

# From the TAP



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A Publication of the South Farmingdale Water District

Your Neighborhood Water District Does It Best!  
(516) 249-3330 • [www.sfwater.com](http://www.sfwater.com)

## → Continuing UPGRADES & MAINTENANCE to our Infrastructure

### Capital Campaign Initiatives Help to Improve Our Delivery of Water

Maintaining our infrastructure is the single most important factor in controlling costs and keeping quality water flowing to all of our consumers within the District. While the District operates at 100% capacity, some water mains have survived decades and decades of usage, and upgrading is always necessary.

South Farmingdale Water District Commissioners commented, "Our perennial preventive maintenance programs never stop. For example, district-wide, all our wells are part of a rotating upgrade to improve water pressure, particularly for fire fighting. They are all in excellent working order, and a part of our capital campaign improvement program is to modernize our equipment and facilities throughout all delivery systems across the district."

## → NEW GENERATOR at Plant 4



We are happy to report that every Plant within the South Farmingdale Water District has a backup generator in place. So in the event of an emergency, power outage or another Super Storm Sandy catastrophe, the District can be run on generator power without any interruption to water service.

## → Painting our Water Tank at Plant 1

It's important to keep our water tanks pristine, avoid corrosion and prolong the life of the steel. With that being said, SFWD plans to paint the water tank at Plant 1 on Langdon Road, which will also help maintain the integrity of the special coating inside the tank. This 1,000,000-gallon storage tank is in need of paint, and the District will submit a petition to the Town of Oyster Bay for a bond issue to start the project. Pending bond approval, we should begin painting in the Fall.



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**A Message from the Superintendent Charles Prucha.**

# Welcome to the Spring 2013 Newsletter

Summer is around the corner and as we approach our peak pumping season, we ask all our consumers to be committed to water conservation and be mindful of over watering. Please take a moment to review some helpful conservation tips from our water commissioners on page 3, and we thank you in advance for your support.

We're excited that our new water treatment system at Plant 3 will be online and fully operational this summer to help us meet the demand for water. It has been a long process negotiating with the U.S. Navy and Department of Defense, but we're making progress, and we're confident that a settlement will be reached shortly.

Lastly, I'd like to thank you, our consumers, for being diligent and reporting any suspicious activity in your neighborhood. In 2012 there were a few incidents in Nassau County where people were posing as water department personnel, electrical contractors and other maintenance personnel to gain access to residents' homes in an attempt to burglarize them. We're happy to see that these activities have ceased, and your vigilance helped put a stop to these imposters.

As always, have a safe and healthy summer and enjoy time with your friends, family and loved ones.



## Water Treatment System Construction Underway Plant 3

In an effort to maintain a seamless delivery of high quality water to our consumers, and to address the impending contamination threat of the Grumman plume, the South Farmingdale Water District has started construction of a new water treatment system at Plant 3 on Hicksville Road.

As the plume continues to migrate south, it is the responsibility of the District to shield our consumers from paying for this new treatment facility. At this moment, the District is in final negotiations with the U.S. Navy and Department of Defense (D.O.D.) to cover all construction, operating costs and maintenance of the plant.

In order for SFWD to complete this project on time and within budget, construction will continue through the summer, and we are confident that the D.O.D. will completely reimburse the District for all planning, construction and future maintenance. The District is striving to resolve this issue soon and will continue progress until the well is online.

In the meantime, we'll continually update our consumers on our website at [www.sfwater.com](http://www.sfwater.com).



# The Road to Repair

## Intermunicipal Construction Project Benefits Local Community

For SFWD, the road to repair is paved with cooperation. Traffic is an ever-growing problem on Long Island, and the intersection of Hempstead Turnpike and Merritts Road in Farmingdale has been a particular hotbed for congestion and ongoing construction projects. So when our SFWD crew was driving through this section of town and noticed National Grid had opened up the turnpike, it turned out to be a golden opportunity to approach the gas company about fixing an interconnection of water main that needed repair.



