

# WATER RESOURCE

A Publication of the Plainview Water District

SPRING 2020



## PWD ON COVID-19: YOUR WATER QUALITY IS NOT IMPACTED.



The spread of coronavirus is an unprecedented situation. If you've had questions about how this affects your water, the District can reassure customers that there is no risk to the public water supply. Water flow, water pressure, and water services have not been and will not be interrupted by this crisis, as our essential workers are out on the front lines.

*"Coronavirus is an  
airborne disease:  
It is not transmitted  
through water."*

- Plainview Water District  
Chairman Marc B. Laykind

"As this pandemic continues, our number one concern is and will always be the health and safety of our residents and employees," said Plainview Water District Chairman Marc B. Laykind. "Plainview residents can rest assured knowing that water quality will not be compromised in any way as a result of the current situation."

Residents should be aware that during this time we have:

- Temporarily suspend the acceptance of payment inside of the District office in any form. Please be advised the payment drop box immediately outside of the entry door is available for you to remit payment. We encourage you to utilize other methods of payment such as postal mail, online payment, or enrolling in automatic, no-fee bill payment.
- Temporarily restricted employees from performing any non-emergency residential service calls until further notice.
- Mandated that all employees take extra measures for the proper prevention and spread of the virus and other related illnesses.
- Please see [our website](#) for further safety restrictions or modifications as deemed necessary.

Residents interested in learning more about coronavirus prevention and preparation are encouraged to reach out to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and/or the Nassau County Health Department. For all water-related questions related or unrelated to this ongoing situation are encouraged to contact the District at 516-931-6469 or [info@plainviewwater.org](mailto:info@plainviewwater.org).

*Thanks to our concerted efforts, New York appears to be flattening the curve in the fight against coronavirus. However, we must still be diligent in practicing social distancing and common sense preventative measures. These include:*

- Avoid any contact with people who are sick.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth.
- Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue when coughing or sneezing, and throw the tissue away after use. If a tissue isn't available, cough or sneeze into your elbow or sleeve, not your hands.
- Wash your hands often with soap and hot water for at least 20 seconds, especially after going to the bathroom; before eating; and after blowing your nose, coughing or sneezing. If soap and water are not readily available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol.
- Practice other good health habits. Get plenty of sleep, be physically active, manage your stress, drink plenty of fluids and maintain a healthy diet.
- Clean and disinfect doorknobs, switches, handles, computers, telephones, bedside tables, bathroom sinks, toilets, counters, toys and other surfaces that are commonly touched around the home or workplace.
- To the extent possible, avoid touching commonly used surfaces in public places like elevator buttons, door handles and handrails and avoid handshaking with people. Use a tissue or your sleeve to cover your hand or finger if you must touch something.
- All New Yorkers should wear face coverings when outside and unable to practice social distancing.

## A Message from the Chairman of the Board

### Marc B. Laykind



The coronavirus pandemic has changed so much for all of us, but above all else, I want to make one thing perfectly clear: Your public water supply is unaffected by COVID-19 and remains of a high quality. We all have so much to worry about—the health of our loved ones, the status of our jobs, the prosperity of our nation—but I want all of you to rest assured that you do not need to worry about any changes to your water.

During this time, the Board of Commissioners is focused on the health and security of all of us who work at the Plainview Water District. We have taken every and all precautions, including staggering shifts to allow for social distancing and temporarily suspending all non-emergency visits by our crew. Throughout this crisis, the Plainview Water District remains open for business and is here for you. We will still be responding to any issues related to

your public water, and we are continuing unabated with our critical and ongoing work to deal with emerging contaminants through the construction and upgrading of treatment facilities.

Now is the time to be there for one another. Check in on a neighbor or friend. Spend time with your families, read with one another, work on special projects around the house. Most important, never lose sight of the fact that together we will get through this as a community. Finally, in addition to the PWD staff, I want to thank all the doctors, nurses, first-responders and health-care workers on the front lines of this fight. Our community is safer because of you.

Sincerely,

Marc B. Laykind

## PRESERVE PLAINVIEW UPDATE:

### *This Spring, Do Your Part to Preserve Water*

This spring, the Plainview Water District would like to remind residents of the importance of water conservation. On average, water use in the spring and summer months is 200 percent greater than that on a typical day in the fall and winter. This increase is directly attributed to increased lawn irrigation use. To offset this substantial seasonal rise in water usage, the Plainview Water District is continuing to encourage residents to practice smart irrigation habits.

*“Irrigation season is by far our highest demand period of the year. During this time, more than 85 percent of the water we serve is used for irrigation purposes.”*

- Commissioner Marc B. Laykind

“Water conservation is extremely important to the sustainability and preservation of our community’s water source,” said Commissioner Amanda Field. “Providing our residents with simple measures they can each take to reduce their usage without sacrificing the health of their lawns and gardens is essential. There are so many water-saving tools at their disposal and we want to ensure everyone knows of the best practices.”

Residents can play a part in ensuring a plentiful water supply by adhering to Nassau County ordinances for irrigation, including not watering during the hottest hours of the day, 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m., and following the odd-even regulations for lawn irrigation.

