

Volume 3, Number 1 • SPRING 2014



INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENT.

The Jericho Water District was established in the Roaring Twenties, and some of our infrastructure dates to 1923, the year Calvin Coolidge succeeded Warren G. Harding as the 30th president. That's why we are continually upgrading our infrastructure to keep up with the everincreasing demand for clean, potable water.

This proactivity also helps us to control costs. Of the 25 wells in operation, two are selected each year to undergo a complete overhaul. Well 13 in Woodbury and Well

27 in Old Brookville were refurbished over the winter months. This process ensures that the District has taken every precaution to prevent structural or mechanical failures to equipment, such as a pump, which could be particularly troublesome during the critical pumping months.

Tackling The Biggest Challenge:

Currently in the design stage and scheduled for completion in late 2015, is a nitrate removal/packed tower aeration facility at our Merry Lane well site. This plant will remove nitrates and volatile organic chemicals (VOCs) from two wells, one well situated on the Merry Lane site and the second well approximately 2,400 feet away. This endeavor is by far the largest and most complicated project the District has taken on in many years.

When completed, this well site will be capable of producing 2,800 gallons of water per minute and will incorporate a state-of-the-art operating system that will enhance the District's current SCADA (Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition) system.

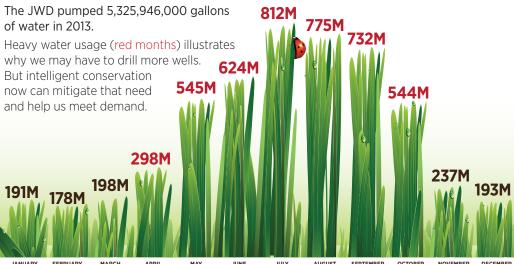
CONSERVATION & DEMAND:CAN THE TWAIN EVER MEET?

The Jericho Water District supplies some 19,000 customers in northeast Nassau with water from 25 wells. Each well is capable of producing 1,200 to 1,400 gallons per minute (GPM) or 1.75 to 2.0 million GPM daily. On our minimum 2013 pumpage day, we met demand utilizing five wells. On our maximum pumpage day, all 25 wells were running during peak demand time (2:00 A.M. to 6:00 A.M.) to keep up with demand.

WASTE NOT WANT NOT

Ironically, the District delivered those millions of gallons of fully treated, potable (drinking) water largely for lawns! Though consumers paid for this through a graduated rate structure where larger users pay a higher rate than more prudent users, the use of our precious resource stresses the system and the environment.





"WHAT DO I WANT MY PROPERTY TO LOOK LIKE?"

Here are four avenues to an attractive landscape that conserves water and minimizes costs.

1. LANDSCAPE INTELLIGENTLY:

- Long Island is underlain by clay and sand.
 Adding compost increases the soil's capacity to retain water so that more is available to plants.
- Landscape with native plants. They're hardier, healthier and already acclimated to our weather.
- Aerate lawns annually. This increases the capacity to absorb water and nutrients.
- Apply mulch around trees and shrubs to reduce evaporation and control weeds.
- Introduce new plants in spring and fall when water needs are lower and temperatures are more moderate.
- Weed often to remove unwanted plants which compete for sun, water and nutrients.
- Avoid overwatering which contributes to a CONTINUED ON P. 2

...MY PROPERTY...CONT.

shallow root zone, weed growth, weak plant structure, disease and fungal problems.

- 2. HIRE CERTIFIED IRRIGATION PROFESSIONALS: Installing or expanding an irrigation system? Get several bids that include:
- Permit application costs to operate a sprinkler system.
- Installation of a backflow prevention device.
- Programmable time clock and rain sensor, as required by the District.

• Use quality components which will reduce maintenance costs in the long run.

3. SPRINKLER SYSTEM MAINTENANCE:

- Inspect your system weekly for leaks.
- Inspect monthly for broken or clogged heads or after each lawn mowing, which is when sprinkler heads are most likely to be damaged.
- Adjust spray patterns that may be blocked by plants.
- Adjust heads if water is being applied to streets, sidewalks or buildings.
- Check time clock settings after power failures or lightning strikes.
- Have the system professionally winterized at season's end.

4. WEATHER-WISE IRRIGATION SCHEDULING:

- Reduce each zone's run time. You will save money and conserve water daily.
- Remember less water is needed in spring and fall than at the height of summer.
- Program each irrigation zone based on plant requirements, soil type, sun/shade exposure and the lay of the land.
- Water when there is less evaporation, e.g., early morning (before 10 A.M.), late afternoon (after 4 P.M.) and evening.
- Change system activation time.
 Most systems activate around 2:00 A.M., which puts an enormous strain on our tanks. Later morning or early evening activation enables us to better meet demand. Nassau County's Lawn Watering Ordinance 248-A 1987 prohibits watering lawns from 10:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.
- Soil slow to absorb
 water? Run the system
 several different times for shorter
 periods. For example, if
 the zone is to run for 20 minutes, run it
 twice for 10 minutes or 4 times for
 5 minutes each.



