waterauthorityofgreatnecknorth.com

Spring/Summer 2022

## Watermill Lane Project on Schedule

he Authority's Board of Directors is working diligently to achieve its non-detect water quality standard and to provide customers with an uninterrupted flow of quality drinking water that meets all government guidelines, including new regulations set for 1,4-dioxane, PFOS and PFAS. Although its three Watermill Lane wells DO NOT exceed MCLs (maximum contaminant levels) for these substances, the Authority is doing all it can to get a state-of-the-art water treatment plant up and running by the end of the summer. With construction on schedule, the new modern facility will rely on a specific advanced oxidation process (AOP) and carbon filtration to remove contaminants that may be present in the water before it is pumped into the distribution system.

In addition to meeting and exceeding New York State's stringent quality standards of an allowable maximum level of 1-partper-billion for 1,4-dioxane and 10-parts-per-trillion for PFOS and PFAS, the Authority is faced with rising construction costs, supply chain shortages, limited availability of qualified professionals and a rush by area public water suppliers concurrently working to develop similar projects - challenges faced across the industry.

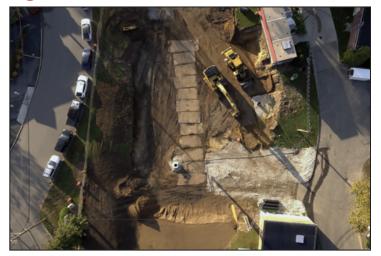
### Water Authority of Great Neck North

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These drone photos show the project at its early stage (top) and more recently (bottom).

This past January, the piles were driven and capped, cutting and reconnecting of 16-inch and 20-inch water main lines were completed; the basement slab was formed and additional rebar for the walls were put in place while some electrical work was performed.

In February, the concrete walls were poured; a majority of the backfill around the foundation was completed and accessible sheeting removed; underground piping, the well

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# Following Regulations Saves Water

- Sprinkling when the sun is low in the sky reduces the amount of water lost to evaporation.
- Winds tend to be calmer in the morning, so more water reaches the soil.
- Morning irrigation provides plants with a stash of water to help them get through the heat of the day.
- Since most landscapes require one to two inches of water a week, including rainfall, watering once or twice weekly is sufficient and reduces runoff.



#### **NO WATERING BETWEEN 10 AM & 4 PM**

**ODD NUMBERED ADDRESSES** may water on Monday, Wednesday & Friday.

**EVEN NUMBERED ADDRESSES** may water on Tuesday, Thursday & Sunday.

- Sprinkling is prohibited during periods of precipitation.
- A rain gauge or moisture sensor is required for all automatic lawn irrigation.

## Backflow Devices & Testing MANDATORY

The New York State Sanitary Code requires public water purveyors to enforce regulations that backflow devices be installed with irrigation systems, hot tubs, pools, new construction or other sources that could connect non-potable water with the potable water supply. The device is critical for preventing back-siphoning or reverse flow of potentially impure water back into the public drinking water system. This could be caused by a sudden drop in water pressure caused by a firefighting effort, water main break, hydrant flushing or other event.

Pursuant to the Code, Authority regulations require residents to have their backflow devices tested annually by a certified backflow tester. The paperwork must be submitted to the Authority each year by the required due date, located on the bottom of the second quarter bill.

Customers with in-ground sprinkler systems must also have their rain gauge/moisture sensors tested annually.

A link on the Authority's website home page (waterauthorityofgreatnecknorth.com) provides information about the Backflow Testing Program as well as an email address (backflowprogram@wagnn.org) for the convenience of submitting annual inspection reports via email.

## Watermill Lane Project on Schedule (continued from page 1)

and piping tie-in, buried processed piping and wall sleeves were installed and the Trojan AOP systems for all three wells were delivered.

In March, the steel work was finished; the upper floor concrete decking was poured and the block walls were started. The carbon vessels have been installed prior to the roof being constructed.

Despite the magnitude of the job and worldwide supply chain shortages, the Authority is pleased the project is on schedule and the contractor is meeting the expectations of the schedule while also performing the work in a professional, clean and orderly manner. Substantial completion of the project is expected by August 9 and contract completion by September 8.

