

GREENLAWN

Spring 2010 Water District Report

Water is precious...use it wisely

Cost Controls and Preventive Planning Benefit All

There hasn't been a water rate or tax increase in the Greenlawn Water District since 2005...and there will not be one in 2010 thanks to an aggressive preventive maintenance program.

Weather and daily usage take a toll on wells, pumps, hydrants, buildings as well as our 200 miles of water mains. Budgeting for infrastructure improvements along with preventive maintenance has kept our equipment and facilities performing according to plan and has ensured water quality without increasing operating expenses...for the fifth consecutive year.

"It's a matter of developing and implementing both a short term plan and a long term plan that are based in reality," Commissioner John McLaughlin stated. *"Everyone knows times are tough, so our budget projections and maintenance forecasts include preventive maintenance. We're prepared to catch potential problems before something happens or breaks. This saves dollars and ensures uninterrupted water delivery. And since we GWD residents control our own destiny, the result is that our water is of the highest quality and is one of the lowest utility costs of all."*

THE FACTS:

- The rate for the first 8,000 gallons of Greenlawn's finest has been \$10.00 since 2005.
- No increase in fire sprinkler annual flat rate since 2001.
- GWD water is still less than 2% of a typical annual tax assessment.



(Left to Right) Commissioners Bill Wieck, John McLaughlin, and James Logan.

Phase II of Tank III

No one can predict Mother Nature's whims. A very cold winter and a spring with record snowfall and rain have slowed the scheduled maintenance of Tank 3 at Wicks Road and Larkfield Road in Commack. But the project is nearing completion, and it is still on budget! The GWD greatly appreciates your patience.

"The scheduled refurbishment was begun in 2009," Commissioner Bill Wieck noted. *"It's a large project. The elevated tank is 210 feet tall and handles one million gallons of Greenlawn's finest."*

Built in 1955, the tank required both interior and exterior painting.

"The interior refurbishment is finished," Commissioner Jim Logan commented. *"And the exterior ladders and railings have been upgraded to comply with OSHA regulations. We're about 99% complete."*

The Board of Commissioners had budgeted a total of some \$3.1 million for the Well 13 and Tank 3 projects with approximately \$2 million for the latter. No bonds were issued and no additional debt service payments or interest have been added.

Call Superintendent Bob Santoriello directly with any questions at (631) 261-0926.

Snapshot

Frank DeMayo has been with the Greenlawn Water District since September 1994 and became the Crew Leader in 1998. He is a Greenlawn resident and graduated from Harborfields High School in 1983. Frank has been a member of the Greenlawn Fire Department since 1985, serving as Chief of the Department in 2001 and 2002.



Well 13 Gets Carbon Filtration

Well 13 at Elmo Place is being upgraded with the same treatment added to Well 11 in 2009. This entails the addition of granular activated carbon (GAC) filtration to the well which operates at a rate of 1,200 gallons per minute. The granular carbon system will go online in the summer.

“Essentially, the filters contain highly porous carbon particles which display extremely large surface areas,”

Commissioner McLaughlin said.

“A single pound of carbon has a surface area equal to 125 acres!”

The contaminants actually stick to and bond with the carbon in the filter. Typically, activated carbon filters work extremely well at removing most contaminants found in drinking water.”

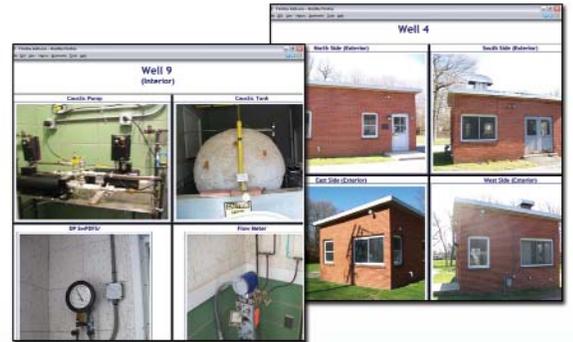
The GWD is constructing a new building to house the carbon vessels and related equipment. When complete it will have the appearance of a residential home.



FMS and GIS Technology Add Capabilities

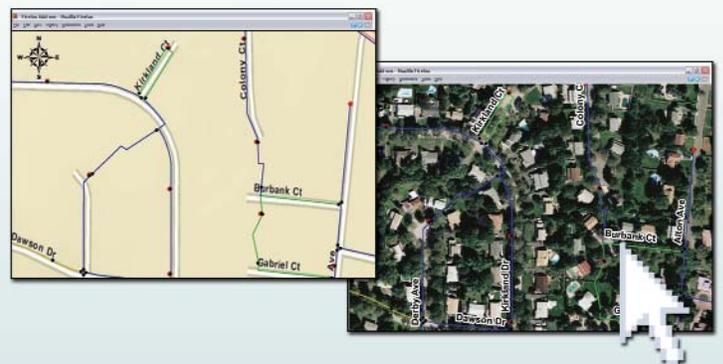
FMS

A browser-based system, the new GWD Facility Management System provides convenient access to facility information virtually instantly. The FMS system is constructed using digital maps, images and/or photographs of each specific facility and links each element of the image to another “page” or menu where more detailed information is summarized. Information can be input from various sources such as operations and maintenance manuals, maintenance logs, drawings, maps, and more.



