



THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE GARDEN CITY PARK WATER DISTRICT

## KEEPING AN EYE ON WATER CONSERVATION

### Saving Water During Peak Summer Season

As we enter the warmer months of the year, it's common for us to spend more time outside tending to our lawns, gardens and landscapes. The Garden City Park Water District (GCPWD), serving Garden City Park, Manhasset Hills and parts of New Hyde Park, Mineola, North Hills, Roslyn, Williston Park, Albertson and Garden City, recognizes the importance of conservation, especially during the peak water pumping summer season. With demand at an all-time high, it's more important than ever to be aware of your water consumption.

The Board of Commissioners wants to make residents aware that Plant No. 9, which is currently under construction, may not be available and online until midsummer 2018. This can put an

GARDEN CITY PARK WATER DISTRICT – WATER USAGE 2017



even greater demand on the District's infrastructure, taxing our system even further during the peak season.

More importantly, the District has been responding to the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation's (NYSDEC) request that each water district set a goal to reduce water pumpage by 15 percent during the peak pumping season of May through September. According to the NYSDEC, this will help achieve safe yield estimates and reduce the need for added infrastructure to meet peak demand.

By working together as a community and addressing water conservation at home or place of business, we can collectively attain this goal and lessen the burden on our internal infrastructure.

## Outdoor Water Use Restrictions

### WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

In an effort to reduce water consumption by 15 percent during the peak pumping season, Garden City Park Water District reminds consumers about Nassau County and GCPWD Ordinances: **ABSOLUTELY NO WATERING BETWEEN 6:00 A.M. and 6:00 P.M.**

Watering is permitted under the following conditions:

- Residents with even house numbers may water on even dates.
- Residents with odd house numbers may water on odd dates.
- Premises without numbered addresses may water on even dates.

The above ordinances apply to automatic, time-controlled irrigation systems and manually operated systems.



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## A Message From Superintendent Mike Levy

Welcome to our 2018 Spring newsletter. As we embrace warmer weather, it's important that we all be mindful of water conservation during these upcoming summer months. Conservation is key, and we will continually educate our consumers about the importance of water conservation.



Now more than ever, we need the assistance of our community to adopt a conservation model at home or your place of business. Water conservation is a responsibility we all share, and working together we can achieve our goal of reducing water consumption by 15 percent during peak pumping months (May-August).

Irrigation systems are in full swing and we continually turn on the spigot or tap to wash our cars, fill our pools and keep our landscapes healthy and beautiful. As we continue to move into the dog days of summer, be mindful of over-consumption and conserve where you can. Our newsletter is full of helpful tips, recommendations and suggestions to promote water conservation. These simple steps and reminders will go a long way and even help you save money on your water bill!

On behalf of the District, thank you for your commitment to conservation.

Enjoy the summer ahead!

*Michael Levy*  
Superintendent

## Simple Irrigation Tips For Your Home

Spring is in the air, the days are getting longer and Long Islanders are ready for warmer weather! As you start to tackle your outdoor chores, here are a few helpful conservation irrigation tips to grow a strong and healthy lawn:

- 01 Test each zone for leaks and have your irrigation system reviewed and tested by a professional. Many leaks are underground and go undetected.
- 02 If you spring a leak or find a busted line, don't hesitate to fix it. Irrigation leaks create enormous amounts of water loss and can cause a significant increase in your water bill. A telltale sign of a leak would be noticeable soggy areas on your lawn.
- 03 Turn the system on during the day to see what you're watering. Readjust sprinkler heads that may be spraying water onto unwanted areas such as sidewalks, patios or driveways.
- 04 If you operate your irrigation system with an automatic timer, be sure to monitor it. Don't just set it and forget it.
- 05 Please observe Nassau County Ordinances regarding watering: Odd-numbered homes water on odd-numbered days, even-numbered homes water on even-numbered days. Make sure you alter your watering day to comply with the law.
- 06 Check to ensure rain sensors are working properly.



