

WATER RESOURCE

A Publication of the Plainview Water District

FALL 2023



Infrastructure Work Continues with Major Progress Made During 2023

Treatment for Emerging Contaminants Progresses to Provide POB Residents with the Highest Quality Water Possible



(L-R) Pictured above; PWD Commissioner Andrew Bader, Commissioner Marc Laykind and Commissioner Michael Chad and the PWD team.

Discussions around emerging contaminants continue to make their way into news cycles, so we would like to take this opportunity to remind the POB community of all the work that the Plainview Water District has done to ensure our residents are receiving nothing but the highest quality water. In August 2020, the New York State Health Department finalized regulations establishing maximum contaminant levels (MCLs) for emerging contaminants 1,4-dioxane, PFOA and PFOS. As these regulations were being enacted, the District started immediately in preparing for the construction of Advanced Oxidation Process (AOP) and Granular Activated Carbon (GAC) treatment systems back in 2017 so we could remain ahead of the curve today. Currently, AOP and GAC treatment systems are the only approved method of removing these emerging contaminants from drinking water. The Plainview Water District is viewed as a leader in emerging contaminant treatment and is among the top water providers in terms of the number of systems successfully constructed.

Our completed and ongoing projects include:

Plant 2 – Donna Drive

This past summer, the Plainview Water District commemorated the completion of Plant 2, a state-of-the-art treatment facility located on Donna Drive. This facility contains AOP and GAC treatment, which were specifically installed to remove low levels of emerging contaminants 1,4-dioxane, PFOA and PFOS detected in the groundwater. This site represents a \$4.2 million investment in the community's water infrastructure. This District proudly received \$2 million in grant funding for this project, which reduces the cost burden on POB residents.

This facility has been treating for these emerging contaminants since 2020. However, constructing a permanent structure around the treatment systems makes this facility capable of operating year round.

Plant 2's facility was made operational in record time, marking yet another major milestone for PWD's infrastructure upgrades.

Plant 4 – Southern Parkway

Following the groundbreaking earlier this spring, PWD has been hard at work preparing the site in order to construct one of the most advanced treatment systems in the region. Once complete, this treatment facility will contain AOP, GAC, nitrate and perchlorate treatment to produce up to four million gallons of water per day. This unique combination will be the first of its kind locally.

Concrete foundations have been poured and other masonry work is underway. Electrical conduits have also been run to prepare for the significant electrical demands the site and facility will require. Construction on this site is expected to continue throughout 2024.

Plant 5 – Haypath Road

Plant 5, located on Haypath Road, produces the largest amount of water in our service territory; it contains four wells capable of producing eight million gallons of water per day. Currently, the facility has emerging contaminant treatment on one well and the District is in the design phase to construct treatment on the remaining three wells. The goal of this project is to have a permanent year-round facility to provide the community with the highest quality water possible for decades to come. The design phase is expected to be completed in early 2024, with construction kicking off in the months to follow.

Plant 7 – Washington Avenue

The Plainview Water District is eagerly anticipating the completion of Plant 7, located on Washington Avenue. The first two phases of this three-phase project have been completed, allowing the facility to operate year-round. The last phase of the project is to house the new AOP treatment systems by providing a permanent building that will last for decades to come. This site is expected to be completed by the end of 2024 and will be capable of producing up to four million gallons of water per day. With all of the recent upgrades to our treatment facilities, we have and will continue to only provide water that meets or exceeds all current federal, state and local water quality regulations.

To learn more about past and present infrastructure projects, we encourage you to visit <https://plainviewwater.org/about/plainview-water-district-projects/>.





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

My Fellow POB Residents,

I hope you are all enjoying the fall and looking forward to the holiday season.

At the Plainview Water District, our last few months were filled with significant progress on our treatment system improvement projects. We saw new treatment systems that remove emerging contaminants, such as 1,4-dioxane, PFOS and PFOA, come online, and construction and design of system upgrades are continuing at several plant sites. We are incredibly proud of our track record of delivering continuous, high-quality water that meets or surpasses every water quality standard established by our federal, state and local regulators.

Looking back over the last five years, it is remarkable how much progress has been made, and how much new infrastructure has been constructed in our District, to treat for emerging contaminants. This is certainly the most active infrastructure construction the District has undertaken in our 95 years of providing water to the community. By now, we hope this is old news to you; in the event it isn't, we want to assure you that, since day one of the State's new regulations for emerging contaminants, the Plainview Water District has been in compliance with these strictest-in-the-nation water quality standards. This didn't happen by chance. The Board of Commissioners and District staff have gone above and beyond to work with our engineers and contractors to expedite these construction projects. These projects have ensured that high-quality water has been flowing to POB homes and businesses prior to the new regulations coming into effect.

On behalf of the Board of Commissioners, I would also like to thank our residents, particularly those living in close proximity to our various ongoing construction sites, for your patience throughout this process. We are committed to being good neighbors and have done everything in our power to mitigate noise and disruptions along the way. We know some days these inconveniences are inevitable, especially when major deliveries come onto these sites, but we sincerely appreciate your understanding and support.

