

Volume 8, Number 1 • Spring 2019

CONNECT WITH US!



Today, technology makes information instantly available, and our mission as a public utility includes keeping our customers informed. Connect to our website, **www.jerichowater.org** through your desktop, tablet or smart phone for useful information about:

- Ongoing JWD projects
- Billing rates & online bill payment
- Newsletters & annual water reports
- Conservation & sustainability tips
- JWD history
- Backflow & inground sprinklers
- Financials & budgets
- Public notices

Be Safe! Be Smart! Sign Up!

We have implemented Swift911, an Emergency Notification System to alert consumers in the event of a water emergency. It works like 9-1-1 in reverse, and will call/email or text a prerecorded message to you in the event of a water emergency. We have to have a way to contact you, so go to our website, sign up and help us to protect you. www.jerichowater.org/contact/emergency-notification-system

Do Not Bend, Crush or Pave Over

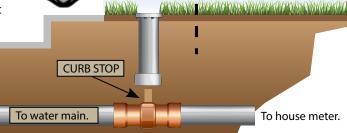
Every water service has a curb stop. It is a valve located between the water meter and the water main in the road, typically near the edge of your property. This valve allows us to turn off the water to a property in an emergency. If it has been paved over, bent or crushed, rendering it inaccessible, valuable time is lost while a crew is dispatched to correct the problem. This could result in damage to your property, which is especially important if your meter is located in the basement of your home.

To ensure that this doesn't happen, your curb stop location should be identified before landscaping between your meter pit and the road. If you plan on replacing or widening your driveway or sidewalk, or if any paved surfaces are moved and/or installed near the meter pit, as required by Code 753, you should call 811 before digging. This will allow trained District personnel to respond, locate the curb stop and mark out the water service up to the meter.

Unsure as to the location of the curb stop for your property? A call to the water district service department will provide assistance in locating it.



Property line.





CELLULAR SMART METER CHANGE OUT PROGRAM

In late 2018, **the Board of Commissioners** adopted a Bond Petition to fund an efficient, ultra-reliable meter reading and billing system using smart cellular meters. Data is sent once a day to meter reading software stored in the cloud in fifteen-minute increments for virtually up-to-the-minute accuracy. Consumers can access their water usage and other data and establish leak alerts through the EyeOnWater® website and app.

Working neighborhood by neighborhood, District personnel currently have 8,000 cellular meters in the ground. Our goal is to change out all of our remaining meters (approximately 11,000) to cellular meters over the next three years.

INCONVENIENCE? Meter upgrades generally take about an hour to complete, and, yes, you will experience a temporary disruption in water service.

AFTER NOTIFICATION THAT YOUR NEW CELLULAR METER HAS BEEN INSTALLED...

- 1. Log on to our website, http://www.jerichowater.org.
- 2. Click on the EyeOnWater button.
- 3. Follow instructions to set up your account.

We urge residents to take advantage of this opportunity by monitoring their water usage and by establishing leak alerts at **EyeOnWater.com**.

REVISED RESIDENTIAL RENTAL RULES



The Board of Commissioners has revised the policy regarding the billing of residential properties. As of May 1, 2019, property owners may not assign the tenant's name to their Jericho Water District account. The property's legal owner is responsible for all water usage, fines and fees, and the District will remit bills only to the property's legal owner.

Names will be changed on an account only when the property is conveyed from the current owner to a new purchaser. Prior to the closing date, a final water reading should be requested and a final read request form completed and submitted to the District. If the District is not notified of the sale of the property via this completed form, the owner will have to provide the District with acceptable proof before the name on an account will be changed. Such proof will be in the form of a recorded/filed deed or a closing statement.



The NYS Department of Health requires all commercial and residential properties with sprinkler systems to be equipped with an approved backflow prevention device...and tested annually! In the event of a loss of water pressure, backflow prevention devices stop water from flowing backward into the public water supply.

ANNUAL TESTING: New York State Sanitary Code Part 5, Section 1.31 (a) (3) requires that Backflow Prevention Devices be tested annually by a certified backflow tester.

TIMING: The JWD requests all backflow devices be tested prior to June 30th of each year. For residents, this testing can be accomplished by coordinating with the opening of your sprinkler systems in the spring.

