



# Oyster Bay Water District Water News

A Newsletter Concerning Our Water Supply

Spring 2012

## In this issue:

OYSTER BAY WATER - OUR MOST  
RELIABLE UTILITY

REINVESTING IN OUR WATER  
INFRASTRUCTURE

MEETING SCHEDULE

DO YOU KNOW HOW MUCH WATER  
YOU USE?

CHART ON WATER USE

EXCELLENT WATER QUALITY

NASSAU COUNTY SPRINKLING  
RESTRICTIONS STILL CONTINUE!

WATER QUALITY REPORT  
ENCLOSED

## BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Robert J. McEvoy  
Chairman

Donald MacKenzie  
Secretary

Richard P. Niznik  
Treasurer

SECRETARY TO THE BOARD  
Robyn M. Hale

ATTORNEY  
Anthony J. LaMarca, Esq.

45 Audrey Avenue  
Oyster Bay, New York 11771  
(516) 922-4848

[www.oysterbaywaterdistrict.org](http://www.oysterbaywaterdistrict.org)

## OYSTER BAY WATER OUR MOST RELIABLE UTILITY

When was the last time you did not have water available at your home? Most likely it never happened!

Last fall, Hurricane/Tropical Storm Irene significantly impacted Oyster Bay and the rest of Long Island. Many of us were without power, cable and telephone service for several days. All of the Oyster Bay Water District water supply facilities were without electrical service and telephone communications for instrumentation for up to five days. However, we are proud to report that during this period no one in the District was without water service. Our facilities are equipped with emergency generators or engines that provide stand-by power to our supply wells and treatment systems should the LIPA electrical service not be available. These stand-by emergency power units were utilized the entire time of the power outage. The District was able to maintain the water demands of the community through this difficult clean-up period.

Our District staff was prepared for this event and took all the necessary actions to ensure the proper switchover to emergency power. Once the District realized that Hurricane Irene was heading in our direction, our Emergency Preparedness and Response Plan went into effect. Our operational staff inspected all our pumping facilities, stocked up on fuel and chemicals and established a schedule to man the facilities during the storm.

“Our water supply system is designed and constructed with redundant features to ensure that the District will always be able to provide water to the Oyster Bay community, even during emergencies”, stated Commissioner Richard Niznik.

So the next time we have an approaching hurricane and the potential for a power outage, note that there is no need to fill up your tub with water. Be confident that the Oyster Bay Water District will continue to provide a sufficient supply of safe water to our residents.



The Emergency Generator/Engine at Pump Station No. 6

## REINVESTING IN OUR WATER INFRASTRUCTURE

There have been several reports issued recently that discussed the aging of our nation's water infrastructure and the dire need to quickly start replacing our water systems. The good news is that the Oyster Bay Water District has been re-investing in our water infrastructure for many years.

"The District continuously evaluates the condition of its infrastructure and schedules preventive maintenance and rehabilitation to maintain all equipment and structures in top operating condition and to maximize the useful life of each asset", stated Commissioner Robert McEvoy.

Over the past year, the District has completed the rehabilitation of Well No. 6-1 located on Berry Hill Road. The work included the replacement of the 22 year old well pump and motor, as well as rebuilding of valves and flow meters. The new equipment includes the installation of a high efficiency 150 HP electric motor and a high efficiency pump. This will enable the District to deliver water to our residents at a reduced cost.

The District is also in the planning stages of installing an emergency generator at the District's main office, which serves as the Emergency Operations Center during any local emergency. The installation of generator is planned for early summer, well ahead of 2012 hurricane season.



Commissioners Richard Niznik, Donald MacKenzie and Robert McEvoy (l-r) at rehabilitated Well No. 6-1

### MEETING SCHEDULE

Please note that the Oyster Bay Water District routinely schedules its meetings every Thursday morning at 9:00 a.m. at the Water District office located at 45 Audrey Avenue. All residents of the District are welcome to attend the meeting. Any changes in this weekly Thursday meeting date will be published in the Enterprise Pilot and on the Water District's Website.

### **SWIFT911 - EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION SERVICES**

If you haven't already, we urge you to sign up for the Oyster Bay Water District Emergency Notification System. The Swift911 Emergency Notification System automatically calls you with a pre-recorded message in the event of a water emergency. The system database is populated with all listed phone numbers within the District. However, should your phone number be unlisted, your number is not automatically in our system. In addition, you may want to add your cell phone number to our system so that we can notify you by Text Message or Email.