## 1,4-Dioxane Update



## Taking Proactive Measures

Although the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has not yet set a standard for 1,4-dioxane, GCPWD is not waiting for a resolution. In fact, the District, with oversight from Nassau County Department of Health, has installed a treatment system at Plant No. 8 (which is off-line) to remove 1,4-dioxane through a chemical reaction and UV light. After treatment with chlorine and UV, levels are so low they can barely be detected.

It's important for consumers to know that 1,4-dioxane is used in everyday household products such as cosmetics, detergents, shampoos, deodorants, sunscreens and more. "We're concerned about it and we're taking action to treat our water," commented the Board of Commissioners. "And while our levels are quite low compared to other parts of Long Island, we're moving forward to create a solution."

This pilot program is part of the 2016 Bond Project and if proven successful, the treatment program will be implemented across the District.





## Fixing Household Water Leaks Helps Conserve Water

**\$ And Saves Money Too!**

- Finding and fixing household water leaks is not all that difficult. And you'll help conserve water while saving money on your water bill!
- Fixing household water leaks can save homeowners about 10 percent on their water bills.\*
- If you believe you have a leak from your toilet, don't let it sit. Toilet leak test strips are available at the District. Call and request one.
- Household leaks can waste more than 1 trillion gallons of water nationwide each year, which is equal to the annual household water use of more than 11 million homes.\*
- 10 percent of homes have leaks that waste 90 gallons of water or more per day!\*
- Common leaks found in the home include worn toilet flappers, dripping faucets and other leaking valves; all easy fixes!

\*Source: epa.gov



### Congratulations Chris and Dave

**Long Island Region Champions – Top Operators!**

We're proud to announce that David Dziomba and Christopher Tobin won the Long Island Region Top Operators competition and recently competed at the American Water Works Association (AWWA) spring program in Saratoga Springs, NY. David and Chris qualified as one of only three teams statewide. Congratulations Dave and Chris – You Earned It!

## Additional Water Main Within The District



As part of the Capital Improvement Program, the District began replacing the oldest sections of its 76 miles of main in October 2016. Since then, 6,000 feet has been added in the southeast portion of the District – Garden City Park – just south of Jericho Turnpike.

The 6-inch pipe has been replaced with 8-, 10- or 12-inch pipe and new hydrants will be installed to help provide better flow, volume and capacity. The improvements will also increase the life expectancy of the system and help local fire departments meet water pressure demands.

## Water Conservation For Landscapes and Gardens



Overwatering your garden has consequences and can cause root fungus. Conserving water and using it wisely helps create healthy landscapes and hardier vegetation. Here are a few tips to consider at home:

- ▶ Choose groundcovers that require less watering such as lavender, daylilies, marigolds and zinnias.
- ▶ Install a spring-loaded shutoff nozzle on each garden hose.
- ▶ Start a compost pile and add it to your garden. Mix in some wood chips or peat moss to boost water retention.
- ▶ Keep the length of your lawn approximately two inches long to help reduce evaporation and use less water.
- ▶ Leave grass clippings on the lawn to retain water and to help the grass grow thicker.
- ▶ Choose water saving containers with low water use in mind. They look great and your plants require infrequent watering.
- ▶ Add mulch to cover bare soil and slow water evaporation. Two inches of mulch will retain soil moisture AND reduce weeds from sprouting.
- ▶ Water inground plantings in the morning and containers in the afternoon. Research shows that watering late in the day leads to healthier plants.





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# PLANT NO. 9 RENOVATIONS UNDERWAY



## New Plant To Be Online – Summer 2018

Plant No. 9 has been undergoing a complete rebuild since 2016, which includes full modernization and automation. The original plant dates back to 1969 and it was necessary for the District to advance the system. The project is expected to be completed by mid-summer 2018 and we're expecting it to be fully operational and online to meet the demand of our peak pumping season.

Until then, the Board of Commissioners urges consumers to use water wisely and to conserve as much as possible to lessen the strain on the District's infrastructure.

This \$4 million bond project is nearing completion, and Plant No. 9 will add additional capacity to the entire water system for decades.