

From the TAP

Volume 24 / No.2 / Fall 2023



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

BUILDING FOR THE FUTURE!!! TWO MAJOR PROJECTS UNDERWAY

The South Farmingdale Water District (SFWD) is dedicated to ensuring every drop of water delivered to your tap meets or exceeds all federal, state and local water quality regulations. Our Board of Commissioners and staff continuously work to improve the District's systems for current and future generations alike, and the current construction and improvements to the treatment system and infrastructure are part of our endeavors.

SFWD has broken ground on Plant 6

The new treatment plant will consist of Iron Removal Filters, an Advanced Oxidation Process (AOP) Plant and GAC Filters. The AOP treatment plant, designed for removal of 1,4-Dioxane, is the largest of our current projects, and is expected to be completed by the Spring of 2025.



Construction of Plant 6 has begun.
Footings for foundation in place.

A \$10 million undertaking, the SFWD is pleased to report that 90% of this project will be paid through a \$3 million New York State grant, and another \$6 million from the awarded settlement that resulted from SFWD's aggressive litigation against the US Navy and Grumman.

SFWD currently has a successful AOP treatment plant running at Plant 3 for two years. Plant 6 will be SFWD's second AOP plant and third GAC filter treatment plant.



Exterior of Plant 3.



Inside Plant 3 with AOP system.

WHAT IS 1,4-DIOXANE... AND HOW WE REMOVE IT FROM OUR WATER

1,4-Dioxane is a synthetic industrial chemical compound, both a product and byproduct, found in everything from aircraft deicing fluids to cosmetics and shampoos. In 2020, New York State Department of Health established a Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCL) for 1,4-Dioxane at 1 part per billion.

Advanced Oxidation Process or AOP is the only approved method for removal. Once removed, water is run through Granular Activated Carbon (GAC) filters for further purification.

Continued on page 2

COME OUT AND VOTE
Water Commissioner Election

December 12, 2023
4:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

South Farmingdale Water District
40 Langdon Road, Farmingdale

THE FUTURE

Continued from page 1

FARE-WELL TO 1-3 AT PLANT 1

SFWD would like to take a moment to thank Well 1-3, which has served the community for 75 years and earned its retirement. Like much of our District's original infrastructure, Well 1-3 was built in the 1950s to serve a budding community. Many of today's important projects replace the critical infrastructure of that era.

As the District's historic infrastructure nears the end of its lifecycle it can no longer perform as efficiently, yielding to time, technology, and demand. SFWD will be installing Well No. 1-6 at the same depth very near to Well 1-3's location to bring the capacity back to a proper production level.



Saying goodbye to Plant 1-3, which was in service for 75 years.

The new well will be completed Fall of 2024 and able to supply 2 million gallons per day.



SFWD'S RESOLVED SETTLEMENT HELPS WITH CAPITAL COSTS, OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE

In 2022, South Farmingdale Water District resolved its litigation with Northrop Grumman and the US Navy through settlement. Many people worked very hard for many years to get us here, and on behalf of the Board of Water Commissioners, we collectively thank all those involved during the process.



The money that SFWD continues to receive as a result is being used to pay for the capital costs, as well as ongoing operations and maintenance at two of our water supply wells impacted by contamination from the plume. That means our residents aren't paying to clean up someone else's mess...as it should be. We will continue to do everything we can to protect our water, and our community, when they are threatened. For now, we can celebrate this victory.

KEEPING AN EYE ON WATER CONSUMPTION SAVES

In accordance with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) request, each year South Farmingdale Water District sets a water pumpage reduction goal of 15 percent for the peak pumping months of May through September. While we did see spikes in usage during the pandemic, when at-home work and schooling took place, and in 2022, and when we saw an unusually dry season in our area; major decreases in water usage were apparent in other years, and our conservation efforts were in full swing this summer.

