

# WATER RESOURCE

A Publication of the Plainview Water District

FALL 2022



## Progress Continues on Infrastructure Improvements Throughout POB Community



*Plainview Water District's construction project at Plant 7 to treat for emerging contaminants continues the District's mission to provide the POB community with high quality water.*

At the Plainview Water District (PWD), our mission, and something in which we pride ourselves, is providing the community with nothing but the highest quality water. It is the most important measure of a water provider's success and value to its community. If you have read our past newsletters, you know that we are working tirelessly to ensure our mission is fulfilled as quickly and efficiently as possible. All water delivered to your tap by PWD meets all current health department regulations, including the new regulations passed in August 2020 regarding 1,4 dioxane, and PFOA and PFOS. The Plainview Water District is one of the only districts that did not require additional time permitted to comply with newly regulated compounds. Here is some important information about ongoing projects, their status, and what is next in our capital improvement plan.

### **Plant 2 – Donna Drive**

Since construction started in November 2021, the PWD has been working aggressively to construct a year-round treatment facility to continue to treat for 1,4-dioxane, PFOA and PFOS. The District, along with its contractors and engineers, have made significant

progress on the building and all of its components are nearing completion. This facility was specifically designed to repurpose treatment equipment used to complete the temporary system installed in 2020, which ensured the District remained well ahead of the regulatory timelines for emerging contaminant treatment established by the New York State Department of Health without the need for an extension to comply. We expect this facility to be operational before the end of the year.

### **Plant 4 – Southern Parkway**

A new state-of-the-art Advanced Oxidation Process (AOP), Granular Activated Carbon (GAC), Nitrate and Perchlorate treatment facility will be constructed at Plant 4. This treatment facility is being designed to bring the trace amounts of contaminants such as nitrates, perchlorate and 1,4-dioxane, (all of which are currently below limits set by health regulators) down to levels of non-detect. In October 2022, the bid process began for this project. Construction of this facility is expected to begin in the Winter of 2022, weather permitting.

### **Plant 5 – Haypath Road**

As part of the Plainview Water District's capital plan, Plant 5 will be home to a new AOP and GAC treatment facility for all four of the existing wells on the site. Phase 1 of construction is currently underway and will continue through 2023.

### **Plant 7 – Washington Avenue**

A GAC enclosure project is currently under construction at Plant 7. The new project will keep the four current GAC treatment vessels—which are filled with 40,000 pounds each, for a total of 160,000 pounds of activated carbon—at this site. This will not only extend the life of all the treatment components installed, but will allow the District to run the facility year-round, rather than seasonal use. This project is currently under construction and is expected to be completed in Spring 2023.

The Plainview Water District is regarded as one of the regional leaders in these efforts as we have six treatment systems currently up and running to treat for 1,4-dioxane, PFOA and PFOS, which is among the most of any water provider on Long Island. To help alleviate the costs associated with constructing these new and upgraded treatment systems, the District has been awarded more than \$34 million in infrastructure grant funding from New York State.



## A Message PWD Chairman Marc B. Laykind

Greetings POB residents,

I hope everyone had a safe and enjoyable summer, and is looking forward to the holiday season. At the Plainview Water District, we do rejoice a bit once the temperatures start cooling as it means our water supply and distribution system isn't working at maximum capacity to meet the higher demand for water that the warmer weather generates from lawn irrigation systems.

While it was a tough summer for all water providers due to the extremely dry and hot weather that we experienced, we were successfully able to meet the challenge. Over the summer, you likely read that many water providers in the region had difficulty keeping up with demand as their systems were either overwhelmed or were dealing with inoperable well stations as treatment for emerging contaminants was being constructed. Here in the Plainview-Old Bethpage community, we were prepared and, therefore, able to deliver a steady flow of water without interruption or need to implement water restrictions. This is something we are incredibly proud of and will work to continue to achieve.

In September, you may have heard in the news a story about progress being made to install treatment for emerging contaminants occurring across Nassau and Suffolk counties. If you are wondering why the Plainview Water District wasn't featured, it is because of our prior planning that resulted in actions to ensure our treatment systems for 1,4-dioxane, PFOA and PFOS were operational ahead of the State's regulations coming into effect. Our residents have been receiving water that follows the strictest-in-the-nation water-quality standards, without ever having to request for an extension to meet the new standards for these newly regulated contaminants.

Our efforts to provide residents of the POB community with the highest quality water possible will never stop. Our mission and purpose are to ensure we always remain ahead of the curve and continually invest in our operations for the benefit and betterment of our community.

That being said, in the upcoming year you will see additional treatment systems come online as well as the development of many other projects that will keep our water infrastructure robust and sustainable into the future.

We are here to work for you, so please don't ever hesitate to reach out to myself or district staff should you have any questions or concerns about your drinking water.

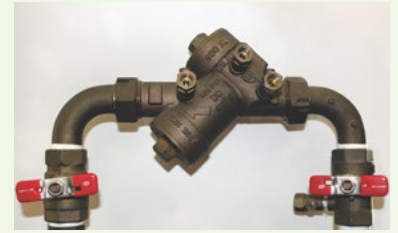
Wishing all of our residents a happy holiday season!

