



# RETROSPECTIVE & PROSPECTIVE

July 3rd, 2023 officially marked the Jericho Water District's Centennial, commemorating 100 years of service to our communities.

Commissioner Thomas Abbate observed "embarking on our second century of service, we are recognizing this milestone with a message to the future in the form of a time capsule. Included in the capsule are items from our first 100 years of operation selected to provide a retrospective, tangible link to the historical record so that future generations can appreciate what providing water required in our day".

The time capsule contains 68 items ranging from tools of the trade and multiple meters, a cellular endpoint, water rate chart, plus a complete list of JWD Commissioners including a photo of Commissioner Nicholas Bartilucci, the longest serving JWD commissioner.

A lot of 'firsts' are in the capsule including copies of the signed petition establishing the Jericho Water District; first board meeting minutes (July 3, 1923); first budget meeting (September 23, 1924); first audit (January 14, 1946) and tank charts. Future generations will also find copies of citations from the Town of Oyster Bay, Nassau County legislators, the Office of the Nassau County Executive, plus a copy of a plaque from the Jericho Fire Department.

Letters from the 2023 JWD office staff, Superintendent Peter Logan and a copy of the JWD 2023 Centennial newsletter will provide future generations with messaging from a century past. Last but not least, the capsule includes pieces of steel from both of the District's original Wheatley and Syosset tanks.



## ON THE JOB



"The demand for potable water varies not only by the season," Commissioner James Asmus stated, "but it continues year in and year out. This keeps our wells and our delivery system busy around the clock and also around the calendar. Much of the work is maintenance, both routine and preventive, while other work is generated by governmental compliance and regulation. Here's a snapshot of how our various projects are proceeding."

### NEW SYOSSET TANK CONSTRUCTION:

Notice to proceed was issued in September of 2022 and the contractor worked diligently to meet the substantial completion deadline with water sent into the tank on September 14, 2023. The tank received Nassau County Department of Health (NCDOH) approval on October 5, 2023 and was brought online the next day. Sadly, the old tank will be demolished before the end of 2023.

### WELL 33 CONSTRUCTION AND TREATMENT PLANT:

Well drilling was completed in November 2022. Notice to proceed for the construction of the treatment plant was issued in January of 2023 with the first shovel being put into the ground in the spring of this year. Substantial completion is expected to be near the end of 2024.

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## ADVANCED OXIDATION PROCESS TO REMOVE 1,4-DIOXANE AND PFOA:

The work, including construction of new treatment buildings at four District sites, has progressed steadily. Notices to proceed were issued for two projects in early 2022, with the other two getting underway in late 2022/early 2023. Two sites will have NCDOH approval and will be operated into the distribution system by late 2023. The others are expected to be operational by late summer, 2024.

## BOOSTER STATION INSTALLATION, SPLIT ROCK TANK:

The recent upgrade to the altitude valve at the Split Rock tank enhanced the standpipe's effectiveness. The District will also install a prefabricated booster station, enabling use of the tank's full capacity (3.4 million gallons). The station is expected to receive NCDOH approval and be ready to pump to meet next summer's peak pumping demands.

## ALTITUDE VALVE INSTALLATION, WHEATLEY TANK:

In early 2023 two 16" tees and three 16" valves were installed on the tank's inlet, allowing work to continue without disrupting operation. The valve allows the wells to fill the tank, then closes to keep the tank full while the wells continue to pump water to the surrounding area. If water demand increases the valve will open and allow stored water to flow into the distribution system. Completion is expected by the end of 2023.



## WHEATLEY ROAD PACKED TOWER AIR STRIPPER (PTAS):

This site has been online since early 2023, and these two wells helped the District meet summertime's peak water demand. Pandemic supply chain issues linger and some permanent electrical equipment is still unavailable. The electrical contractor re-routed some wiring to get the wellsite up and running. As soon as the new equipment becomes available, the plant will be taken offline and the upgrades made.



## BACKFLOW

### IT'S EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBILITY.

**Backflow into our water supply is a dangerous situation, but with a little effort, it is preventable.**

"Backflow," Commissioner Pat Beckerle explained, "is the reverse flow of water in a piping or distribution system. It's unpredictable and happens most often when there is a sudden loss of water pressure, causing water to flow back into the water supply, and bringing with it potential contaminants, for example, lawn fertilizers. Preventing backflow is not only a desirable safety measure, it's also the law in Nassau County."