GIS

Another recently implemented improvement is the new Geographical Information System (GIS). GIS is a computer system that captures, stores, analyzes, manages and presents data linked by location and referenced geographically. GIS allows users to create interactive searches, analyze spatial information, edit data and present the results of all these operations.



Hometown Rule Makes Sense

The Greenlawn Water District operates 24/7 to ensure the safest, most plentiful water supply. We pride ourselves on a number of things including:

- No increase in water rates or taxes in 5 years.
- Water represents less than 2% of an average tax bill.
- The many successes we've enjoyed in many water taste contests.
- We've been operating independently on behalf of all District residents for 83 years.

There's more too. With hometown rule, GWD tax dollars go directly to the production of high quality water solely for the GWD community. They cover services, technology and infrastructure updates. Records of expenditures, income, distribution and management are public record. And GWD scrupulously adheres to all applicable standards. So why change? Surveys indicate that in a consolidated district, tax rates are likely to rise with redistribution of the financial burdens of other districts.



Commissioner McLaughlin remarked, *"One of the most important facts is that the Commissioners and most of the GWD team are residents of the District. Our roots are here. We have very close personal relationships and ties with the community. We care about what happens in Greenlawn. Keeping control local through elections where every registered resident can vote, assures a level of control and involvement that others on the outside can never hope to match."*

Commissioner Wieck stated, *"Greenlawn Water District tax dollars are used to support the wells and infrastructure right here in Greenlawn. Greenlawn residents should not be forced to subsidize some other area's water problems or management problems sixty miles away."*



Commissioner Logan added, *"New York has some of the nation's toughest regulations. We meet all testing regulations and frequently exceed them."*

The history of the GWD has been one of uninterrupted success. Back in 1927 when the GWD was formed, Greenlawn was a farming community. Times have changed, but the need for the safe, pure, low cost water delivery will never change. The GWD is pledged to this end.

2010 Election

The next GWD election for Commissioner is scheduled for Tuesday, December 14, 2010 at the Greenlawn Water District office, 45 Railroad Street. Polls will be open from 3 p.m. until 9 p.m. The forthcoming term will run from January 1, 2011 to December 31, 2013. To vote, you must be:

- A citizen of the USA.
- At least 18 years of age.
- A registered voter under the Suffolk County Permanent Registration on or before November 22, 2010.
- A resident of the Greenlawn Water District at least 30 days prior to the election.



Please visit our website at www.greenlawnwater.org or the Huntington town website www.huntington.ny.us.

As always you can call our office at **631-261-0874** for more information.

Hot Water Help

Your water heater might be working harder than it needs to, costing you precious dollars. Reduce the temperature on the unit to about 120 degrees, as the water doesn't need to be any hotter. If the unit is older than 12 years you may want to look into replacing it with a new, more energy-efficient model. Average savings: \$35 per year.

Saluting our Vets

Memorial Day is on the horizon. Originally called Decoration Day, the holiday was first enacted to honor the Union dead after the Civil War and officially became Memorial Day by Federal law in 1967.

In 1971 Memorial Day moved from May 30th to the last Monday in May to create a three-day holiday. The National Memorial Day Concert is held on the west lawn of the Capitol Building in Washington each year to honor those brave souls. The GWD proudly salutes all the men and women who have so unselfishly served the stars and stripes and given their all so that our nation might be safe and free.





Greenlawn Water District
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 www.greenlawnwater.org

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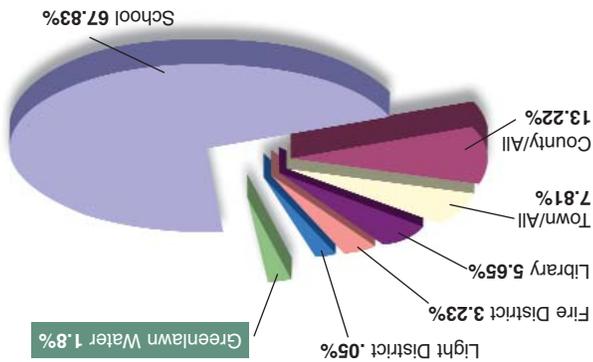
CREW LEADER
 Frank DeMayo

OFFICE MANAGER
 Marilyn Hopkin

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Typical Greenlawn Tax Assessment



Electronic Advantage

There are still some residents of the GWD with old style analog water meters. The new electronic water meters eliminate the need for GWD personnel to access your home, as they are read electronically by remote handheld devices that download directly to the GWD database. Call the GWD for replacement. There is no charge for the replacement.

With New Free Meters