### **COME VISIT OUR WEBSITE** [www.oysterbaywaterdistrict.org](http://www.oysterbaywaterdistrict.org)

Please log on and register your email address so we may add you to our database.

### Board of Commissioners

Robert McEvoy, Chairman

Donald MacKenzie, Secretary

Richard Niznik, Treasurer

# Oyster Bay Water District

## 2011 Drinking Water Quality Report

Public Water Supply Identification No.: 2902844

### ANNUAL WATER SUPPLY REPORT

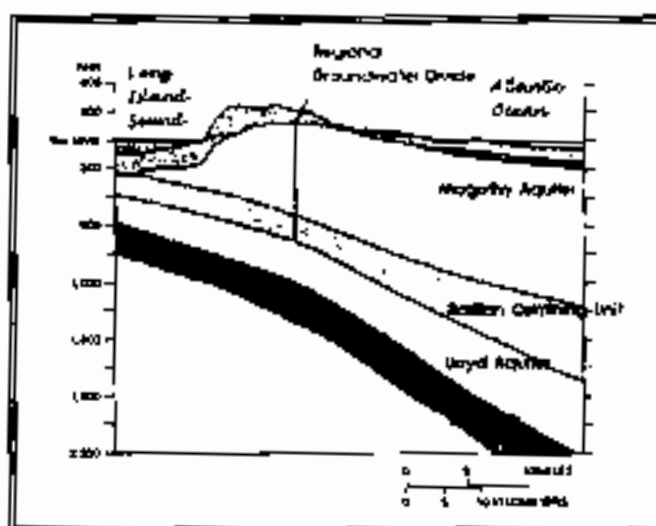
May 2012

The Oyster Bay Water District is pleased to present to you this year's Water Quality Report. The report is required to be delivered to all residents of our District in compliance with Federal and State regulations. The Board of Commissioners is happy to report that our water is in full compliance with all Federal, State and County regulations. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water every day. We also want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. The Board of Water Commissioners and the District employees are committed to ensuring that you and your family receive the highest quality water.

### SOURCE OF OUR WATER

The source of water for the District is groundwater pumped from five (5) wells located throughout the community that are drilled into the Glacial and Magothy aquifers beneath Long Island, as shown on the enclosed figure. Generally, the water quality of the aquifers in Oyster Bay is excellent.

The population served by the Oyster Bay Water District during 2011 was 8,800. The total amount of water withdrawn from the aquifer in 2011 was 414.9 million gallons, of which approximately 96 percent was billed directly to consumers.



The District utilizes a step billing schedule as shown on the following table. The purpose of step billing is to reward customers who conserve water. The average residential consumer (domestic use) is being billed at \$1.00/1,000 gallons. To obtain a copy of the sprinkler system, or multi-user water rates, please contact the District office.

### Quarterly Water Rates - Residential

<u>Consumption (gallons)</u>	<u>Charges</u>
Up to 12,000	\$1.00/thousand gallons
12,001 - 24,000	\$1.55/thousand gallons
24,001 - 33,000	\$2.00/thousand gallons
33,001 - 60,000	\$2.50/thousand gallons
60,001 - 150,000	\$3.30/thousand gallons
Over 150,000	\$3.95/thousand gallons

## CONTACT FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

We are pleased to report that our drinking water is safe and meets all Federal and State requirements. If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact Operator of Record John Walsh (516) 922-4848 or the Nassau County Department of Health at (516) 227-9692. We want our valued customers to be informed about our water system. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled meetings. They are normally held on Thursday mornings at 9:00 a.m. at the Water District office.

The Oyster Bay Water District routinely monitors for different parameters and contaminants in your drinking water as required by Federal and State laws. All drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some constituents. It's important to remember that the presence of these constituents does not necessarily pose a health risk. For more information on contamination and potential health risks, please contact the USEPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

The USEPA established a Lead and Copper Rule that required all public water suppliers to sample and test for lead and copper at the tap. The first testing was required in 1992. All of our results were excellent indicating that the District's corrosion control treatment program was effective in preventing the leaching of lead and copper from your home's plumbing into your drinking water. Follow-up testing was last conducted in 2011 with the same excellent results.

## WATER CONSERVATION MEASURES

The underground water system of Long Island has more than enough water for present water demands. However, saving water will ensure that our future generations will always have a safe and abundant water supply.

