

# 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!*



## STAYING AHEAD OF 1,4-DIOXANE, PFAS AND PFOA

**P**roactivity and vigilance constitute a way of life at South Farmingdale Water District (SFWD). Each day the District is dedicated to meeting the demand for high quality water for all our consumers.

Advanced Oxidation Process (AOP), which is the most technologically advanced and proven solution to remove 1,4-dioxane from drinking water, was pilot tested at Plant No. 3 back in 2019. Our new AOP system has now recently been installed and will be fully operational this summer. Plant No. 3 had been offline since 2018 and will be in full compliance with all local, state and federal regulations.

Even prior to New York State's adoption of new public drinking water standards that set Maximum Contaminant Levels

(MCLs) of 10 parts per trillion (10 ppt) each for PFOA and PFOS, and 1 part per billion (1 ppb) for 1,4-dioxane, SFWD was proactively working with professional engineers, effectively designing the most scientifically advanced water treatment systems to treat the lowest level MCL ever set in the United States.

Historically speaking, SFWD has had treatment in place for decades, regularly testing for over 7,000 compounds, including all emerging contaminants. Rest assured, no SFWD wells that reach

the MCL for 1,4-dioxane, PFAS, PFOA are online. As a matter of precaution, and to prepare for the future, Plant 6 will also have an AOP treatment system installed as a long-term safeguard.

Our longstanding program of preventive maintenance of our infrastructure is a 24/7/365 process. Local control means dedication to our customers and ratepayers as we continue to safeguard our water supply while delivering the highest quality drinking water.

# INFRASTRUCTURE & TECHNOLOGY UPDATES



## DISTRICT RECEIVES GRANT MONEY FOR INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENT

The South Farmingdale Water District has been awarded a portion of an approximately \$4 million grant, through the New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation. The money will be used for water main improvements and will cover approximately 40% of the overall cost of the project. Nearly 1.5 miles of new ductile iron water main, ranging from 6 inches to 12 inches in diameter, will be replacing old water main. The work is expected to begin Fall 2021.

## METER READING EQUIPMENT UPDATE

Starting in June 2021, SFWD will be implementing a technology update. Our personnel will be replacing water meter endpoints that, thanks to cellular technology, enable SFWD personnel to obtain meter readings remotely. The update is needed because it is expected that 3G cell service being used will end as soon as the beginning of 2022. Chances are we won't need access to your home. If someone knocks on your door claiming to be from the SFWD, always:

**Ask for Identification:** All District employees carry official identification with photo, name and SFWD information.

**Look:** All District personnel operate from clearly marked SFWD vehicles and wear official uniforms bearing the SFWD logo.

**Still Unsure?:** Call us right away at (516) 249-3330.



Francis Koch, P.E.

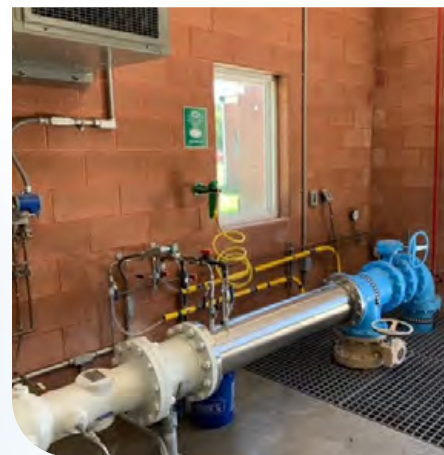
## FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

### Giving Credit Where Credit is Due

The unprecedented COVID-19 pandemic put everyone to the test. For everyone, routines both personal and professional, needed to be reviewed and reinvented in many cases. Here at the South Farmingdale water district we adapted our field and office processes. We did (and do) our best to protect the health and safety of the public and our employees. The supply of quality water has continued without interruption. I wish to thank the staff and commissioners for their vigilance and for their determination to ensure a plentiful supply of water to you our public, in these most difficult and challenging times.

# FINAL IRON FILTERS IN PLACE

Iron is naturally found in our groundwater. It is not a health hazard. However, some may find it to be distasteful. Also, it can cause staining of plumbing fixtures and clothing during hot water washes. Now, with final implementation of two horizontal pressure filters at Plant No. 4, all six of the District's well sites are equipped with modern iron removal filtration. A \$3 million grant covered part of the \$5 million construction cost and the remainder of the cost was planned for within our Capital Campaign Improvement Program.