PRESSURE: WHAT IS IT AND HOW DOES IT AFFECT YOU?

The water pressure you experience in your home is created by the height of the District's elevated storage tanks. For every 2.31 feet of elevation, there is 1 pound of pressure pushing down. This pressure remains at a relative constant throughout the District, although some areas may experience slightly more or less pressure due to the contour of the land.

PLEASE SIR, CAN I HAVE MORE?

Please excuse the reference to Oliver Twist, but the District cannot regulate water pressure individually for each residence or business. Our distribution mains are all interconnected, and all water services are connected to those mains. The pressure that you get is the same as your neighbor's unless there is an internal problem.

Another interesting fact is that water expands when heated. In hot water heaters or boilers, if the expanded water doesn't have anywhere to go, the internal pressure will increase, which may cause premature failure of the unit's internal parts. When this happens, the pressure relief valve on the boiler or hot water heater will open and allow the pressure to escape...and you'll have a wet basement floor!

To alleviate pressure build-up, an expansion tank is installed with a diaphragm that separates the heated water from a pressurized air cushion.

When pressure starts to build up in the boiler, the diaphragm flexes against the cushion, allowing for the expanded water. When the water cools or the pressure is released by opening a faucet, the water returns to the system.

If the diaphragm fails, it will allow the air to escape and retain the water that has entered the expansion tank. Over time, the tank will fill completely with water and become inoperable. The pressure inside the boiler will build up, causing the pressure relief valve to open and relieve the pressure. Experience tells us that this is when homeowners usually call their oil burner service company who dispatch a qualified professional...only to discover that, yes, the pressure in the boiler is high. Quite often the serviceman may tell you

the serviceman may tell you to call the JWD and have us lower the pressure. However, as previously stated, pressure is not individually regulated for each customer. So if your heating system develops some of the symptoms stated here, it most likely isn't a problem created by us.



DID YOU KNOW?

HIGHEST DAILY PUMPAGE WAS JULY 19, 2013: 35,000,000 GALLONS

> 39,800 GALLONS PER MINUTE

2,300,000 GALLONS AN HOUR

MEMORIAL DAY: SYMBOL OF COMMITMENT.

Memorial Day will be observed on May 26 this year. The freedoms we often take for granted in our great nation do not come without cost or sacrifice. The Jericho Water District believes that those who have protected and guarded our American ideals, those who have served in harm's way and especially those who have given their all for our country, should be recognized. To American veterans, active military personnel and our troops serving the United States of America in every corner of the globe...we salute you!





BACKFLOW DEVICE TESTING IS MANDATORY.

New York State Sanitary Code Part 5, Section 1.31 (a) (3) requires that every backflow device must be tested by a certified tester at least once a year. The District asks that if you have a backflow device, that you have that device tested before June 30 of each year.

A list of certified testers can be found at: https://www.health.ny.gov/environmental/ water/drinking/cross/backflow_testers/ nassau.htm

For more information about contacting any of these individuals, please contact your County Health Department or State District Office, or email the Bureau of Water Supply Protection at h2ocert@health.state.ny.us.



ESTIMATED FEBRUARY WATER USAGE AND MAY BILLING.

It may be difficult to recall it now but February 2014 was a very snowy month. Water meters were buried under mounds of snow.

unavailable to our meter readers. The decision was made to estimate the usage for that first quarter based on water use for the first quarter in 2013. This affected almost everyone with an account

number that began with 20, 21, 25, 26, 30, 31, 35, 36 with just a few exceptions.

If your bill was estimated, it was indicated on the upper and lower portion of your bill. If it was a bill based on an actual reading, no reference to an estimate was made. Your May 2014 bill will reflect the total water used in the first and second quarter, minus that which was estimated and billed to you in February.



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Proudly serving you since 1923.

RESULTS OF AUDIT: VERY POSITIVE.

The Jericho Water District, like all such regulated taxing Districts, is subject to periodic audits. The audits are conducted by the State of New York, Office of the Comptroller. One such audit covering accounting records and internal control policies for the period of January 1, 2012, through September 30, 2013, was recently conducted and completed.

The auditor found that excepting minor discrepancies, "all customers were accurately billed, penalties calculated correctly and late fee waivers and billing adjustments were generally made in accordance with District policies and properly authorized by a designated official."

The JWD Board of Commissioners, Business Manager and Superintendent have reviewed the audit and are in concordance with the findings.