In 2011, the Oyster Bay Water District continued to implement a water conservation program in order to minimize any unnecessary water use. The pumpage for 2011 was 10.9 percent lower than in 2010. This decrease can most likely be attributed to the cooler and wetter summer weather that occurred in 2011.

Residents of the District can also implement their own water conservation measures such as retrofitting plumbing fixtures with flow restrictors, modifying automatic lawn sprinklers to include rain sensors, repairing leaks in the home, installing water conservation fixtures/appliances and maintaining a daily awareness of water conservation in their personal habits. In addition, consumers should be aware that the Nassau County Lawn Sprinkler Regulations are still in effect. Besides protecting our precious underground water supply, water conservation will produce a cost savings to the consumer in terms of both water and energy bills (hot water). Utilizing the water conservation measures listed above can reduce your water use by 5%.

## WATER TREATMENT

The Oyster Bay Water District provides treatment at all wells to improve the quality of the water pumped prior to distribution to the consumer. The pH of the pumped water is adjusted upward to reduce corrosive action between the water and water mains and in-house plumbing by the addition of sodium hydroxide. As mandated by the New York State and Nassau County Health Departments, the District currently adds a slight amount of chlorine to the water as a disinfection agent to prevent the growth of bacteria in the distribution system.

A granular activated carbon treatment system has been constructed at Plant No. 2 - Shutter Lane for the removal of low levels of volatile organic contaminant.

## SOURCE WATER ASSESSMENT

The NYSDOH, with assistance from the local health department, has completed a source water assessment for this system, based on available information. Possible and actual threats to this drinking

# OYSTER BAY WATER DISTRICT 2011 WATER QUALITY REPORT TABLE OF DETECTED PARAMETERS

Contaminants	Violation (Yes/No)	Date of Sample	Level Detected (Range)	Unit Measurement	MCLG	Regulatory Limit (MCL or AL)	Likely Source of Contaminant
<b>Inorganic Contaminants</b>							
Copper	No	July & August 2011	ND - 0.10 <sup>11</sup>	mg/l	1.3	AL = 1.3	Corrosion of galvanized pipes; Erosion of natural deposits
Lead	No	July & August 2011	ND - 2.3 <sup>11</sup>	ug/l	0	AL = 15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Barium	No	12/21/11	20 - 100	ug/l	n/a	MCL = 200	Naturally occurring
Sodium	No	12/29/11	5.7 - 11.8	mg/l	n/a	No MCL <sup>11</sup>	Naturally occurring
Magnesium	No	12/21/11	2.6 - 4.6	mg/l	n/a	None	Naturally occurring
Chloride	No	12/21/11	7.5 - 13.3	mg/l	n/a	MCL = 250	Naturally occurring
Nitrate	No	12/21/11	1.6 - 3.4	mg/l	10	MCL = 10	Runoff from fertilizer and leaching from septic tanks and sewage
Sulfate	No	12/21/11	ND - 13.9	mg/l	n/a	MCL = 250	Naturally occurring
Calcium	No	12/21/11	6.1 - 11.2	mg/l	n/a	None	Naturally occurring
Perchlorate	No	12/19/11	ND - 1.1	ug/l	n/a	AL = 18 <sup>11</sup>	Fertilizer
<b>Microbiological</b>							
Total Coliform	No	Weekly	None Detected	Positive or Negative	n/a	MCL = More than 5% of samples positive	Commonly found throughout the environment
<b>Radiological</b>							
Gross Alpha	No	10/25/10	0.1 - 0.7	pci/L	--	15 pci/L	Naturally occurring
Radium 228	No	10/25/10	0.3 - 1.0	pci/L	--	No MCL	Naturally occurring
<b>Volatile Organic Contaminants and Synthetic Organic Contaminants Including Pesticides and Herbicides</b>							
Tetrachloroethene	No	05/25/11	ND - 1.3	ug/l	0	MCL = 5	Industrial/Commercial Discharge
MIBE	No	05/25/11	ND - 0.9	ug/l	0	MCL = 10	Gasoline Additive

**SPECIAL NOTE: The water supplied by the Oyster Bay Water District currently meets or exceeds all Federal, State and local drinking water standards.**

## Definitions:

**Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL)** - The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible.

**Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG)** - The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

**Action Level (AL)** - The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

**Milligrams per liter (mg/l)** - Corresponds to one part of liquid in one million parts of liquid (parts per million - ppm).

**Micrograms per liter (ug/l)** - Corresponds to one part of liquid in one billion parts of liquid (parts per billion - ppb).

