

From the TAP

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

SAFEGUARDING OUR WATER SYSTEM

For over 90 years, residents have counted on South Farmingdale Water District (SFWD) as its dependable, local water service provider. Consumers rely upon the District



Plant No. 3-1

to be steadfast in taking all necessary measures when it comes to delivering high quality water, at an affordable rate, without interruption.

This mission, which began nearly a century ago, continues today as our Commissioners, SFWD personnel, consultants and support vendors work together to safeguard our most precious natural resource.

MAKING AN INVESTMENT FOR OUR FUTURE

"Here at South Farmingdale Water District, we test and monitor our water regularly and we've invested significantly in our state-of-the-art treatment systems," stated SFWD Commissioner Gary Brosnan.

Among the contaminants proactively tested for and treated is 1,4-dioxane, a synthetic compound found in everything from cosmetics, shampoos, dish soap, degreasers and packaging to pharmaceuticals. Although 1,4-dioxane seeps into our water system through the ground, drains and sewers, know that the preventative measures being taken to treat our water ensures that what comes to your tap meets all federal and state quality standards.

Continued on page 2...

U.S. Navy to Pay SFWD \$17.5M to Treat Groundwater Contamination

After years of litigation, SFWD has reached a \$17.5 million settlement with the U.S. Department of the Navy to address the groundwater plume impacting Plant No. 3-1 and Plant No. 6-2. This landmark agreement means that SFWD customers will not be financially responsible for the new treatment systems that are designed and constructed, as well as future costs of operation and maintenance.

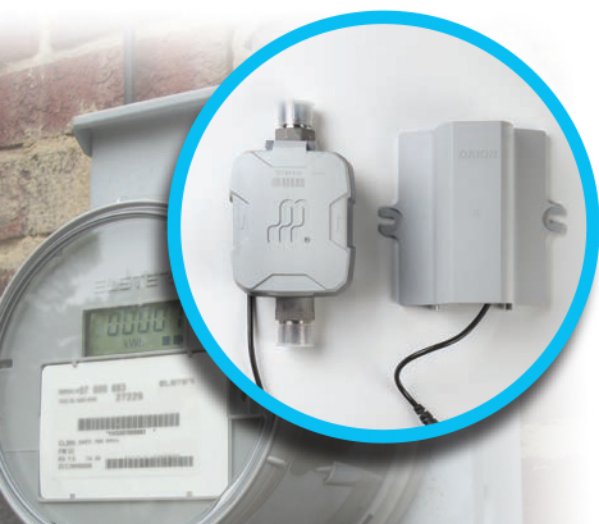
"This is an important day for our residents. We thank everyone who has worked so hard over the years to get us to this point, and most importantly, this means our SFWD customers aren't paying to clean up someone else's mess. We will continue to do everything we can to protect our water and our community when they are threatened and we will continue to fight to recover funds from other responsible parties," commented the Board of Water Commissioners.

SFWD Awarded \$3M Grant

Good news from Albany as SFWD has been awarded a \$3M grant for treatment facilities at Plant No. 6-2. The announcement came from Governor Kathy Hochul that the state Environmental Facilities Corporation awarded \$638 million in grants to municipalities and public authorities for 199 water infrastructure projects across the state. These dollars help offset costs of design and construction at the Plant site.



GAME! Changer



Endpoint Change-Out Program Underway

Earlier in March, the District began its water meter Endpoint Change-Out program. In response to a recent FCC telecommunications change, the program is necessary to accommodate continued remote meter reading ability and is expected to be completed in 2023.

WHAT IS THE ENDPOINT AND WHY ARE WE CHANGING IT?

The endpoint is the communication component attached via wire to your water meter. It transmits your water meter reading to the SFWD main office. The transmission had relied on 3G CDMA technology which is now being phased out. The new endpoints utilize LTE

(Long Term Evolution) technology to transmit the meter readings.

ENDPOINT CHANGEOUT PROCESS

"In most cases, the endpoint is affixed to the outside of a home or business, and we will not need to enter the premises," commented SFWD Chairman Ralph Atoria. "When a District employee arrives, he or she will knock on the door to advise you of our presence. The change-out process takes approximately twenty minutes to complete, and no appointment is necessary."

Thank you for your cooperation. If you have questions, please call the District: (516) 249-3330.

SAFEGUARDING OUR WATER (CONT.)

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Advance Oxidation Process (AOP) is the most technologically advanced, proven solution to remove this compound from drinking water. SFWD first piloted the AOP in 2019, a full year before New York State even set an official Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) for 1,4-dioxane.

In December 2022, the District completed its first AOP treatment plant, at Plant No. 3 on Hicksville Road. Our Plant No. 6-2 facility, further south along Hicksville Road, is in the AOP treatment design phase with construction planned to begin this summer.

"We stayed ahead of legislation, putting safety before politics in all decisions especially those affecting our water supply and our community," added Brosnan. "To that end, we will always remain vigilant."



Plant No. 3-1 AOP System

CONGRATULATIONS TO COMMISSIONER JOHN HIRT!

John Hirt won his re-election as SFWD Water Commissioner and began serving his three-year term in January. Commissioner Hirt will continue his legacy of service to our community, as he has done for nearly three decades.

Commissioner Hirt serves as Treasurer on the Board and is part of the invaluable team of Commissioners along with Chairman Ralph Atoria, serving since 1991, and Secretary Gary Brosnan, serving since 2008. Our Commissioners have fought tirelessly to ensure our water remains of high quality and is delivered at an affordable rate to our consumers.

