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# PLAINVIEW-OLD BETHPAGE HERALD

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## WATER DISTRICT

# The Grass Is Just As Green On The Other Side

*Water District offers advice for preparing their irrigation systems*

### BY HERALD STAFF

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The first few weeks of spring means the startup of irrigation systems throughout the Plainview-Old Bethpage community. The Plainview Water District, as part of its Preserve Plainview initiative, is offering its residents important information to keep their lawns green, but more importantly, tips that will conserve water and keep money in residents' pockets.

"Outdoor water usage is the single largest contributor to the district's increased pumpage between May and September," said PWD Chairman Marc Laykind. There are so many little things everyone could do to improve the efficiency of their irrigation systems that will have a major impact in the amount of water we use and the amount of money we spend on water bills. We hope

everyone takes this guidance to heart as the savings achieved can be quite noticeable."

As residents begin the process of turning on irrigation systems for the season, they are asked to keep the following in mind:

#### **Don't Set it and Forget**

**It:** A lawn's watering needs are drastically different in April than they are in July and August—make sure your irrigation clocks are adjusted appropriately. If you have to adjust your thermostat it means you should also adjust your irrigation timer.

#### **When it Rains it Pours:**

Rain sensors and smart irrigation controllers help ensure your irrigation systems don't kick on while it's raining or shortly thereafter. You are encouraged to have one or both of these water-saving technologies installed on your irrigation system.



#### **Follow Nassau County's Lawn Watering Ordinance:**

Even-numbered homes can only water on even-numbered days. Odd-numbered homes can only water on odd-numbered days. No lawn watering between the hours of 10 a.m. and 4 p.m.

#### **Check Your Equipment:**

Broken sprinkler heads can waste thousands of gallons of water and impact water pressure throughout the

rest of the irrigation system. Sprinkler heads that water things aside from your lawn and garden (like sidewalks and driveways) waste a significant amount of water. Consider installing a smart controller or drip irrigation system to significantly cut back on water use.

"It really is important for residents to understand just how much water irrigation systems use throughout the year," said PWD Commissioner Amanda Field. "We pump 60 percent more water in the spring and summer than we do the rest of the year. It can all be attributed to lawn sprinkler systems and why we are putting such an emphasis on efficient and properly functioning systems."

The Plainview Water District has also made additional water saving tips available on its website for residents to

consider in order to experience an even greater savings. These tips include other ways to save on outdoor water use as well as the steps individuals can take indoors that will contribute to a greater water savings.

"There are so many ways to cut back on water usage that might not seem significant, but over time they really amount to big savings," said PWD Commissioner Andrew Bader. "No effort is too small to consider, as every gallon adds up over time. If you identify an area where you and your family can save water, go for it. The less water we use now, the better shape our aquifer will be for our future generations."

For additional information on water-saving tips and best practices throughout the irrigation season, call 516-931-6469 or visit the Plainview Water District website at [www.plainviewwater.org](http://www.plainviewwater.org).