In fact, failure to have the device tested before December 31st of each year makes nonresidential customers liable for \$250 of civil penalties under the Nassau County Civil Divisions Act. Completed test result forms must be sent to the Nassau County Department of Health with a copy being mailed, emailed, or faxed to:

**Jericho Water District**  
125 Convent Road, Syosset, NY 11791  
Email: [backflow@jerichowater.org](mailto:backflow@jerichowater.org)  
Fax: 516-261-9462

Commissioner Beckerle added, "we'd like to remind you that proper backflow testing by certified testers does minimize the risk of accidental public health hazards and contamination of the public water supply. Please do the right thing and help everyone."

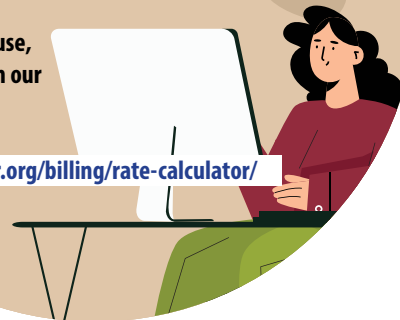
Use this link to understand your responsibility toward ensuring a healthy and safe water supply: <https://www.jerichowater.org/information/backflow-testing/>

## BY THE WAY...

JWD is always striving to supply information and tools that are beneficial to our community and residents. We keep our website up to date with the latest news, information, and resources, and now we've added a new Rate Calculator to help you calculate your water bill based on JWD rates.

It's very simple to use, and you'll find it on our website at:

[www.jerichowater.org/billing/rate-calculator/](http://www.jerichowater.org/billing/rate-calculator/)



## Honoring our brave veterans:

Thank you for your service and your sacrifices. We salute you, one and all.



# IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

## ► Exemption from 1,4-dioxane MCL

### Why are you receiving this notice/information?

You are receiving this notice because testing of our public water system found the chemical 1,4-dioxane in the drinking water above New York State's maximum contaminant level (MCL) of 1 ppb for 1,4-dioxane. The MCLs are set well below levels known to cause health effects in animal studies. Therefore, consuming water with 1,4-dioxane at the level detected does not pose a significant health risk. Your water continues to be acceptable for all uses.

The Jericho Water District (JWD) has requested, and the New York State Department of Health (Department) has conditionally granted, an exemption from the MCL for 1,4-dioxane. Exemptions are issued with mandatory compliance strategies which include control measures required by the Department. In exchange, the Department agrees to defer enforcement actions, such as assessing fines, if the water district is meeting the established deadlines. We are required to update the Department and the Nassau County Department of Health each calendar quarter on the status of our projects. If we do not meet the mandated compliance strategies, the Department can resume enforcement.

### What are the health effects of 1,4-dioxane?

Laboratory studies show that 1,4-dioxane caused liver cancer in animals exposed at high levels throughout their lifetime. Other types of cancer have also been reported, although less consistently than liver cancer. There is no evidence of 1,4-dioxane cancer effects in humans. The United States Environmental Protection Agency considers 1,4-dioxane a likely human carcinogen based upon studies of animals exposed to high levels of this chemical over their entire lifetimes.

At the level of 1,4-dioxane detected in your water, exposure from drinking water and food preparation is well below 1,4-dioxane exposures associated with health effects.

### What is New York State doing about 1,4-dioxane in public drinking water?

The New York State Department of Health has adopted a drinking water regulation that requires all public water systems to test for 1,4-dioxane. If found above the MCL of 1 ppb, the water supplier must take steps to lower the level to meet the standard. Exceedances of the MCL signal that steps should be taken by the water system to reduce contaminant levels.

### What is being done to meet the MCL?

Jericho Water District is working with the New York State Department of Health on a compliance schedule that includes steps to reduce levels of 1,4-dioxane. These steps include the installation of Advanced Oxidation Process (AOP) equipment at seven (7) of the District's wells where 1,4-dioxane has been detected in levels that exceed the current MCL. The AOP equipment will also remove perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) and perfluorooctanesulfonic acid (PFOS). Six (6) of those seven (7) wells are expected to have AOP equipment operational for the 2024 pumping season.

