



# Dix Hills Water District Water News

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“Celebrating our 66<sup>th</sup> Year of  
Providing Water to Dix Hills”

<http://huntingtonny.gov>

A Newsletter Concerning Our Water Supply

Spring 2019

## MAINTAINING EXCELLENT WATER QUALITY

How do you know if the water from your faucet is safe to drink? The good news is that the Dix Hills Water District is proud to announce that it continues to provide the residents with excellent water quality that meets or exceeds all Federal, State and local drinking water quality.

Enclosed with this newsletter is the 2018 Annual Water Supply Statement/Consumer Confidence Report that summarizes the drinking water quality supplied by the Dix Hills Water District throughout 2018.

The District continuously tests the water from all of our 20 supply wells and throughout our distribution system. We maintain continuous testing analyzers at all plant sites that monitor chlorine residual and pH level 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. These analyzers will automatically shut down a well should the water quality results be outside normal range. The District also collects weekly water samples and sends them out to an independent New York State approved testing laboratory that conducts over 10,000 tests annually, checking for over 180 different parameters. These parameters include heavy metals, inorganic compounds, volatile organic compounds, herbicides and pesticides, as well as, microbiological tests.

In addition, the District proactively started to test for emerging contaminants that are yet to be regulated by the Federal and State agencies and there are no drinking water standards. The District always wants to provide the highest quality water that meets all drinking water standards. You can be sure that we will continue to do everything to ensure that our water is always safe to drink.

Should any contaminant be detected within the raw water from our supply wells, the District will take the well off-line until such time that sufficient treatment is provided to remove the contaminant. The District currently maintains wellhead treatment systems at Plant Nos. 1, 5 and 8.

Should you have any questions about your water quality, please contact the Water District at 631.421.1812.



## DISTRICT CONTINUES WITH WATER CONSERVATION PROGRAM

The Dix Hills Water District has recently updated their Water Conservation Plan in an effort to reduce the overall pumpage of water from the Long Island aquifer system.

Starting in early spring, the water use patterns for the Dix Hills community takes a significant change. And once we reach the hot and dry days of the summer, we hit record water use.

On a typical winter day, the Dix Hills Water District pumps an average of 2.0 million gallons per day. That is about **50 gallons per day per person**, typical for most communities across the United States. However, on a hot summer day, the District sees a 900% increase in water use compared to the typical winter day.

All this extra water use can be directly attributed to lawn irrigation systems. On a hot summer day the total water demand can go as high as 18.0 million gallons per day! That calculates to over **440 gallons per day per person and 1,440 gallons per day per home**.

So why are we concerned about this peak water use? One reason is to make sure the District has enough water pumping capacity to meet the water use demands and have sufficient water remaining for fire protection. In addition, we don't have a totally unlimited supply of water in our underground aquifer system. While we do not think the Dix Hills Water District wells would be adversely impacted by over pumping of the aquifer, North Shore and South Shore water suppliers may have to be concerned with salt water intrusion.

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) in Stony Brook has requested all public water suppliers in Nassau and Suffolk Counties to continue implementing a water conservation program with the goal of reducing the peak water use in May through September by 15%. The Dix Hills Water District conservation efforts will include increased public education and awareness programs, enforcement of the District's ODD/EVEN irrigation restrictions, auditing of major water users and conducting a leak detection program.

One simple way you can assist the District in conserving water is to reduce the run times on your sprinkler controller. Try reducing each zone by 2 minutes. This will have little or no affect on your lawn but reduces your water use by 10 to 15%. So please help us conserve water and it will save you money on your water bill at the same time!



## WATER QUALITY REPORT

Enclosed with this newsletter is the Dix Hills Water District's Annual Water Supply Statement/Consumer Confidence Report for 2018. This report presents the facts about the quality of our water supply and summarizes the water quality sampling test results taken throughout 2018.

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 631.421.1812.

