

# Oyster Bay Water District Water News

A Newsletter Concerning Our Water Supply

Spring 2025

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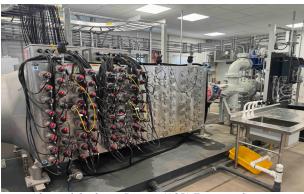
# DISTRICT COMPLETES NEW TREATMENT SYSTEM - IMPROVING WATER QUALITY

The Oyster Bay Water District completed the construction of their new Advanced Oxidation Process (AOP) treatment system No. 2 on Shutter Lane. The AOP at Plant system targets the removal of 1,4 dioxane, an industrial solvent, which has been detected at low levels in the water supply wells at Plant No. 2. The implementation of the new treatment system is in response to New York State Department of Health drinking water standards for emerging contaminants. The AOP system utilizes an ultraviolet light reactor and small amounts of hydrogen peroxide as an oxidant to destroy the 1-4-Dioxane.

The construction began in Fall of 2022 and was completed in the early spring of 2025. The Oyster Bay Water District is proud to announce that the treatment system has received full approval and endorsement by the Nassau County Department of Health and New York State Department of Health. This project represents the District's commitment to providing clean and safe drinking water to its residents. It demonstrates the District's ability to enhance their infrastructure with state-ofthe-art treatment equipment and meet full compliance with regulatory requirements. The District was awarded a \$3.0 million grant from New York State to help pay for a major portion of the project.



New Treatment Building at Plant No. 2



Advanced Oxidation Process (AOP) Treatment System at Plant No. 2

The Oyster Bay Water District is dedicated to maintaining and enhancing their infrastructure to improve water quality and to provide reliable water service to our community.

## **BEST TASTING WATER IN NASSAU COUNTY!**

The Oyster Bay Water District participated in this year's drinking water taste contest held by the Long Island Water Conference. As part of Water Week, the contest is conducted annually at the SUNY Farmingdale campus to recognize the vital role clean drinking water plays in our daily lives. Students, professors, and the public tasted tap water from 16 public water suppliers across Nassau and Suffolk Counties. Oyster Bay Water District's water was selected as the Best Tasting in Nassau County! This is the second time the Oyster Bay Water District has received this distinction. We are proud of the high-quality water we deliver to our residents.





#### WATER CONSERVATION IS PRIORITY

The Water District implemented a water conservation plan back in 1986 and continues to update it annually. This effort ensures the District maintains adequate water supply capacity to meet increasing demands plus a reserve for fire protection, but we need your continued help! The District encourages you to look for ways to reduce water use in your home.

#### **Install a Smart Irrigation Controller**

Smart irrigation controllers are one of the best ways to conserve water and help reduce the large peak in water usage this warm season. A smart irrigation controller adjusts water schedules to make sure your lawn doesn't receive too much or too little water. These devices can use either local weather data or soil moisture sensors to determine watering times and are enabled with WiFi capabilities. The smart controller can be operated through your smartphone, tablet, or laptop and using them will help conserve water and lower your water bill. Look for a smart irrigation controller with the WaterSense label! These controllers have been certified by the EPA for efficiency and performance. For more information about the EPA WaterSense program, visit <a href="https://www.epa.gov/watersense/irrigation-controllers">www.epa.gov/watersense/irrigation-controllers</a>.



#### **TIPS For Water Conservation**

- Routinely walk your property with the sprinkler system on to inspect for proper operation. Look out for damaged sprinkler heads. Consult with your sprinkler
- . company to ensure your system is working properly.
- Consider using plants that are native to Long Island!
   These plants are better suited for our soil and will
   retain more water for longer periods of time.
- Install slow-drip irrigation systems in your garden beds.
- Consider increasing the height of your grass to reduce
  evaporation and improve growth.
- Keep an eye on your pool! Maintain your pool's water quality to reduce the need for draining and backwashing your filter too frequently. Maintain proper water levels in your pool and consider installing a pool cover for year-round use to reduce evaporation.



The Oyster Bay Water District has also committed themselves to conserving energy. The District is proud to announce that they have received a 10-year award for their participation in an energy demand response program. Under this program, the District reduces energy consumption or utilizes alternate energy sources (generators) at critical times to help relieve the demand on the local electrical grid. The District's energy conservation efforts ultimately help the environment by reducing fossil fuel emissions. We encourage you to do the same!

# **CONCERNED ABOUT LEAD IN DRINKING WATER?**

The Oyster Bay Water District continues to ensure the lowest possible exposure to lead from our drinking water is obtained. The District routinely tests our source water wells and have determined that they do not contain lead. However, it is possible for lead to enter the water from lead water service piping and from lead solder within household plumbing and fixtures. Studies have shown that elevated lead levels can cause health problems, especially for children and pregnant women.

