Dix Hills Water District
Water News

A Newsletter Concerning Our Water Supply — Spring 2016

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"Celebrating our 63rd Year of Providing Water to Dix Hills"
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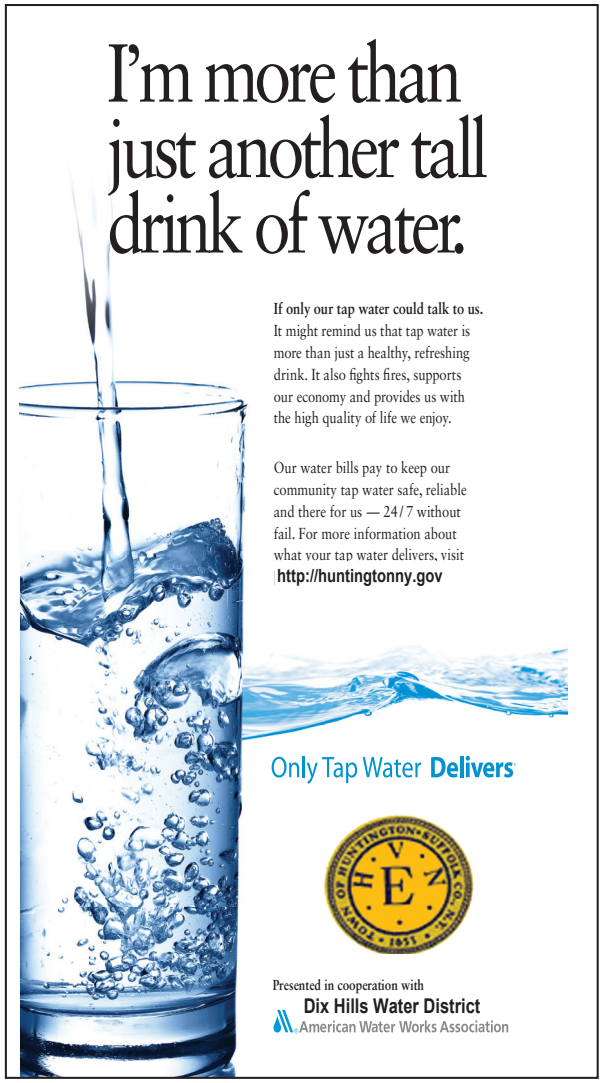
CONTINUOUSLY TESTED DRINKING WATER QUALITY

With the recent water crisis in Flint, Michigan, you may be wondering - How is our water quality in Dix Hills? The Dix Hills 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 2015 Annual Water Supply Statement/Consumer Confidence Report has been prepared to summarize the water quality of our water over the last year. As shown in the report, our water meets or exceed 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 5,000 tests annually, checking for over 180 different parameters", stated Supervisor Frank Petrone. These parameters include heavy metals, inorganic compounds, volatile organic compounds, herbicides, pesticides, as well as bacteriological tests.

In addition, the District conducts a special lead testing program to ensure we do not have lead from piping and plumbing fixtures leaching into our drinking water. The Water District has also been providing corrosion control treatment to our water for over 30 years. It should also be noted that we do not use lead service line pipes like those used in older cities.



The Dix Hills Water District staff takes pride in delivering its residents a safe supply of water. You can be sure that we will continue to do everything to ensure that our water is always safe to drink. Should you have any questions about your water quality or the enclosed water quality report, please contact the District at 631.421.1812.

PROTECTING OUR AQUIFER

Long Island is blessed with a valuable natural resource that many residents take for granted - our underground aquifer system. It is estimated that over 30 trillion gallons of fresh water is stored below the surface of Nassau and Suffolk Counties. Our groundwater system has been designated by the USEPA as a sole source aquifer. Noting that over 3 million people rely on this aquifer system as our only source of drinking water, it is essential that we do everything we can to protect it from contamination.

With 3 million people living, working and playing directly above our water supply, there is bound to be potential for contamination. We need to constantly remind ourselves, we need to protect our water supply for future generations of Long Islanders. The Town of Huntington and the Suffolk County Department of Health Services has implemented numerous regulations to protect our drinking water.
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What can we as residents of Dix Hills do to assit in protecting our aquifers? Most of it is common sense. A few ideas include:

- Never dispose of medications and prescription drugs by flushing them down the toilet. Put them into the trash or bring them to a County run drug disposal program.
- Don't over fertilize your lawns. Follow manufacturer's application instructions.
- Don't dispose of chemicals, paints, waste oil by pouring them into the ground or storm drain. Use the Town's STOP Program.
- Conserve water. Follow the ODD-EVEN lawn irrigation restriction rules.

We encourage you to visit the website www.liaquifercommission.com for additional tips for protecting our aquifer. LICAP (Long Island Commission for Aquifer Protection) is a newly formed Commission that brings together many stakeholders to organize regional approaches to protecting the aquifer. And we are fortunate that a Dix Hills resident and a member of the Dix Hills Water District Citizens Advisory Committee, Jared Hershkowitz, is a member of this Commission.

DIX HILLS WATER DISTRICT FACTS AND FIGURES

Population Served	41,000
Cost of Water	Less than $0.01 per gallon
Gallons of Water Pumped	2.22 billion gallons in 2015
Miles of Water Main	80 Miles
Number of Water Quality Tests	10,000 per year
Average Per Person Water Use	180 gallons per day

WATER QUALITY REPORT

Enclosed with this newsletter is the Dix Hills Water District's Annual Water Supply Report for 2015. This report presents the facts about the quality of our water supply and summarizes the water quality sampling test results taken throughout 2015.

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.

HUNTINGTON ALERT

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, you need to go to the Town's website, http://huntingtonny.gov, and enter your contact information. Click on the "Huntington Alert" icon on the home page and follow the instructions on the next screen which will take you to the CODE RED site.

NEED FOR WATER CONSERVATION

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

This weather is great for the people who love the beach. But it put a significant strain on the water suppliers of Long Island.

The Dix Hills Water District pumped 2.22 billion gallons of water during 2015. On the peak hot summer days the District was pumping upward of 20 million gallons per day. That is more than 10 times the amount we pump on typical winter day.

Why such a big increase in water use? It all can be attributed to lawn sprinkler systems. It is estimated that over 90 percent of the water pumped on a hot summer day goes directly onto the lawns throughout Dix Hills. And what time of day has the highest water demand? It is between 2:00 a.m. and 6:00 a.m., when everyone has their automatic sprinkler system operating.

In order to lessen the water demand on hot summer days, the Water District needs the help of its residents. The Dix Hills Water District has established mandatory irrigation restrictions that require that you set your sprinkler system to be operated on the ODD-EVEN days of month depending on the ODD-EVEN address of your home. Please see page 4 of this newsletter for more details on the program. Our lawns do not need to be watered every day. Studies have shown that every other day irrigation will promote deep root growth and produce a healthier lawn. ***So please help us conserve water!***

A Newsletter From:
Dix Hills Water District
683 Caledonia Road
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http://huntingtonny.gov

Celebrating our 63rd 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 moving your irrigation times to off-peak hours.

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