# MAINTAINING OUR INFRASTRUCTURE

The Dix Hills Water District’s capital improvement program and Master Plan includes the renovation of existing District facilities to improve reliability and ensure the delivery of clean and safe water to the Dix Hills consumers. Design for the rehabilitation of Water District’s Plant No. 3, located on the corner of Carlls Straight Path and the North Service Road began in March 2019 by H2M architects + engineers. The plant, constructed between 1962 and 1969, has three existing water supply wells housed in separate buildings. These wells service both the District’s high and low pressure zones.

As part of the rehabilitation, the three building exteriors will be renovated with new siding, trim, windows and roofs. The site will received a new perimeter fence and overgrown vegetation will be removed and new plantings installed.

The two existing 50-year old emergency diesel engines will be replaced with a single new cleaner burning natural gas generator in a sound attenuated enclosure. Chemical treatment systems for pH adjustment and disinfection will be updated. The plant’s electrical and mechanical equipment will be upgraded and modernized, eliminating confined spaces and make the plant operation more efficient.

Construction is expected to start Fall of 2019 and be completed by the Summer of 2020.

## DIX HILLS WATER DISTRICT FACTS AND FIGURES

|   |                 |
|---|-----------------|
| Cost of 10 gallons of water of Dix Hills Water                          | Only 1 cent!    |
| The amount of water the average person used in 2018                     | 51,780 gallons  |
| Percentage of total water pumped that we use for drinking and cooking   | Less than 1%    |
| Total water pumped that is used for lawn irrigation on a hot summer day | 90%             |
| Increase in water use from a winter day to a peak summer day            | 900%            |
| Peak water use time of day in the summer - due to lawn irrigation use   | 2 a.m. to 6 a.m |



### EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION SYSTEM

To improve communication in case of an emergency, the Dix Hills Water District, under the Town, has established Huntington Alert, a notification system that can deliver recorded warnings via telephone, e-mail, text or pager. The system can contact up to four telephone numbers until it reaches the designated party. The vendor the District/Town is using to implement this system is CODE RED. The Town uses a database that includes listed telephone numbers for residences and businesses in the Town and District. If you have an unlisted number, or if you prefer to be called at some alternate number such as your cell phone, go to: [huntingtonny.gov/alert](http://huntingtonny.gov/alert), and enter your contact information. You can also go to the homepage and click on the “Huntington Alert” button and follow the instructions on the next screen which will take you to the CODE RED site.

I want to be here for you.

If only our water infrastructure could talk to us. The corner hydrant might remind us that only tap water protects us against the threat of fire, and that the pipes below our streets need constant attention to keep life-saving water flowing at the right pressure, 24/7, without fail.

We are all stewards of the water infrastructure generations before handed down to us, and our water bills keep that system strong and reliable. For more information about what your tap water delivers, visit <http://huntingtonny.gov>



Only Tap Water Delivers™



Presented in cooperation with  
Dix Hills Water District

American Water Works Association



A Newsletter From:  
Dix Hills Water District  
683 Caledonia Road  
Dix Hills, New York 11746

<http://huntingtonny.gov>

Celebrating our 66<sup>th</sup> Year of Providing Water to Dix Hills

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## MANDATORY IRRIGATION RESTRICTIONS

The District has established mandatory irrigation restrictions. These restrictions are designed to conserve water and to make sure there is an adequate supply in the event of an emergency.

The restrictions follow the following schedule:

- Houses with ODD numbered street addresses may irrigate on ODD numbered days only
- Houses with EVEN numbered street addresses may irrigate on EVEN numbered days only

Warnings and fines may be imposed on those who fail to comply. Thank you for your cooperation! This mandatory restriction is in effect from **May 1st through September 30th.**



In addition to the ODD/EVEN restrictions, we ask that you follow some of these simple rules to help conserve water:

- Irrigate your grass with only approximately 1" of water per week. Over watering can actually damage your lawn.
- Install a rain or soil sensor for your irrigation system.
- Consider irrigation times to off-peak hours and reducing zone running times.

If everyone helps to conserve a small amount of water, the Dix Hills Water District will be able to supply a safe and reliable source of water for future generations.

**DIX HILLS WATER DISTRICT**