The Water District has been providing water treatment for over 30 years to reduce the corrosivity of our water to lessen the potential for lead leaking into the water. The District is happy to report that they have complied with all Federal and State lead regulations.

The District is currently conducting an evaluation to determine where lead water service lines may exist throughout our community.

The District has prepared a lead service line inventory which is available to the public at the Water District Office. Additionally, you may visit the online map of the New York State Department of Health Lead Service Line Inventory at <a href="https://health.data.ny.gov/Health/New-York-State-Lead-Service-Line-Inventory-Map/fkii-zkcq">https://health.data.ny.gov/Health/New-York-State-Lead-Service-Line-Inventory-Map/fkii-zkcq</a>.

Lead service lines are generally a dull gray color and very soft. You can identify them easily by carefully scratching them with a key or coin. If the pipe is made of lead, the scratch will be a bright silver color.



If you suspect that you have a lead service or if you are unsure, please contact the District office at 516-922-4848. The District can provide a free water service line inspection on visible plumbing materials. For more information on lead in drinking water, visit <a href="www.epa.gov/safewater/lead">www.epa.gov/safewater/lead</a>.



# COMMISSIONER RICHARD NIZNIK RE-ELECTED

On December 10, 2024, the residents of the Oyster Bay Water District re-elected Richard Niznik to the position of Water Commissioner for a three-year term.

Mr. Niznik has served as commissioner for the District since 2005 and is a member of both the Nassau Suffolk Water Commissioners' Association and the Long Island Water Conference. Mr. Niznik is a Vietnam Veteran serving in the US Army Corp of Engineers from 1964-66. He brings to the Water District 42 years of Public Works experience where he served as Assistant Superintendent of Highway for Nassau County. He is an active member of the Atlantic Steamer Fire Company since 1961. His knowledge of Public Works as well as his commitment to the community is a great asset to the Water District.



Commissioner Richard Niznik

#### COMMISSIONER ROBERT McEVOY ELECTED CHAIRMAN OF THE LONG ISLAND WATER CONFERENCE

The Oyster Bay Water District is proud to announce that Commissioner Robert McEvoy has been elected chairman of the Long Island Water Conference (LIWC). The Conference is a professional organization of all the public water suppliers on Long Island dedicated to keeping Long Island's water safe and plentiful. Commissioner McEvoy has served on the LIWC Board of Directors since 2022 and previously held the position of President of the Nassau Suffolk Water Commissioners Association in 2012.

The LIWC includes 41 separate public water suppliers in Nassau and Suffolk Counties and supports education and training to all its members, as well as providing public education to the residents of Long Island. To learn more about the LIWC, visit <a href="https://www.liwc.org">www.liwc.org</a>.



Commissioner Robert McEvoy

# DISTRICT RECEIVES GRANT FOR ADDITIONAL UPGRADES

The Oyster Bay Water District has been awarded a NYS Infrastructure Grant in the amount of \$3,475, 200 to help fund the construction of a new granular activated carbon (GAC) treatment system at Plant No. 6 on Berry Hill Road. The grant is a result of the District's proactive monitoring and planning for perfluorinated compounds (PFAS). The proposed GAC treatment system will remove the low levels of PFAS compounds found at Plant No. 6. The District anticipates beginning construction by Early 2026.



Plant No. 6 - Berry Hill Road

# **MEETING SCHEDULE**

Please note that the Oyster Bay Water District schedules its meetings every Thursday morning at 9:00 a.m. at the Water District office located 45 Audrey Avenue. All residents of the District are welcome to attend the meeting. Any changes in the weekly Thursday morning meeting date will be published in the Glen Cove/Oyster Bay Record Pilot and on the Water District's website. Members of the public can contact the District office at 516-922-4848 for additional information.

#### RAVE- EMERGENCY

#### NOTIFICATION SERVICES

If you haven't already, we urge you to sign up for the Oyster Bay Water District Emergency Notification System. The Rave Emergency Notification System automatically calls you with a prerecorded 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. Please log on to our website and register your information with our Rave Emergency Notification System.

# COME VISIT OUR WEBSITE! www.oysterbaywaterdistrict.org

Please visit our site for the latest on water quality, projects, and news within our District.



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#### NASSAU COUNTY SPRINKLING RESTRICTIONS



The sprinkling restrictions that were in effect last year will still apply this year, as regulated by Nassau County under ordinance 248-A. The following rules apply:

- 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 penalty against first-time violators, with increased fines for repeat offenders.





## Water Quality Report Enclosed

Enclosed with this newsletter is the Oyster Bay Water District's Annual Water Supply Report for 2024. This report presents the facts about the quality of our water supply and summarizes the water quality sampling test results taken throughout 2024. 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. A copy of this report is also available at the District website, www.oysterbaywaterdistrict.org.