### TIPS TO CUT DOWN ON OUTDOOR WATER USAGE

- ✓ **Consider installing a smart irrigation controller on your irrigation system.**  
Connected to your Wi-Fi, Smart irrigation controllers gather information from your local weather station to tailor watering schedules and run times automatically to meet specific landscape needs. These controllers significantly improve outdoor water use efficiencies. Unlike traditional irrigation controllers that operate on a preset programmed schedule and timers, smart irrigation controllers monitor weather, soil conditions, evaporation and plant water use to automatically adjust the watering schedule to actual conditions of the site. For example, as outdoor temperatures increase or rainfall decreases, smart irrigation controllers consider on site-specific variables, such as soil type, sprinklers’ application rate, etc. to adjust the watering times or schedules. There are several options for smart irrigation controllers.
- ✓ **Adhere to the County’s lawn watering ordinance**
  - All water sprinkling for lawns, gardens and shrubbery is prohibited between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.
  - Houses with even-numbered addresses may water on even-numbered calendar days, and houses with odd-numbered addresses may water on odd-numbered calendar days. The prescribed hours are from midnight to 10:00 a.m. and from 4:00 p.m. to midnight.
- ✓ **Check for broken sprinkler heads and other leaks that contribute to water waste.**
- ✓ **Install or repair rain sensors connected to your existing irrigation systems.**
- ✓ **Use a broom rather than the hose to remove debris from decks, patios, driveways and sidewalks.**
- ✓ **Hose ends must have a shut-off nozzle.**

TO DATE, NEARLY \$9 MILLION IN GRANT FUNDING

## Plainview Water District Continues Its Pursuit of Treatment Funding with Latest Grant Award of \$3.7 Million

In Plainview Water District's pursuit to leverage all possible funding opportunities, the district was recently awarded \$3.7 million to continue implementing necessary treatment to remove emerging contaminants, most notably 1,4-dioxane. This is the fifth grant award the District has received in three years amounting to a collective total of nearly \$9 million for advanced treatment projects.

"Once again, we thank Governor Cuomo and the New York State Legislature for understanding the needs of water providers in making this significant funding available for the installation of state-of-the-art treatment upgrades throughout Long Island" said Chairman Marc B. Laykind. "With expenses related to the removal of emerging contaminants—primarily 1,4-dioxane—mounting, we are very proud of the work our team has done to secure this funding to lessen the financial burden on our community."

The most recent grant award of \$3.7 million will go toward the District's planned \$6.1 million investment in treatment upgrades at Plant 2. The upgrades include the installation of a new treatment technology known as the Advanced Oxidation Process, or AOP, which is required to remove 1,4-dioxane from drinking water. Granular Activated Carbon (GAC) filtration systems are also required as part of the treatment process. This treatment combination is the only approved method to successfully remove detections of 1,4-dioxane and any potential treatment byproducts from the drinking water.

"The infrastructure investment needed to ensure the removal of these emerging contaminants is costly and makes the importance of this funding that much more significant," said PWD Commissioner Andrew Bader. "Our successful grant awards are cutting into the amount we have to pay back as a community in a real and noticeable way."

"We are already deeply entrenched in our action plan to improve the treatment facilities throughout our District to ensure 1,4-dioxane and other emerging contaminants are removed from our water," said PWD Commissioner Amanda Field. "The Plainview Water District has its pedal to the metal making sure these treatment systems are built as quickly as possible without sacrificing their quality or ability." The Plainview Water District anticipates having all treatment facilities installed and ready to produce drinking water by the summer of 2020. The treatment systems, however, will not be able to be put into operation until they are each meticulously tested and ultimately approved by the Nassau County and New York State Health Departments.

### 1,4-DIOXANE UPDATES:

### What Are We Doing to Address this Emerging Contaminant?

The Plainview Water District has been working aggressively to implement its action plan for treating emerging contaminants. Our plan includes new plant construction and upgrades.

- Four impacted plant sites have since received a total of 10 Granular Activated Carbon (GAC) and 6 Advanced Oxidation Process (AOP) units.
- Treatment combination has proven to provide POB residents with water that is non-detect of 1,4-dioxane and PFOA(S).
- We have received nearly \$9 million in grant funding from New York State to help offset the cost of these advanced treatment systems.
- We continue to seek additional avenues for funding to minimize the financial impact on our residents.



*Grant funding previously received from New York State has been used to partially fund construction of an emerging contaminant treatment facility at Plant 1.*

**To learn more about our journey to this point, the emerging contaminants or how the treatment systems work, please visit:**

**<https://plainviewwater.org/resources/emerging-contaminants/>**



# KIDS CORNER

## PWD and POB School District Partner to Bolster Water Education

With education about water serving as a useful tool to improve its conservation and preservation, the Plainview Water District has been working closely with the Plainview-Old Bethpage School District to implement important lessons into the children’s curriculum. This year alone, the water and school district have partnered on creating an education video “The Journey of a Drop of Water,” coordinated assemblies for every third grade class, participated in Careers in Engineering night. These new educational ventures are in addition to the established traditions already in place with the annual elementary school book readings and educational poster contest. The District is excited to continue its role in educating the community’s youth about the water and the importance of protecting it.



*Plainview Water District Commissioners Marc Laykind, Amanda Field and Andrew Bader met students of the Plainview-Old Bethpage School District for the visiting reader series as part of PWD’s education initiatives.*

## Now Available: 2019 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: <https://plainviewwater.org/2019awqr>. Copies of the report are also 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.



**Board of Commissioners**  
 Marc B. Laykind, Chairman  
 Andrew N. Bader, Treasurer  
 Amanda R. Field, Secretary  
**Superintendent**  
 Stephen M. Moriarty, P.E.  
**Hours**  
 Monday through Friday (8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.)  
**Phone**  
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**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.  
**Website**  
[www.plainviewwater.org](http://www.plainviewwater.org)



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