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Ralph Atoria-Chairman
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Leonard Constantinopoli-Business Manager
William Bier-Superintendent

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Notice Something Different?

Welcome to the Spring issue of *From the Tap*. We're proud to launch a new design and layout of our semi-annual newsletter with a dynamic look and full color imagery.

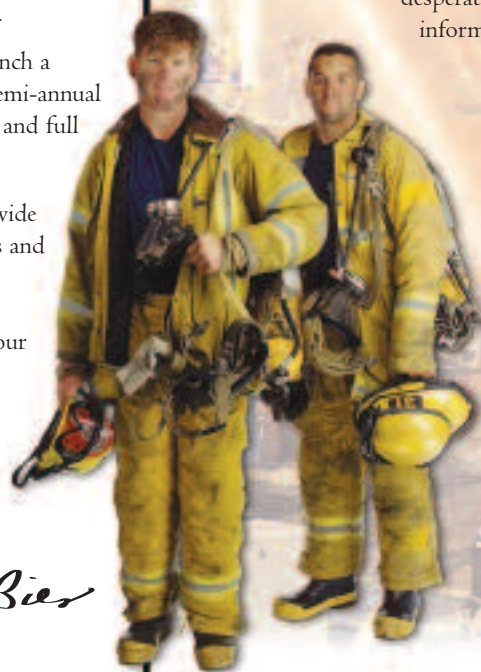
From the Tap will continue to provide you with District news, analyses and features to keep you up-to-date on developments...and useful information you can apply in your home or business.

We hope you enjoy the articles as well as the new design.

Sincerely,

William C. Bier

Bill Bier
Superintendent



Volunteers Needed

Have you considered becoming a volunteer at your local fire department? It's challenging, yet rewarding...and a great way to help serve your community. Volunteers are desperately needed. Call for more information. 1-800-Fireline (347-3546)

Emergency Notice: Special Water Needs

If you or anyone you know within the District has special needs for water (such as those on kidney dialysis or other medical situations requiring water), contact our office and register your name and address immediately. Occasionally water shutdowns are conducted in neighborhoods for technical reasons, and we do not want to endanger the health of any of our customers. Please call (516) 249-3330 or email us at info@sfwater.com to register.



Protecting Our Water Supply for Today and Tomorrow

The South Farmingdale Water District (SFWD) has dealt with many issues and hurdles to keep our public water supply safe, of high quality, and available in abundance. Thanks to our team at the District, the participation of our customers, and cooperation with other government agencies and civic associations, we can claim victory in keeping our water safe. [More inside >](#)

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Protecting Our Water Supply...

Continued from front cover

The challenge at the forefront lately is the subterranean plume that started at Bethpage/Grumman years ago. We have reported this in the past, and updates will be published as they occur.

The plume consists of chemical solvents and organic compounds that were used to break down grease at the former Grumman Aerospace Plant and the Naval Weapons Industrial Reserve Plant sites in Bethpage during the highly active war and post-war period of the 1940s.

Currently, this underground plume is moving slowly through the District and if left untreated, is a threat to our water supply. Fortunately, it can and will be treated, as it's successfully been done at several other sites within different water districts on Long Island.

This treatment is mandatory to protect our water, as determined by an independent engineering firm. The solution consists chiefly of deploying sophisticated filtration technology in the field, so that water is purified before it enters the public distribution system.

Our engineers conducted a study, which included several different treatment

suggestions and the associated costs. The most effective solution will be chosen to treat the water, and the cost of the treatment facilities is not a liability of the SFWD or our customers. The U. S. Navy, through negotiations, will assume the cost of the project. This means local taxpayers and water consumers will not be burdened with this debt; the cost will be paid by government agencies.

To help ensure this complex issue is resolved in a timely and correct manner, the SFWD has hired an environmental law attorney. Negotiations with the U. S. Navy have begun and will continue until every detail of settling this matter is concluded.

"Two things are important for every one of our customers to understand. First, the water in the District is of high quality and meets all State and Federal standards. Second, we're doing everything possible to minimize any negative impact this plume may cause, and the cost will not be borne by our customers, either commercial or residential," said Ralph Atoria, District Chairman.

If you have any questions or concerns, contact the District at (516) 249-3330.

Use Sense, Stay Safe

No one wants to think they may not be safe in their own house. Unfortunately, there are fraudulent people who might try to gain access to your home in order to commit a crime. Therefore, we urge you to use caution when someone claiming to be a Water District employee appears on your doorstep to read a water meter, confirm a leak or sell you a water filtration device. Don't be fooled by imposters!

It is rare that anyone from the Water District will show up at your home. In fact, 99% of our visits to residents' homes are by appointment. Even if there is an emergency, such as a water main break, we will notify you about when we'll be in the area.

If someone comes to your door claiming to be a Water District employee, ask to see his or her identification card. If you have any doubts about his or her identity, contact the police immediately. Our employees have been trained by the Nassau County police regarding identification procedures in order to help identify imposters.

Also, if you witness any unusual activity around water well sites in your area, or if you see a van, truck or any persons who do not look as if they are conducting official business, contact the police or the District immediately.

Remember, a little bit of common sense goes a long way in protecting yourself, your family, and fellow members of the community. Trust your instincts and call the police if you suspect any problems.



Thank You!

Gracias

Merci

VIELEN DANK

Grazie

This was a particularly hard winter for the District. We had over 30 water main breaks, the most in our history during a winter season. Superintendent Bill Bier extends a special "Thank You" to all the SFWD workers, who often went out in the middle of the night in freezing weather to fix a main and keep water flowing to our consumers. We are fortunate to have these hard working individuals on our team. "Thank you also to our customers who reported these breaks to us, and whose vigilance helps keep the system working for everyone," added Superintendent Bier.

Congratulations!

Commissioner John Hirt, was elected President of the Nassau-Suffolk Water District Association on January 5, 2005.

The Association was founded in 1981 and is made up of 21 water districts on Long Island, with 63 representative commissioners. Hirt explains, "The purpose of the Association is two-fold; first to keep all the Commissioners aware of emerging State and Federal regulations, news and developments that affect the Districts; and second, to speak as one, unified voice when dealing with the State or Federal agencies."

John Hirt
Treasurer



Help Conserve Water

We all recognize that water conservation and preventing pollutants from contaminating our soil is important, especially to our children's future. To help everyone understand how easy it is to help, and what a big difference you can make, we have issued water conservancy guidelines.

It is extremely important that any drips or leaks in your home or business are stopped. Some leaks are hard to detect, but here's the best way to know if you have one. Turn off all running water and locate your water meter. If the triangle on the meter is turning, there's a leak in your home or business. Call your plumber immediately to find and fix the leak.

Here is how much water is lost from the tiniest of leak holes:

Water Loss in Gallons

Leak this Size	Loss per Day	Loss per Month
•	120	3,600
•	360	10,800
•	693	20,790
•	1,200	36,000
•	1,920	57,600
•	3,096	92,880
•	6,640	199,200
•	8,424	252,720
•	11,324	339,720
•	14,952	448,560

Tips and Facts...



Sprinkling Regulations

- Lawn and garden watering is prohibited between 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., year round.
- Even numbered addresses and no numbered homes can water on even numbered days; odd numbered addresses can water on odd numbered days.
- The use of a hose for flushing driveways, sidewalks and streets is prohibited.
- All hoses must be equipped with a spring-loaded nozzle.
- Limit the time you water your lawn. The average lawn needs only 1-2 inches of water per week.