

WATER RESOURCE

A Publication of the Plainview Water District

SPRING 2019



Over \$3 Million in State Grant Funding Awarded to PWD in Support of Treatment Projects



Packed Tower Aerator at Plant 7



(L-R) The Plainview Water District Board of Commissioners Amanda Field, Marc Laykind and Andrew Bader

In 2019, innovative infrastructure projects are in the works. These projects will continue to secure safe, fast and reliable water service for our residents for many years to come. The projects come as a direct result of the District's aggressive pursuit of grant funding. In fact, over the past 13 months the Plainview Water District has been awarded more than 3 million dollars in funding for the following advanced water treatment projects:

- **Plant 4.** The District was awarded \$2.6 million to be used exclusively for the construction of a state-of-the-art treatment facility designed for the removal of nitrates and perchlorate from our groundwater supply. This ion exchange system of treatment is a highly efficient way to remove these analytes.
- **Plant 7.** The District was awarded \$369,000 as part of a \$750,000 grant from the Stony Brook Center for Clean Water Technology and NYSDOH. This grant will be used by the District to pilot a new water treatment technology

known as Advanced Oxidation Process or AOP; a promising technology for the removal of 1,4 - Dioxane.

- **Plant 1.** The District was awarded \$373,800 toward a new Granular Activated Carbon (GAC) treatment facility. The current in-place treatment is located outdoors and is only utilized in warmer weather. This project will permit the District to operate this Plant year-round by installing GAC vessels inside a building and improve overall operational efficiencies.

"We work hard to secure grant funding, and we are extremely grateful and thankful for the latest rounds of funding, as it will help us bolster our mission of providing the best possible drinking water to the Plainview-Old Bethpage community," said Marc Laykind, Chairman of the PWD Board of Commissioners. "The grants listed above will enable us to provide effective water treatment for years to come."

Planned Infrastructure Improvements at the District

2019:

- New nitrate analyzer upgrade at Plant 2.
- New Granular Activated Carbon (GAC) Treatment at Plant 1 to be installed in a building for year-round operation of Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC) removal for two District wells.
- Launch pilot program for the treatment of 1,4-Dioxane at Plant 7.
- District-wide Leak Detection
- Begin design and construction of a new nitrate and perchlorate removal treatment facility at plant 4. This will be accomplished with assistance of a grant from the Environmental Facilities Corporation

(EFC) and the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH).

- Rehabilitation of Well 4-2.

2020:

- Continue upgrades at Plant 4 for nitrate and perchlorate treatment.
- Plant 4 - Rehabilitate Well 4-3, Replace transfer switch and transfer pump rehabilitation.

- Replace booster motors at Plant 4.
- Rehabilitation of Well 7-1.

2021:

- Epoxy coat flooring to be installed at Plant 5.
- New generator to be installed at Plant 6.
- Water-main replacements as needed.
- Interconnection upgrades



A Message from the Chairman of the Board Marc B. Laykind

Thank you for reading the Plainview Water District's Water Resource newsletter. It's been a busy and productive few months here at the

District, with new grant funding helping us to revamp our already state-of-the-art facilities and the continuing of the Preserve Plainview initiative that inspires all of us to use our water more responsibly and be better stewards of our environment. I'm grateful we get to share some of these highlights with you in the pages of this newsletter.

One topic of which I'd like to make special mention are appointments of two esteemed colleagues. I always take immense pride when I can report that my fellow commissioners are making waves in the water industry (pardon the pun). Andrew Bader and Amanda Field were recently elected by their colleagues in the water industry to serve as executive board members of two local organizations. While continuing to serve in their roles in the Plainview Water District, Commissioner Bader will serve as the Long Island Water Conference's 2nd vice chairman and Commissioner Field will serve as the Nassau Suffolk Water Commissioners Association's secretary.

These recognitions are well deserved and speak volumes to the great work that they have done and will continue to do on behalf of our community and the water industry. We place immense value on the input and participation of our community. Please stay engaged with us via our Facebook account www.facebook.com/PlainviewWaterDistrict and sign up for our email list at plainviewwater.org for district news and important dates.

Sincerely,

Marc B. Laykind

Now Available: 2018 Annual Water Quality Report

In accordance with federal and state regulations, Plainview Water District produces an Annual Drinking Water Quality Report. This in-depth report is filled with important information regarding water quality, cost, sources, treatment performed and more.

The latest report has been posted online at: <http://plainviewwater.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/04/PWD-AQWR-2018-1.pdf>. Copies of the report are available at Plainview Water District's Business Office, 10 Manetto Hill Road, Plainview or at Plainview-Old Bethpage Public Library, 999 Old Country Road, Plainview. To request a copy mailed to your home or place of business, please contact the District at (516) 931-6469.



Underground treatment facility showing complex pipe configuration at Plant 7. Made of ductile iron—a graphite rich cast iron known for its wear resistance—these pipes facilitate the transfer of drinking water to residents' homes.

Pinhole Update: Over 93 Percent Decrease in Last Two Years

For the past two years the District assisted its customers in addressing a disproportionate amount of pinhole issues occurring in customer plumbing. Dating back to October 2016, the District has undertaken exhaustive work and research to mitigate the issue. Fortunately, the efforts have paid off and the District is able to report great news.

In late 2016, there were over 1,700 cases of pinholes reported. As of April 2019, we are happy to say that there has been only three reported cases of copper pinholes in customer's internal plumbing systems this year. The District has worked tirelessly to achieve this level of success; we've implemented treatment modifications at our production plants, provided hundreds of home inspections, and reached out to industry corrosion professionals on this subject.