REPORTING: Once the tester has performed the test and completed the "Report on Test and Maintenance of Backflow Prevention Device," copies must be submitted to both the Nassau County Health Department and the Jericho Water District. The form must include:

- Your JWD account number
- Your address and phone number
- Company name and phone number of the tester

Backflow test results can be submitted to the JWD by one of the following methods:

- Mail: 125 Convent Road, Syosset, NY 11791
 Fax: (516) 921-7554
- Fax: (516) 921-7554eMail: backflow@jerichowater.org or jbarbato@jerichowater.org

PENALTIES: For non-residential accounts, failure to have the device tested before December 31st each year will result in the imposition of civil penalties under the Nassau County Civil Divisions Act in the sum of \$250.

THE SPECTER OF 1,4-DIOXANE...

The Jericho Water District has always observed an unwavering commitment to provide clean, safe water that complies with all existing federal, New York State and local drinking water standards. We are taking every precaution to test, monitor and assess all our water supplies for 1,4-dioxane.

Further, we are also preparing for the New York State Health Department's anticipated adoption of new, stricter standards for 1,4-dioxane and that includes taking those responsible for the pollution to court. We believe that they, not our customers, should ultimately pay for the remediation and treatment needed to meet those new standards. Such contaminants will be expensive to remove, and those costs should be borne by those who are responsible for their presence in our water supply.



WHAT IS 1,4-DIOXANE?

The chemical 1,4-dioxane is a synthetic, man-made chemical that was used as a stabilizer for industrial solvents, predominantly 1,1,1-trichloroethane (TCA) from the 1950s to 1990s. Apart from this, 1,4-dioxane is found in a variety of applications from inks to adhesives and in everyday household products such as cosmetics, deodorants, detergents and shampoos.



Traveling? The JWD should be part of your contingency plan because in your absence, a lot can go wrong in a short time from a water perspective, including:

- Sprinklers can spring a leak or lose their programming and run continually. Check your controller frequently to ensure the sprinkler is operating according to schedule. If your timer has a battery backup, start each season with a fresh battery.
- Pipes can leak inside or outside your house at any time without much warning. Outside, be aware of soft spots in your lawn or yard that are greener than others. This could indicate a leak in your water service or your sprinkler system.
- If you hear your toilet flush on its own or run continually, look into changing its interior working parts. Water can degrade the rubber stopper in the tank that closes off the outlet from the tank and waste thousands of gallons of water.

PLAN AHEAD: Everyone should have a contingency plan. Regardless of how long you are away from home, providing the JWD with a phone number and an email address where you can be contacted in an emergency is a great starting point.

HAVE A CELLULAR METER? Make sure to sign up for our Eye On Water program to receive alerts should a leak occur after the water meter. All water services should have this type of meter by the end of 2021.

*So, whether you prefer the Carole King version, the James Taylor version or another version of the legendary tune, you'll find helpful friends at the JWD!



Jericho Water District 125 Convent Road Syosset, NY 11791 USA (516) 921-8280



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Proudly serving you since 1923.



Wheatley Tank Construction: Thank You Mother Nature!

Thanks in large part to Mother Nature who graciously permitted construction through the winter, our new, 1.5-million-gallon Wheatley storage tank is nearly ready. Prior to interior and exterior sandblasting, a containment tarp will be installed to protect the surrounding environment. Over a 6-to-8-week period, a three-coat painting and rustproofing system will be applied to keep the tank looking great for years to come.

The tank interior will then be sanitized and flushed and required sampling will be performed. Once approved by the NCDOH, the tank will be put into service to help meet water demand and maintain pressure. The iconic 95-year-old witch's hat tank will then be dismantled.



Update: Wells 9 & 14 Treatment Plant

As previously reported, volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and nitrates have reached elevated levels at two wells in the Jericho area. In order to meet the potable water standards set by the EPA and NYSDOH for these contaminants, a treatment facility was designed and then competitively bid. The foundation at the Merry Lane wellsite has been poured and several tons of steel are ready for construction. The project also includes increased pumping capacity at both wells and an upgrade to the District's operating system. Target completion is spring 2020.

Visit our website **www.jerichowater.org** for tank images, and when available, the treatment plant.