Sincerely,

Marc Laykind

## Annual Backflow Testing is Required by New York State!

The PWD would like to remind residents and local business owners that the New York State Health Department (NYSDOH) and Nassau County Health Department require the installation and annual testing of backflow devices.



*A typical backflow device installed at residential properties.*

This compliance testing must be performed by a certified backflow tester and completed prior to December 31, 2022 to ensure these devices are functioning properly. Please ensure that a completed copy of your report is submitted to the District.

A backflow device is a mechanical double-check valves that prevents water flow from reversing away from a building and into the public distribution system in the event of a loss of water pressure. A loss in pressure can occur in instances such as fire is being put out or there is a water main break. Residents are required to have a backflow device if they have any of the following: in-ground sprinklers, fire lines, swimming pools, or a private well that is interconnected with the public water supply.

The District encourages all residents and businesses to arrange for a NYSDOH certified backflow tester to conduct their annual backflow test to avoid any potential penalties for noncompliance.

An up-to-date list of New York State licensed backflow testers is available here: [www.plainviewwater.org/resources/backflow/](http://www.plainviewwater.org/resources/backflow/).

Any questions, please contact the District at 516-931-6469.

Scan the  
QR code  
for more.



## Quick Sign-Up for Auto Bill Pay

Join the more than 1,500 POB residents and never miss a due date again with auto bill pay.

Sign up is quick, easy, and free.

Scan to enroll!!





## PWD Collects 300 Pounds of Expired and Unused Medications at its Pharmaceutical Take Back Day!

The Plainview Water District (PWD), in partnership with the Nassau County Police Department, held its fifth annual Pharmaceutical Take Back Day on Saturday, October 22, where approximately 300 pounds of unused or expired medications were collected. As part of the PWD's Preserve Plainview initiative, this annual drive-thru event helps to protect our sole-source aquifer and maintain high quality drinking water by providing residents with an opportunity to properly dispose all different kinds of pharmaceuticals.

If medications are flushed down the toilet, there is a likelihood that the medications' contents will ultimately enter the water supply. If there is an elevated presence of toxins from pharmaceuticals in the groundwater, the District must invest in additional treatment processes so any impurities can be removed.

We thank all the residents who came out to take advantage of this program. We have collected more than 1,400 pounds of pharmaceuticals since the annual tradition started five years ago.



*PWD commissioners and Nassau County Police Officer at the annual Pharmaceutical Take Back Day.*

## Prepare Your Water System for Frigid Temperatures!

Winter is on the way. Now is the time to prepare your water systems for plummeting temperatures. When exposed to cold weather, water lines that are not properly winterized are subject to breaks and/or leaks, which will waste water and likely lead to costly repairs and damage as a result.

Follow these helpful tips to better prepare your home:

### **Outdoor Water Systems:**

Don't forget to turn off those hose spigots from inside the house and leave the outside valves open to prevent freezing. This prevents pipes from bursting during freezing temperatures. Disconnect and drain all garden hoses and keep in a warm, dry place for reuse in the spring.

### **Sprinkler Systems:**

Sprinkler systems should be blown-out to prevent possible leaks and damage to the system. Leaks in sprinkler systems caused by burst pipes can be hard to identify when the systems return back on line, leading to increased water usage and decreased functionality.

### **Indoor Maintenance:**

If a customer's water service is in the boiler room or basement, check the area for broken windows or drafts. Brisk winds and

freezing temperatures can cause pipes and water meters to freeze or break. Locate the main water shutoff valve in your home and make sure it is operable in case of an emergency. Shutoff valves are typically located where the water service enters the house. It's also important to make sure pipes in unheated areas—like crawl spaces—are properly insulated to prevent freezing.

### **Water Lines Leading to Unheated Structures:**

Be sure to shut off and drain service lines leading to any unheated structures until spring to prevent breaks.

### **Keep Fire Hydrants Clear:**

Be a good neighbor this winter and clear a path to and around your nearest fire hydrant in the event of snow. In the event of a fire, precious time is lost when firefighters have to locate and clear hydrants buried in the snow.



## Congratulations to Keith Fleming on 36 Years of Service to the POB Community!



*Senior Water Plant Operator, Keith Fleming, retires after 36 years of dedicated service to the Plainview Water District.*

The Plainview Water District would like to wish Keith Fleming all the best on a wonderful and well-deserved retirement. For more than 36 years, Keith has dedicated himself to providing the POB community with extraordinary customer service and helping to deliver high quality water. Keith started at the District in 1986 as a meter reader and has worked his way up the ranks to one of our most senior positions. The District is going to miss working with Keith every day, but we are grateful for all his many years of dedication and exemplary service. We wish him well in retirement and his future endeavors.

## Congratulations to This Year's Poster Contest Winners!

An annual tradition in the Plainview Water District for more than 30 years, the water conservation poster contest is held in partnership with the Plainview Old Bethpage Central School District for students in grades 1 through 5. This poster contest is designed to be a fun activity that also provides an opportunity for students to learn about the importance of

water conservation and our region's sole-source aquifer.

This year, we received more than 150 entries, which made it particularly difficult to pick the three winners from each grade. Thank you to all the students and educators who participated and congratulations to all of the winners!



*PWD's Board of Commissioners congratulates the 15 winners from the POB School District for this year's water conservation poster contest!*

To view this year's winning posters, please visit:



**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**  
 (516) 931-6469  
**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)