**pCi/L** - pico Curies per liter is a measure of radioactivity in water.

**Non-Detects (ND)** - Laboratory analysis indicates that the constituent is not present.

<sup>11</sup> - During 2011 we collected and analyzed 20 samples for lead and copper. The 90% percentile level as presented in the table. The action levels for both lead and copper were not exceeded at any site tested. Resampling is scheduled to occur in 2014.

<sup>12</sup> - No MCL has been established for sodium. However, 20 mg/l is a recommended guideline for people on high restricted sodium diets and 270 mg/l for those on moderately sodium diets.

<sup>13</sup> - Perchlorate is an unregulated contaminant. However, the New York State Dept. of Health has set an action level of 18.0 ug/l.



water source were evaluated. The source water assessment includes a susceptibility rating based on the risk posed by each potential source of contamination and how rapidly contaminants can move through the subsurface to the wells. The susceptibility of a water supply well to contamination is dependent upon both the presence of potential sources of contamination within the well's contributing area and the likelihood that the contaminant can travel through the environment to reach the well. The susceptibility rating is an estimate of the potential for contamination of the source water, it does not mean that the water delivered to consumers is, or will become contaminated. See the section entitled "Water Quality" for a list of the contaminants that have been detected. The source water assessments provide resource managers with additional information for protecting source waters into the future.

Our drinking water is derived from five (5) wells. The source water assessment has rated one (1) of the wells as having an elevated susceptibility to industrial solvents. The elevated susceptibility to industrial solvents and nitrates is due primarily due to the shallow depth of Well No. 1 and due to point sources of contamination related to commercial/industrial facilities and related activities in the assessment area. In addition, the high susceptibility to nitrates is also attributable to unsewered residential land use and related practices in the assessment area, such as fertilizing lawns.

A copy of the assessment, including a map of the assessment area, can be obtained by contacting the District Office.

### WATER QUALITY

In accordance with State regulations, the Oyster Bay Water District routinely monitors your drinking water for numerous parameters. We test your drinking water for coliform bacteria, turbidity, inorganic contaminants, lead and copper, nitrate, volatile organic contaminants, total trihalomethanes and synthetic organic contaminants. Over 144 separate parameters are tested for in each of our wells numerous times per year. The table presented on page 3 depicts which parameters or contaminants were detected in your drinking water. It should be noted that many of these parameters are naturally found in all Long Island drinking water and do not pose any adverse health affects.

### WATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS

The District is continuing with a Capital Improvement Program to rehabilitate existing equipment and facilities to ensure that the District is able to supply a safe and reliable source of drinking water and sufficient pumping capacity for fire flow protection. Within the last year, the Water District has recently completed the rehabilitation of supply Well No. 6-1. We are planning a few new capital improvement projects in 2012. Details of these projects are highlighted in the enclosed District Newsletter.

Copies of a Supplemental Data Package, which includes the water quality data for each of our supply wells utilized during 2011, are available at the Oyster Bay Water District office located at 45 Audrey Avenue, Oyster Bay, New York and the local Public Library.

We at Oyster Bay Water District work around the clock to provide top quality water to every tap throughout the community. We ask that all our customers help us protect our water resources, which are the heart of our community, our way of life and our children's future.

## DO YOU KNOW HOW MUCH WATER YOU USE?

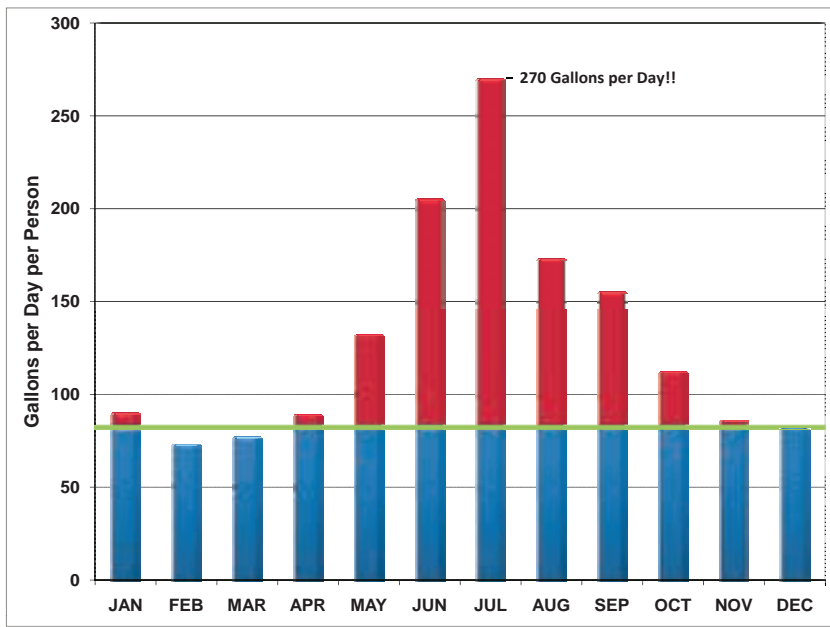
Do you know how much water you use everyday? We estimate that the typical resident of the Oyster Bay Water District uses approximately 90 gallons per day per person during the winter months. Do you know how much water you use in the summer period? Would you believe the typical resident uses over 270 gallons per day per person! That's a 200 percent increase from the winter months. Most of this can be attributed to lawn irrigation.

