Report for 2020. This report presents the facts about the quality of our water supply and summarizes the water quality sampling test results taken throughout 2020. 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. A copy of this report is also available at the District website, [www.oysterbaywaterdistrict.org](http://www.oysterbaywaterdistrict.org).

