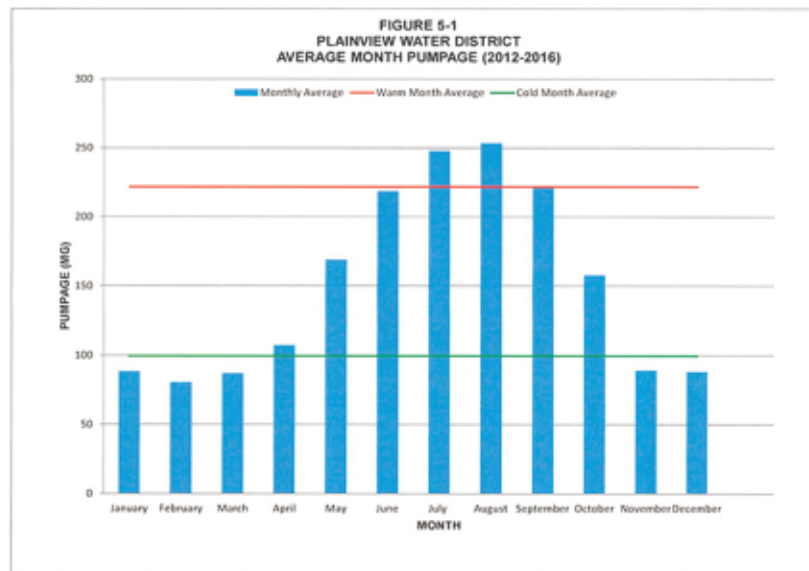


Water District Launches Rebate Program

As part of its Preserve Plainview water conservation campaign, the Plainview Water District is offering a limited number of up to \$100 rebates for qualifying applicants that replace their standard irrigation timers with new smart irrigation controllers. The wider utilization of this water-saving technology is one of the many goals the Plainview Water District had when launching its campaign to reduce water consumption and protect Long Island's sole-source aquifer.

"We have only one water source, so it should be a priority of everyone in our area to do what they can to ensure we protect our aquifer and conserve water wherever and whenever we can," said chairman Marc Laykind. "With irrigation systems being the single greatest contributor to increased water consumption, it is the most important and logical place to target when initiating any type of water conservation campaign."

Over the past four years, the Plainview Water District pumped, on average 1.84 billion gallons of water each year. More than 1.14 billion



This chart represents the Plainview Water District's monthly pumpage totals with the most significant demand occurring between May and September.

gallons—or 60 percent—of this water was pumped during the five months between May and September; with the increase almost exclusively attributed to irrigation systems.

Because of this sharp increase in water usage during the irrigation season, the district is focusing efforts to incentivize the installation of smart irrigation controllers.

"Smart irrigation controllers have a proven track record of significantly reducing irrigation water usage, and for this reason we are making a push to incentivize our customers to install this water-saving technology," said commissioner Amanda Field. "Aside from a healthier lawn and landscaping, this technology has the ability to reduce summer water bills quite noticeably."

Smart irrigation controllers are effective at reducing water use because they use information such as local weather conditions, plant type and soil moisture levels to determine accurate landscaping water needs. The systems also adjust to weather conditions automatically, allowing lawn and gardens to thrive under optimal watering conditions without any user intervention.

"As much as we tell our customers not to set and forget their standard, manual irrigation timers, once a smart irrigation controller is installed, users will seldom have to make an adjustment," said commissioner

see **REBATE** on page 23A

REBATE from page 4

Andrew Bader. "The technology is also super convenient because most models allow customers to access and control their irrigation systems right from their smartphones."

Plainview Water District customers interested in applying for an up to \$100 smart irrigation controller rebate must meet the following parameters:

- Applicant must be a customer of the Plainview Water District
- Must be the property owner

- Must have a fully-functioning irrigation system
 - Must install an EPA certified WaterSense labeled smart irrigation controller
 - System must also contain and include a rain sensor (unless system includes onsite weather component)
 - Program system following manufacturer's directions
 - Other terms may also apply
- Funding for this program is limited, so rebates will be issued on a first come, first served basis.

For more information about how to apply for the smart irrigation rebate program, visit www.plainviewwater.org, call the district's office at 516-931-6469 or email info@plainviewwater.org. All Plainview residents are also encouraged to sign up for email updates from

the water district by using the form available on the district's homepage.

—Submitted by the Plainview Water District