This significant increase in demand provides a unique challenge to the Water District. We must design our water supply facilities to be able to meet the water demands for the maximum day plus a

reserve amount for fire protection. On a hot summer day, we need to operate all of our 5 wells working near full capacity to meet the peak demands. However, for the 8 non-summer months of the year, we only need to operate 1 or 2 of our wells.

For this reason, the District strongly recommends our residents follow the irrigation restrictions as established by the County.

### OYSTER BAY WATER DISTRICT 2011 PER PERSON WATER USE



### EXCELLENT WATER QUALITY

The Board of Commissioners of the Oyster Bay Water District is once again proud to announce that the water quality being provided to our residents exceeds all Federal, State and Local Health Department drinking water standards. The enclosed 2011 Annual Water Supply Statement/Consumer Confidence Report has been prepared to summarize the water quality of our water last year. As shown in the report, our water met or exceeded all water quality standards and we did not have any water quality violations.

“The District continuously tests the water quality from all of our supply wells and from our distribution system. We have the water tested by an independent New York State approved testing laboratory that conducts over 10,000 tests annually, checking for over 180 different parameters”, stated Commissioner Donald MacKenzie. These parameters include heavy metals, inorganic compounds, volatile organic compounds, herbicides, pesticides, as well as bacteriological tests.

The Oyster Bay Water District takes pride in providing a safe and reliable source of water to our local residents. Should you have any questions concerning the quality of our drinking water, please contact our office at 516-922-4848.

# I'm more than just another tall drink of water.

If only our tap water could talk to us. It might remind us that tap water is more than just a healthy, refreshing drink. It also fights fires, supports our economy and provides us with the high quality of life we enjoy.

Our water bills pay to keep our community tap water safe, reliable and there for us — 24/7 without fail. For more information about what your tap water delivers, visit [www.oysterbaywaterdistrict.org](http://www.oysterbaywaterdistrict.org)

Only Tap Water **Delivers**



Presented in cooperation with

American Water Works Association





A Newsletter From:  
Oyster Bay Water District  
45 Audrey Avenue  
Oyster Bay, New York 11771  
(516) 922-4848  
[www.oysterbaywaterdistrict.org](http://www.oysterbaywaterdistrict.org)



Presort  
1st Class Mail  
US POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
PERMIT NO. 49  
Oyster Bay, NY

Oyster Bay Water District

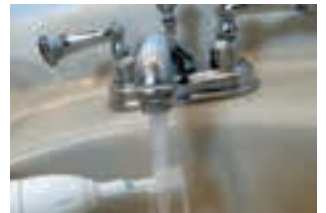
## NASSAU COUNTY SPRINKLING RESTRICTIONS STILL CONTINUE!



The sprinkling restrictions that were in effect last year will still apply this year, as follows:

- All water sprinkling for lawns, gardens and shrubbery is PROHIBITED between 10 AM and 4 PM.
- Even-numbered addresses are allowed to water on even-numbered days during prescribed hours.
- Odd-numbered addresses are allowed to water on odd-numbered days during prescribed hours.
- Nassau County ordinances provide for a \$50 civil penalty against first-time violators, with increased fines for repeat offenders.

Please cooperate with our WATER CONSERVATION EFFORT!



## Water Quality Report Enclosed

Enclosed with this newsletter is the Oyster Bay Water District's Annual Water Supply Report for 2011. This report presents the facts about the quality of our water supply and summarizes the water quality sampling test results taken throughout 2011. The District is proud to report that our water meets or exceeds all Federal and State drinking water standards. Should you have any questions concerning this report, please contact the Water District at (516) 922-4848.