## A JOB WELL DONE

**Lenny Constantinopoli Retires from District**

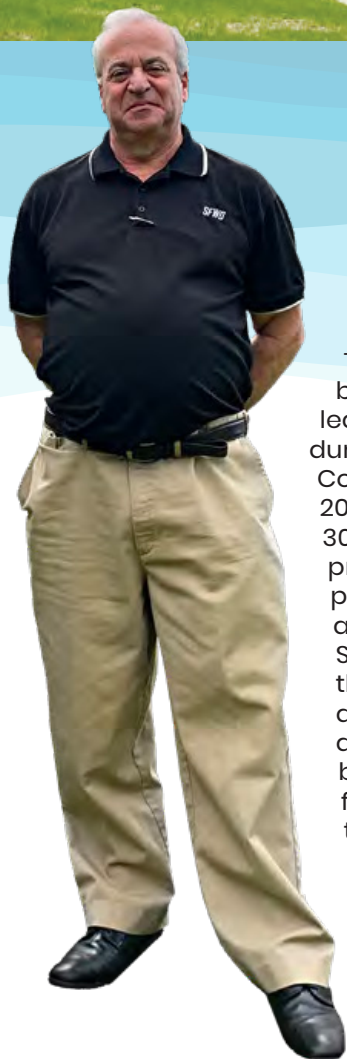
The South Farmingdale Water District has been fortunate to have strong, resourceful leadership throughout the decades, especially during difficult and unpredictable times. Lenny Constantinopoli who retired in September 2020, was a big part of this supervision for over 30 years, as Business Manager. A dedicated professional known for his ability to bring people together Lenny worked 'in the trenches' alongside Elected-Commissioners and Superintendents. He carried out his duties at the District with class, dignity and the ultimate degree of professionalism...developing annual finance plans, balancing District budgets year in and year out, and providing financial guidance in the best interest of taxpayers.

We thank you Lenny, for your long and dedicated service.

## GET THE REAL FACTS ABOUT WATER FILTERS BEFORE YOU MAKE A PURCHASE.

Your SFWD tap water meets or exceeds all local and New York State standards which are the strictest in the nation, and very likely, in the world. In the event you may wish to purchase a water filter for your home, consider the following:

- 1. To Remove Contaminants:** If you are connected to a public supply on Long Island it's unnecessary. The filters will not remove all emerging contaminants. Only your water supplier can do this with sophisticated treatment facilities.
- 2. To Improve the Taste of Your Water:** That can make sense. It will remove the chlorine and iron taste but beware as bacteriological growth can occur on filters and cause problems. Also certain natural minerals can build up on a filter and then slough off in much higher displeasing quantities (i.e. manganese & iron).
- 3. To Protect Your Plumbing Pipes:** Do not waste your time. Your water is naturally soft on Long Island. Your supplier raises the pH above neutral which helps protect your piping.



# Keeping WATER CONSERVATION TOP-OF-MIND

For more conservation tips for your home, visit [sfwater.com/conservation](http://sfwater.com/conservation).

Conservation of water is vital to the sustainability of Long Island. Thank you for helping us achieve the goal of a 15% water usage reduction last summer as mandated by the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC). Now with the months of highest demand approaching, we ask for your help once again.

- Observe Nassau County's odd/even watering regulations.
  - Odd-numbered houses may water only on odd-numbered days.
  - Even-numbered houses may water only on even-numbered days.
  - No watering between 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.
- Restrict irrigation to 15 minutes per area with a maximum total watering of two hours per eligible day.
- Check for leaks or broken sprinkler heads that unnecessarily waste water.
- Mulch plants to retain moisture and make good landscaping choices, such as integration of native/drought resistant plants.
- Keep your lawn approximately two inches long. This will help reduce evaporation and require less water.



## 2020 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

Our water meets and exceeds all local, state and federal regulations and our latest report can be found online at: [www.sfwater.com/waterquality](http://www.sfwater.com/waterquality)

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