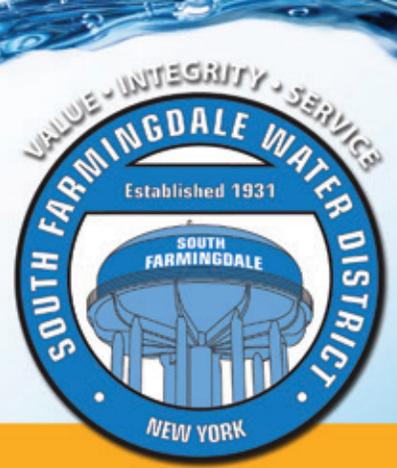


# From the TAP

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A Publication of the South Farmingdale Water District  
(516) 249-3330 / [www.sfwater.com](http://www.sfwater.com) / Your Neighborhood Water District Does It Best!



## SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT FOR WATER TREATMENT FACILITY

*Thanks in part to U.S. Senator Charles E. Schumer's strong call-to-action, a final settlement agreement is in place between the South Farmingdale Water District and the United States Navy and Department of Justice (D.O.J).*

The settlement will cover all costs associated with the construction and ongoing maintenance and operation of Plant No. 3 at Hicksville Road.

In order to meet the challenge of the Grumman Plume head on, the water treatment facility was constructed in 2013 and has been fully operational since the end of last summer. The new packed tower ion filtration air stripper removes any volatile organic contaminants (VOCs) from the raw water and filters the treated water back into the supply system. The water meets all standards, and Plant No. 3 has the capacity to accommodate a

second air stripper, if and when necessary. A state-of-the-art security system, including alarms and motion detectors, was also installed.

On September 2, 2014, SFWD hosted a press conference. Senator Schumer lead the charge to demand that the U.S. Navy stop dragging its feet and issue reimbursement to the District to prevent significant water bill increases to District consumers. Since the time of the press conference, a final settlement has been approved, and the District expects to receive payment in early 2015.

“South Farmingdale Water District consumers didn’t cause this mess, and they shouldn’t have to pay to clean it up,” said Senator Schumer at the press conference. “The Navy and Department of Justice should stop stringing the Water District along and provide the resources needed to pay down the bonds and prevent water rates from skyrocketing. It is bad enough that consumers have to deal with the Grumman Plume – they shouldn’t have to pay extra to do so.”

The long and tedious process of agreeing to a settlement started back in 2006. SFWD has since borrowed almost \$5 million from the Town of Oyster Bay to construct the water treatment facility to filter and purify the groundwater. While the District has not yet been impacted, it’s only a matter of time. A proactive plan was put in place to construct the treatment facility in anticipation of the plume.

Most importantly, the settlement will cover all Plant No. 3 construction, operation and maintenance costs to date, as well as costs moving forward. Once the District receives payment, the bond will be retired from the Town of Oyster Bay, lessening the burden to the consumer.

The District has continually monitored the Plume and the Board of Commissioners has attended all community meetings and conferences regarding the issue. Once the District receives payment, a formal announcement will be made.



# Actively Monitoring Drinking Water In The Neighborhood

In an effort to continually monitor our drinking water, the U.S. Navy has chosen selective sites within the local community to report on the potential flow of the Grumman Plume. Consumers shouldn't be alarmed as this is standard protocol and procedure. As part of the process of monitoring the Plume, these massive drilling rigs are supervised and operated by professional engineers, and a reporting structure has been created to monitor the groundwater within the aquifer.

These monitoring rigs are issued by the U.S. Navy, not by South Farmingdale Water District. And while they may create an inconvenience for some residents, this is normal procedure in the monitoring process.

To further protect your drinking water, SFWD tests our water far more often than is required by law.



# WATER TANK REHABILITATION SLATED FOR 2015



The 14-story elevated water tank at Plant No. 1 (Langdon Road) is ready for its facelift! As part of the District's Capital Campaign and infrastructure improvements, the tank will be prepped for its rehabilitation during the early part of 2015.

The last time the tank was treated was in 1999. This massive 1,000,000-gallon elevated water tank will be sandblasted and painted to avoid corrosion and maintain its special interior coatings. Tank work will be conducted under an enormous cover that will blanket the tank and protect local neighbors from the non-lead paint and fumes. The painting of the tank is a necessary process and will help prolong the life of the steel.

The District will continually update consumers about the work schedule in 2015 on our website at: [www.sfwater.com](http://www.sfwater.com).



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**Board of Water Commissioners**  
Ralph Atoria, Chairman  
John Hirt, Treasurer  
Gary Brosnan, Secretary

Leonard Constantinopoli,  
Business Manager  
Charles Prucha,  
Superintendent

# Water Commissioner ELECTION December 9, 2014

The annual election for Water District Commissioner is for a three-year term, which begins on January 1, 2015, and runs through December 31, 2017.

**WHEN:** Tuesday, December 9, 2014

**WHERE:** North Massapequa Fire Department  
1000 North Broadway  
Massapequa, NY 11758

South Farmingdale Fire Department  
819 South Main Street  
South Farmingdale, NY 11735

**TIME:** 4:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

**ELIGIBILITY:** Registered voter living in the District

For more information, please call our office at (516) 249-3330.



Here are a few tips and suggestions for you to follow this winter season regarding conservation in your home or business:

- 1** Always know where your shut-off valve and water pipes are located in your home or business in case of an emergency.
- 2** Insulate water pipes in unheated areas to prevent freezing and subsequent thawing, which can lead to burst pipes. This will also reduce the amount of water that must be run before hot water is discharged from your faucet or showerheads.
- 3** Flush out and shut down all lawn irrigation systems (sprinkler systems).
- 4** Drain and disconnect all outside hoses to prevent water from freezing. Outdoor hoses should be stored indoors to prevent cracking.
- 5** Turn off outside spigots from inside your home or business, drain the lines and leave the spigots open.

**For more conservation tips and helpful suggestions this winter season, visit the water conservation section within our website at: [www.sfwater.com](http://www.sfwater.com).**

## Keep A Clear Path To Your HYDRANTS

Mother Nature hasn't been all too kind to Long Island over the last few years... especially during the winter season.

Being prepared for bad weather is something that we should all be conscious of. An accumulation of snow and ice can bury fire hydrants, thus slowing firefighters' efforts during emergency situations.

In the interest of public safety, please help keep fire hydrants clear of snow or any other debris. Every second counts during a fire. There are over 1,200 hydrants throughout the District that can easily be blanketed by snowdrifts or snowplows. So, if you see one covered in your neighborhood, do your part and clear a path, or report it to the SFWD.