***Congratulations, John
...well deserved!***



PAPERLESS BILLS OPTION

SFWD is now offering paperless billing. If you would like to enroll, please visit www.sfwater.com/paperless, or email us at Info@sfwater.com. Please include a sentence authorizing us to begin emailing you your water bills. Include your account number and the service address. **Note that we will stop mailing paper bills once the emails begin.**

WATER CONSERVATION TIPS... INSIDE AND OUTSIDE YOUR HOME

According to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the average American home uses over 82 gallons of water a day*.

Water is an everyday necessity...to drink, bathe, give life to landscapes, to heat our homes, and more! We shouldn't take water for granted, especially during the hot summer months, and there are many water conservation tips and suggestions available on our website, www.sfwater.com/conservation.

Outdoor Use Accounts for 30% of Water Usage

Here are some ideas to help conserve water and reduce your water bill this summer:

Source: *epa.gov

Use Mulch

Not only is it good to control weeds, mulch helps landscapes maintain 80% of its water

Plant Native Plants

Native plants require less water and as a bonus, they don't require fertilizers.

Use a Soaker Hose to Water Plants

Lessen water usage in gardens too.

Water Early, Less Often

Water early in the morning, or in the evening to avoid evaporation.

Sweep

Don't hose your driveway.

For more conservation ideas, visit:

www.epa.gov/watersense/landscaping-tips

Leaks Can Run... But They Can't Hide

Did you know the most common toilet leak occurs when the flapper in the tank fails to sit properly and form a tight seal? According to the EPA, average household leaks can account for nearly 10,000 GALLONS of water WASTED every year and ten percent of homes have leaks that waste 90 gallons or more per day!

There are plenty of ways you can check for leaks within your household while helping to conserve water...and save on your water bill. For more helpful tips, visit www.epa.gov/watersense/fix-leak-week



Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

We're happy to report that the water we provide to you meets and exceeds all local, state and federal drinking water standards. Our in-depth water quality report is available to the public by visiting: www.sfwater.com/waterquality.



The report contains valuable information regarding water quality, treatment, sources, cost and more.

Winter Water Main Challenge

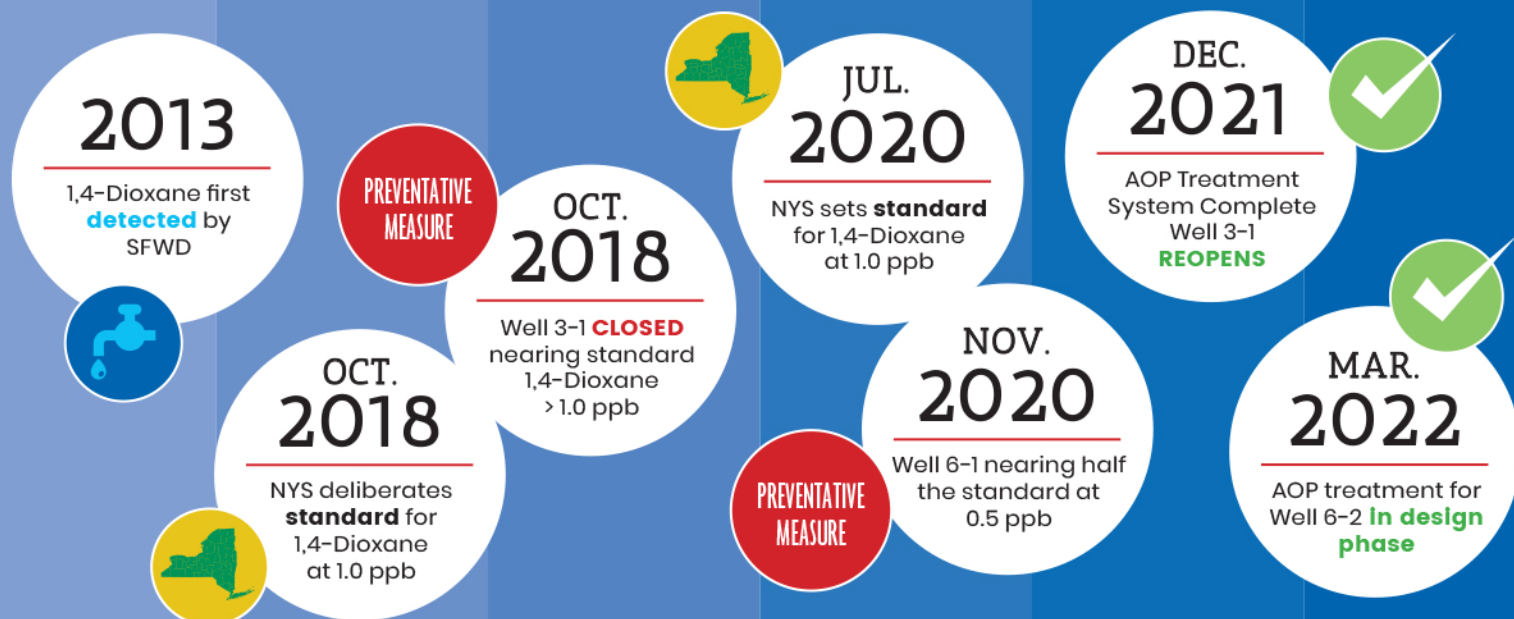
It's important to recognize our field personnel who rose to the challenge this blustery winter season as they responded to over 27 emergency water main breaks across the District's 122 miles of pipeline.

Many of these breaks occurred in the middle of the night and these challenging situations required a coordinated and professional response. "Our personnel are on call every day...rain, sleet, or snow," said SFWD Commissioner John Hirt. "We are appreciative and proud of our crew's immediate, prepared response to service our local community, each and every time."



Advanced Oxidation Process (AOP) Timeline

MEETING THE DEMAND FOR CLEAN WATER



Produced by Progressive Marketing Group, Inc.
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