SFWD crew hard at work repairing a water main.

Local water districts have various interconnections with one another, which provide Districts with the ability to share water throughout the entire system. In the event that a local water district's well is inoperable or their infrastructure is compromised, a neighboring water district can provide water without interruption of service. The area of the water main below Hempstead Turnpike connects to the Village of Farmingdale and repairing it would allow SFWD to connect to the village's water supply resulting in minimal interruption to consumers.

In order to accomplish the goals of this intermunicipal construction project, SFWD, National Grid, The Village of Farmingdale and the New York State Department of Transportation had to work in tandem while the road was opened. SFWD sent in a crew to fix and repair the infrastructure and we completed our task simultaneously and with the full cooperation of all parties. Once all work was completed, National Grid sealed the road and there was no more disruption or traffic build-up in the area.

SFWD's Water Commissioners note that this project is a great example of how the District's proactive approach to solving problems can benefit the community as a whole. "By communicating our needs to our municipal colleagues, we were able to not only be fiscally responsible, but now we have the ability to supply the Village of Farmingdale with SFWD water and vice versa. This is a great way to work together to benefit local taxpayers."

## Water Conservation

Did you know that the average person uses more than 160 gallons of water per day? Multiply that by the 44,700 people we service in the District, and it averages out to almost 7,152,000 gallons of water...PER DAY! *Staggering number isn't it?*

So why all the fuss about water conservation? Like electricity, water goes through a peak demand period during heat waves, and it's important that we all take the initiative to conserve wherever possible. Here are a few tips and suggestions for you to consider to help conserve water this summer:

- 💧 Install a spring-loaded shutoff nozzle on each garden hose to avoid water waste.
- 💧 Always remember to check underground sprinklers, pools and spas for leaks. If you spring a leak, get it repaired immediately to avoid costly water waste.
- 💧 For gardens, make small irrigation ditches along rows of plants and flowers.
- 💧 Even-numbered addresses and non-numbered homes can water on even-numbered days; odd-numbered addresses can water on odd-numbered days. Nassau County Ordinance prohibits watering between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m.

*Commissioners John Hirt, Gary Brosnan and Ralph Atoria urge consumers to be mindful of water conservation this summer.*

### What It Means To Our Consumers

- 💧 A small drip from your faucet can waste more than 50 gallons of water per day, and a hole in your outdoor garden hose can waste up to hundreds of gallons of water when in use! By fixing the leak, not only will you conserve water, but save money!

South Farmingdale Water District Commissioners noted that regulations on certain water activities help in protecting our most precious resource. The request for conservation is geared toward preventing over usage of water. That translates into higher water costs for you and more energy required to meet demand. Not good for your cash flow or the environment.

**So remember:** Preserve, observe and conserve. And go to our website to find more helpful information and conservation tips and suggestions to apply at home or at your place of business.

*Every little bit helps if everyone participates!*

Visit us at  
[www.sfwater.com](http://www.sfwater.com)



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## ONLINE Bill Pay

Easy, Fast, Secure and Convenient

Consumers will soon have the ability to pay their water bills online utilizing a secure third-party provider. All major credit cards will be accepted, and a nominal convenience fee will be issued by the bank to process the payment. All electronic payments are made through an Automated Clearing House (ACH) Network to help reduce errors, speed payment, save resources... and a stamp!

Look for this addition  
to our website at  
[www.sfwater.com](http://www.sfwater.com).



## Annual Water Quality Report: New Home Online



In accordance with Federal and State regulations, the South Farmingdale Water District produces a Water Quality Report each year. This is an in-depth report filled with important information regarding the District's water quality, cost of water, sources of water, water treatment procedures and more. Our goal is to provide all consumers with a safe dependable water supply throughout the year, and we strongly encourage you to read this important information. You can view and read our 2012 Water Quality Report online at: [www.sfwater.com/waterquality](http://www.sfwater.com/waterquality), as well as reports from years past. Hard copies are available at the main office and additional data is available.