"We are happy to see a decrease in pumpage from 2022 to 2023. We all experienced an abnormal 2020, coupled with a dry season last summer, where water usage was up all year," The Board of Commissioners noted. "Let's continue to work together on conserving water during the 2024 summer season. This will help take pressure off our infrastructure during construction and lowers the cost of your water bill."

SUMMER MONTHS GALLONS PUMPED

	2022	2023
		
May	154,215,997	182,218,965
June	195,406,067	212,895,661
July	269,758,400	239,388,733
August	274,687,290	216,082,757
September	222,160,713	188,283,162
Total	1,116,228,467	1,038,869,278

MAKE SURE YOU ARE

“Winter Ready”

Important tips for winterizing your home:



Always know the location of your shut-off valve and winter pipes in case of emergency.



Turn off your outside spigots from inside the home, drain hoses and leave spigots open.



Shut down and drain all sprinkler systems and garden hoses, disconnect from faucets and store in shed or garage. Cover the faucets.



Insulate all water pipes in unheated areas to prevent freezing and subsequent thawing and bursting. Open cabinet doors where pipes may be exposed to an outside wall.

SNOW PATROL: CLEARING A PATH TO YOUR HYDRANTS

With the winter months upon us, we kindly ask our neighbors to remember to help clear a path to their fire hydrants during snowstorms. Ensuring that hydrants are easily visible and more accessible to our volunteer firefighters helps in an emergency. If you live on a cul-de-sac, hydrants are more susceptible to being buried.

See a Damaged or Broken Hydrant? Give us a call.

South Farmingdale Water District personnel canvasses the entire District yearly to inspect each hydrant. However, if you notice a hydrant is damaged or potentially broken, please notify District Headquarters by calling (516) 249-3330.





South Farmingdale Water District
40 Langdon Rd., P.O. Box 3319
Farmingdale, NY 11735
(516) 249-3330
www.sfwater.com

Board of Water Commissioners

Ralph Atoria, Chairman
John Hirt, Treasurer
Gary Brosnan, Secretary

Superintendent

Francis Koch, P.E.

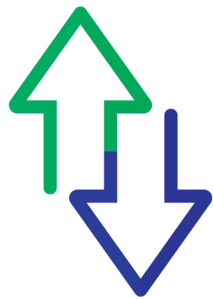
Business Manager

Judy Walter, CPA

*Produced by:
PMG Strategic, Inc.
www.pmgstrategic.com*

**COMING
SOON!**

**We are excited to
announce a new bill
layout and new customer
portal coming in the
beginning of 2024. More
information to follow in
the next few months.**



Offsetting Rising Costs of Safeguarding Our Water Systems

The South Farmingdale Water District works diligently to protect and safeguard our community water while maintaining a consistently low utility cost to our residents. The District has obtained grants and secured a bond from the Town of Oyster Bay, as well as agreed to settle with the United States Navy and Northrop Grumman, all part of our efforts to secure funding for operations, infrastructure, maintenance, and necessary improvements.

The rising costs of energy, operating costs for our AOP treatment plants, construction materials, increasing labor costs, debt service, along with supply chain issues, have contributed to higher expenses that need to be met. As a result, a slight increase in our water rates will begin in 2024, (see our illustrated cost comparison chart).

As a fiscally responsible utility, the District will continue to seek grants and litigate against polluters to keep rates stable. If you are a customer and have a question on our water rate schedule for 2024, please call the District at (516) 249-3330.

What your rates will look like during each 91-day period

	Water Use (Gallons per day)	2024 Rates (per 1,000 gallons)	2023 Rates (per 1,000 gallons)
Tier 1 (Minimum Bill)	Up to 66.6666	\$23.05 (Total Bill)	\$21.44 (Total Bill)
Tier 2	66.6667 – 222.2222	\$2.48	\$2.30
Tier 3	222.2223 – 333.3334	\$2.96	\$2.75
Tier 4	333.3335 – 444.4446	\$3.44	\$3.20
Tier 5	Remaining	\$4.19	\$3.90