When operating a water district, the work is never over. We will certainly remain busy throughout 2024 and beyond, but it is all in the name of providing the community we love with water that matches their expectations. Water is the foundation for our society, and we hope you will remain engaged with us as we go through this journey together. We like to keep our residents informed about the ongoings of the District, so please, if you have not already done so, we strongly encourage you to sign up for our email distribution list and follow us on Facebook and recently launched Instagram page so you can be kept up-to-date on all of the progress we are making within our community.

Thank you for reading this edition of Water Resource. We hope you have a great fall and holiday season with your family and friends.

Until next time,

Marc B. Laykind
Chairman of the Plainview
Water District

More than Just a Landmark

Plainview Water District's elevated water tower can be seen from almost anywhere in the Plainview-Old Bethpage community. This vital piece of infrastructure plays a significant role in providing high-quality water to residents and businesses each and every day. Residents likely noticed crews pressure-washing the 143-foot-tall tower as part of the District's recurring maintenance plan. Washing the tank is not only aesthetically important, but provides a critical opportunity to ensure there is no damage to the paint or protective coatings lying underneath the natural biological growth being removed.

Located at the highest point in the community, this water tower stores more than one million gallons of water and pressurizes much of the water system. Given the importance of this piece of infrastructure, the District fulfills a routine maintenance and inspection schedule for the tower to ensure it remains operating at peak performance.

Water towers are a tried-and-true method for ensuring that pressure throughout a water distribution system is consistent. With more than one million gallons stored more than 100 feet in the air, gravity helps to pressurize a significant portion of the District's nine-square-mile service territory. This system ensures homes continue to receive pressurized water even in the event of an emergency, such as a fire or water main break. During the summer months, when water usage is at its peak, it is important for residents to practice better water conservation habits to ensure the tank level remains adequate so there is ample water storage and pressure in the event of a fire emergency.



PWD's elevated water tower, a pillar of the community's water infrastructure.

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 Department of Health (NYSDOH) and Nassau County Department of Health require the installation and annual testing of backflow devices. This compliance testing must be performed by a certified backflow tester and completed prior to December 31 each year to ensure these devices are functioning properly.



A double check valve typically installed at residential properties.

A backflow device is a mechanical double-check valve 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 many instances, such as firefighting or when 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, a private well that is interconnected with the public water supply, or any new construction.

The District encourages all residents and businesses to arrange for a certified backflow tester to conduct their annual backflow test to avoid any potential penalties for noncompliance. Scan the QR code for an up-to-date list of New York State certified backflow testers. www.plainviewwater.org/resources/backflow/.



Time to Winterize Your Outdoor Water Systems!

Winter is almost here, making now the perfect time to prepare your water systems for freezing temperatures. In times of sudden extreme cold, water lines that have not been winterized are susceptible to freezing, cracking or bursting. This can result in costly repairs and water damage.

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. It is important that you 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.

PWD Collects 400 Pounds of Expired, Unused Medications at its Pharmaceutical Take Back Day!

It was another successful Pharmaceutical Take Back Day thanks to our residents who properly disposed of their unwanted or expired medications. The Plainview Water District, in partnership with the Nassau County Police Department, held its sixth annual Pharmaceutical Take Back Day on Saturday, October 28th, during which 400 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 of all different kinds of pharmaceuticals. If medications are flushed down the toilet, it is likely they will ultimately enter the water supply.

We thank all the residents who came out to take advantage of this program. We have collected more than 1,800 pounds of pharmaceuticals since the annual tradition started six years ago.



(L-R) Nassau County Police Officer Daniel Capellan, PWD Commissioner Andrew Bader, PWD Commissioner Marc Laykind and PWD Commissioner Michael Chad at Pharmaceutical Take Back Day.

Join More than 5,000 of Your Neighbors and Sign Up for Email Updates

Want to stay up-to-date with everything going on at the Plainview Water District? Sign up for our email updates today!



Scan the QR code to fill out your information to receive periodic emails from the PWD.

Direct Debit and Automatic Bill Pay Available

Never miss another due date on your water bill! PWD offers automatic bill payment options to make paying your water bill even easier. Signing up is free, simple and only requires your account number and pin.



Learn more about PWD's payment options: <https://plainviewwater.org/billing/pay-your-bill/>

PWD by the Numbers

- Service area is approximately 9 square miles and makes up Plainview, Old-Bethpage and portions of Syosset and Woodbury.
- District pumps approximately 1.7 billion gallons per year from the groundwater aquifer.
- 6 well sites that collectively house 12 deep groundwater wells.
- Typical max day seasonal pumpage is approximately 10 million gallons.
- Maximum capacity of producing 24.5 million gallons per day.
- The District is prepared for peak hour demand on top of simultaneously meeting fire flow demands and extreme weather while also remaining at the ready for potential equipment failures.
- The District maintains one elevated and three ground storage tanks each in excess of 1 million gallons.

Connect with us!

We're now on Instagram
@plainviewwater



PWD's Board of Commissioners Congratulates the Winners of the 2023 Poster Contest!

An annual tradition in the Plainview Water District for more than 30 years, and part of the Preserve Plainview initiative, the water conservation poster contest is held in partnership with the Plainview-Old Bethpage Central School District. The 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.

Thank you to all the students and educators who participated, and congratulations to all of the winners!



PWD's Board of Commissioners congratulates the 16 students from the POB School District who won this year's water conservation poster contest!

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



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
Michael A. Chad, Secretary



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