Pinholes were occurring mostly on the hot water side of customers' tap water and in close proximity to hot water heaters. The District has explored myriad causes for the initial issue, including stray electrical current, low alkalinity in the water and dissimilar metals in plumbing materials. While the variables that encompass this problem are many, the efforts of homeowners and the District have produced positive results.

A 93 percent decrease in the rate of pinholes over the last 12 months is a tremendous accomplishment. Although reports of pinhole leaks in copper piping across the District reached a disproportionate level, pinholes in copper pipes occur throughout Long Island and across the country. Rest assured that your tap water continues to meet and surpass all federal, state and local drinking water standards. Should you experience any issues with your water supply the Board of Commissioners encourage you to contact our Superintendent with any questions or concerns.

The Results are In: Smart Irrigation Controllers Work! More Than 1.5 Million Gallons of Water Saved

There is no other way to put it: The 2018 smart irrigation controller rebate program was a rousing success. We maxed out the program's participation, which led to 1,536,000 gallons of water being saved—nearly a 42 percent decrease in water usage. On average, participating residents experienced a decrease of 38,000 gallons when compared to individualized usage in the third quarter of 2017.

Smart irrigation controllers work to reduce water usage by utilizing information such as local weather conditions, plant type and soil moisture levels to determine the appropriate amount of water needed for landscaping purposes. The systems automatically adjust to weather conditions, allowing lawns and gardens to thrive under optimal watering conditions without user intervention.

Back by popular demand. In 2019, the Plainview Water District will offer \$75 to a limited number of qualified applicants* who replace their standard irrigation timers with smart irrigation water-saving technology. The program, which is again part of our Preserve Plainview initiative, hopes to improve upon the water conservation seen during the program's inaugural year in 2018.

*see rebate terms and conditions at plainviewwater.org



"The results of last year's rebate program are quite impressive and show just how effective this technology is at conserving water. Long Islanders in general consume water significantly more during the summer months to meet the demand of their irrigation systems. Most don't realize that a substantial portion of this water is unnecessarily wasted. Smart controllers significantly reduce the amount of wasted water, keeping both your lawn and pocket filled with green."

- PWD Commissioner Andrew Bader



Preserve Plainview

In early 2018, the Plainview Water District launched its landmark Preserve Plainview campaign in an effort to help conserve our most precious resource

New Leak Detection Program Launched in Plainview-Old Bethpage

"Just as a doctor would listen to your heart and chest for abnormalities, these experts are listening for irregular patterns that represent leaks in our water distribution system. Each leak found can save hundreds—if not thousands—of gallons of water."

**- PWD Commissioner
Amanda Field**

As we move forward with year two of our landmark Preserve Plainview initiative, we constantly seek out new partnerships and programs that will help us reduce the demand on the overall water supply system. To that end, we recently contracted with a leak detection company to survey all 130 miles of our community's water mains to help identify unknown underground leaks. Detection was recently completed and five leaks were detected. The District is in the process of repairing those leaks this spring.

"Leak detection service is one of the most effective ways the Plainview Water District can contribute to the community's water conservation goals," said PWD Board Chairman Marc Laykind. "As water mains age, they become more susceptible to leaks and breaks. We've contracted with a leak detection specialist who has identified those leaking portions of our distribution system so they can be repaired and water can be conserved."

**As irrigation season begins,
Plainview reminds you:
Don't Set It And
Forget It!**

**Here are some tips to
help conserve water
this summer season.**

**Remember to follow Nassau
County's Lawn Watering Ordinance:**

- Odd-numbered homes can water on odd-numbered days.
- Even-numbered homes can water on even-numbered days.
- Lawn watering between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. is prohibited.

Some other great tips include:

- Your lawn's watering needs very different in April and May than they are in July and August. Be sure to adjust your irrigation timers appropriately.
- Check your irrigation system for leaks or broken sprinkler heads.
- Consider installing a rain sensor or a smart irrigation controller to see significant savings.

For more tips, visit
plainviewwater.org/conservation

KIDS CORNER



Plainview Water District Superintendent Stephen Moriarty (bottom right) displays some dirty water before it is run through the filter.

Plainview Water District Participates in Plainview-Old Bethpage Middle School's STEAM Night

This spring, the District participated in the Plainview-Old Bethpage Middle School's (POBMS) STEAM Night, a celebration of all facets of science, technology, education, arts and mathematics education. The District Board gave a hands-on demonstration to children about water filtration through the assembly of their own filtration devices made of sand, gravel, coffee filters and cotton balls.

It was an informative and fun night for all involved. Interacting with the curious young scholars at the Plainview-Old Bethpage School District has long been a priority of the Board of Commissioners.



(Left to right) Plainview Water District commissioners Andy Bader, Amanda Field and Marc Laykind at POBMS' STEAM Night.



Website
www.plainviewwater.org

Emergency Phone Number
If you are calling after normal business hours and this is a true water related emergency, please call our emergency response number at (516) 640-2185. If you have a billing or administrative related question, please call our main phone number (516) 931-6469 during normal business hours.

Phone
(516) 931-6469
Hours
Monday through Friday (8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.)

Superintendent
Stephen M. Moriarty, P.E.
Board of Commissioners
Marc B. Laykind, Chairman
Andrew N. Bader, Treasurer
Amanda R. Field, Secretary