## Irrigation Conservation Tips

### MODERNIZE IRRIGATION CONTROLS

Replacing antiquated equipment operated by clock-based timers with web-based smart controllers to make irrigation systems more efficient, improve the health of the landscape, minimize unnecessary water use and help save money. The Authority recommends contacting irrigation professionals as the controllers are affordable, not difficult to install, and easily programmable to your property's needs.

The technology, which auto-adjusts to weather and soil conditions, can be controlled by an onboard touchscreen, Smartphone app or web interface, is proven, reliable, easy to operate and a great enhancement to an automatic sprinkling system.

### MINIMIZE RUNOFF

When irrigating the landscape, using a "cycle and soak" method can save 20 percent on water use, at no cost, while producing the same green lawn and beautiful garden beds. Simply, program the timer to operate each sprinkling zone twice, at 40 percent of the time previously allotted, to minimize runoff and provide more water to the plant roots.



### INTRODUCE DROUGHT TOLERANT PLANTS

When developing a seasonal plan for the flower, herb and vegetable beds, choose drought-tolerant grasses, shrubs, perennials and annuals. Visit local nurseries and consult landscape professionals or horticulturists to explore the many options available on Long Island, while still enjoying magnificent gardens throughout the season.

Verbena, Cosmos, Portulaca, Sedum, Marigolds, Geranium and Zinnia are just a few examples of colorful flowers that can thrive with less water. For vegetable lovers, try planting eggplant, peppers, black-eyed peas, sweet potatoes and Sugar Baby Watermelon. Herbs such as oregano, rosemary and sage will also provide generous yields without long periods of sprinkling.

## Fee-Free Direct Debit Convenient Payment Option

onsumers have the opportunity to grant the Authority permission to automatically debit their identified bank account each billing period, 10 days prior to the bill due date. There are no service fees associated with the program.

Authorization forms are available on the Authority's website at waterauthorityofgreatnecknorth.com, under "Payment

Options," where an overview of the program and answers to frequently asked questions can also be found. Once completed, place the authorization form in an envelope, along with a voided check or savings account deposit slip, and mail it to the Authority, or email it to customerservice@wagnn.org. It can take up to 60 days to process a request.

Presorted Standard US Postage PAID Permit No.1532 Garden City, NY



50 Watermill Lane Great Neck, NY 11021 (516) 487-7973

Administrative Hours Monday to Friday 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

**24-Hour Emergency** (516) 482-0210

waterauthorityofgreatnecknorth.com

### eBill Reminder

ustomers can benefit from the convenience of the Authority's eBill Program by receiving invoices for water use by email instead of mail, making the whole process paperless. Additionally, any urgent messages that may be applicable are sent by email, so they are received sooner.

Sign up for the program by logging onto the Authority's website at www.waterauthorityof great necknorth.com. Complete and sign the eBill Approval and Authorization enrollment form and email it to customerservice@wagnn.org or mail or drop it off at the Water Authority of Great Neck North at 50 Watermill Lane, Great Neck, NY 11021-4235.

As outlined on the Authorization Form, the consent to receive eBills may be withdrawn at any time by sending a signed written letter by certified mail, return receipt requested, or by email to the Authority at *customerservice@wagnn.org*, providing your name, account number and service address. Updates or changes to an email address can be made by completing a new eBill Authorization Form.

### 2021 Water Quality Report Online

he Authority's 2021 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report can be conveniently accessed by consumers by logging onto

www.waterauthorityofgreatnecknorth.com/waterquality.html to learn about the excellent quality of the drinking water provided to their taps around-the-clock.

As outlined in the report, the water is tested throughout the year by an independent laboratory for more than 140 parameters. Results show it meets or exceeds all federal and state quality standards, without fail, all according to strict federal and state guidelines.

Information is provided about the source of the drinking water; water rates; conservation tips; improvements to the distribution system; pumpage figures and services delivered to consumers.

Data about the quality of the water is provided, along with the results of rigorous testing that can detect contaminants in quantities as small as one-part-per-billion.

Printed copies of the Annual Drinking Water Quality Report are available at the Authority's administrative office at 50 Watermill Lane in Great Neck. Consumers can call the Authority at (516) 487-7973 ext. 4, to receive a mailed copy.