The seventh well will be operational before the 2025 pumping season. The District has also limited the production of water from those wells by adjusting the run times so that they come on only when necessary. Additional information will be shared as further testing and progress occurs. This process is similar for any chemical detected in public drinking water that requires mitigation due to exceedance of an MCL. The compliance timetable will ensure that your drinking water will meet the MCL as rapidly as possible.

### Where can I get more information?

For more information, please contact Peter F. Logan, Superintendent, at (516) 921-8280 or by mail at 125 Convent Road, Syosset, NY 11791. You can also contact the Nassau County Department of Health at (516) 227-9692. Copies of the quarterly updates submitted to the Department and to Nassau County Department of Health will be available on JWD's website at [www.jerichowater.org](http://www.jerichowater.org).

If you have additional questions about these contaminants and your health, talk to your health care provider who is most familiar with your health history and can provide advice and assistance about understanding how drinking water may affect your personal health.

**Public Water System ID# NY2902831**

**Date: September 15th, 2023**



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



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**Office Hours: 8:30 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. Weekdays**

**Service Department Hours: 8:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. Weekdays**

24-Hour Emergency Phone: (516) 921-8280


Fax: (516) 921-7554

General Information: [jwdinfo@jerichowater.org](mailto:jwdinfo@jerichowater.org)

Billing Inquiries: [billing@jerichowater.org](mailto:billing@jerichowater.org)

**Proudly serving you since 1923.**

## HELP THE HELPERS!



Literally speaking, fire hydrants are lifesavers, the most important fire prevention device of all. They need care year round, and you can do your part. They are particularly vulnerable in wintertime when drifting snow can hide them from view. A hidden hydrant, whether it is covered with snow or surrounded by shrubbery, isn't any good to the firefighters. Fire hydrants, especially ones at the end of a dead-end street, are particularly vulnerable to being covered. Help us help you by keeping the fire hydrants near you free from snow, overgrown bushes and debris. Check them frequently and report damaged hydrants to the JWD immediately.

## WINTERIZING TIPS Oh, That Long Island Weather!

Whether you're watching News 12, monitoring NOAA or consulting an oracle, few things are harder to predict than Long Island's weather. One thing is certain, after Fall's cool down, Old Man Winter is waiting in the wings. The time to winterize your home . . . now!

Here are 7 quick tips that you'll be glad you followed:

- 1. Shut-off Valve:** Always, always, always know the location of your shut-off valve and how to turn the water off in an emergency. They are usually located in your basement, in line with the meter pit on your front lawn.
- 2. Outside Spigots:** To prevent frozen or burst water pipes, make sure all external spigots are turned off from inside your home. Leave spigot slightly open so that the water line will drain fully.
- 3. Hoses:** Disconnect all hoses, drain them, and store them safely to prevent freezing and possible damage.
- 4. Lawn Sprinkler Systems:** These must be drained before the cold weather sets in. Any doubts, ask your sprinkler company or call the JWD.
- 5. Meter Pit Covers:** You'll typically find the meter pit on your front lawn. Check meter pit covers to ensure that they are locked down and secure. Loose or ill-fitting covers promote meter freezing. Call JWD to properly lock your loose cover.
- 6. Interior Pipes:** Some water pipes are located in exterior walls or unheated areas of your house. Insulate them to guard against freezing.
- 7. Leaks:** Leaks and burst pipes can lead to big, expensive damages, so don't let them go. Get them fixed as soon as you find them. Check for leaks visually, or by listening for them. While leaks can, and do, occur during the frigid winter months, it's when the weather warms up that you really find them. To monitor your water usage and set leak notification alerts, register for EyeOnWater, a mobile and desktop application. To learn more visit: [jerichowater.org/billing/eye-on-water-monitoring/](http://jerichowater.org/billing/eye-on-water-monitoring/)

Also . . . a word to the wise: Flying South? Remember, when it's beautiful in Boca, it's still brrr in Brookville. Make sure your home is completely winterized before you leave.

