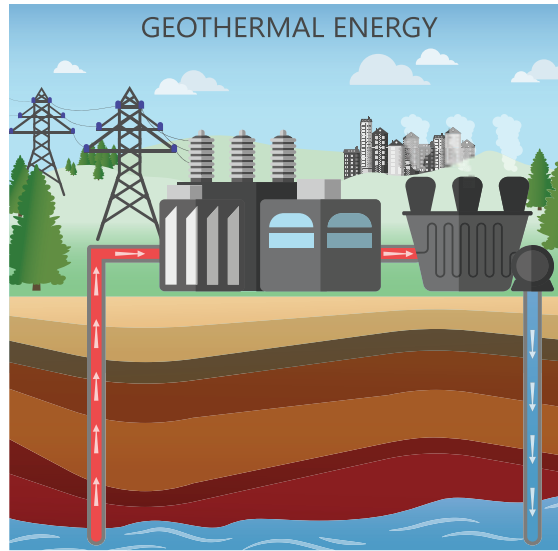


## Geothermal Wells: A Serious Threat to Our Water Supply

You may have heard about a new “green” subsurface water drilling process called Geothermal Wells. This process is a closed loop system wherein bore holes are drilled with a series of pipes installed into the opening and connected to a heat exchange system in the dwelling. The pipes are then filled with a heat transfer fluid, and the fluid is circulated through the piping from the opening into the heat exchanger and back. Systems like these are direct conduits for pollution to enter the aquifer. Consumers install Geothermal Wells in an attempt to “go green,” lower their heating costs, or update their property value.

**It is prohibited by our municipality to drill into any subsurface water sources, and there are several areas of concern related to such closed loop systems:**



1. Anytime a borehole is drilled into the Earth, the potential for contamination of the groundwater increases exponentially.
2. Leaks in the piping could allow the heat transfer fluid (antifreeze, ethylene glycol, propylene glycol and betaine) to enter the groundwater, which are potentially toxic to humans and animals.
3. Wells installed near sources of pollution, such as septic tanks, sewer laterals, drywells, and underground fuel tanks may allow pollutants to contaminate the groundwater and endanger the public health.
4. Wells affect the temperature and dissolved oxygen concentration, resulting in iron accumulation and mineralization of water in the surrounding area of the injection well, which could result in an increase of overall bacteria counts in the groundwater.
5. A borehole can also act as a connection between different aquifers or a zone of contamination and an aquifer, allowing contaminants to flow into an uncontaminated aquifer, resulting in contamination of both aquifers.
6. When a geothermal well's life has expired, nobody is responsible for removing the heat transfer fluid and capping off the well, leading to further pollution to enter the aquifer and also a liability for the homeowner.
7. No governmental agency or regulatory authority in New York has oversight or control of how these systems are actually being installed, leading to further issues with pollution due to improper set-up and maintenance.

The Water Authority of Great Neck North works tirelessly to ensure that all processes in place result in the safest, cleanest, and most regulated water available for our Long Island community. The risks of pollution from Geothermal Wells far exceeds any benefit of installing such a system, and compromises all measures taken to provide water that is free from contamination.



**Buyer Beware: Water Filtration Systems!**



Our water meets or exceeds all local, state and federal drinking water standards, and our latest report can be found on our website.

To receive a printed copy, contact the Authority at: **(516) 487-7973.**

### Water Authority of Great Neck North **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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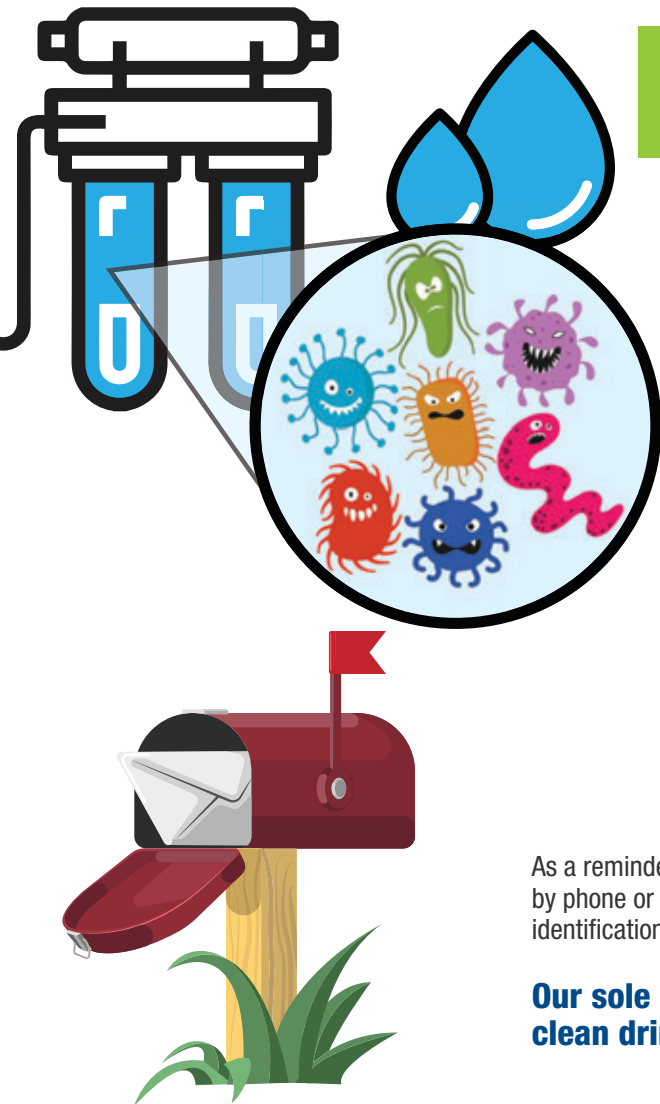
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## 2023 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

# BUYER BEWARE: WATER FILTRATION SYSTEMS!



## If They're NOT From the Water Authority, Then They Have NO Authority!

Recently, residents have reported receiving mailings from companies offering to test their home drinking water, under the false pretense that the companies represent the Authority and with the intention of convincing unsuspecting consumers of purchasing expensive home filtration systems. These mailings and pieces of literature often ask questions about the quality and condition of the water you use, what kind of testing is performed on your water, and if you currently use a filtration system.

Please be aware of mailers, slick advertising or smooth-talking sales representatives from home filtration systems. While these may be legitimate companies, they **do not represent the Water Authority of Great Neck North**. Moreover, the water provided by the Authority to the tap meets or exceeds stringent quality standards set by local and state Departments of Health and the Environmental Protection Agency, and is monitored and tested regularly.

Furthermore, if not properly maintained, a home water filtration system can become harmful to your health. Faulty installation or infrequent changes of filters can allow bacteria growth and movement into the tap water, among other concerns, while also potentially costing you thousands of dollars in repairs.

As a reminder, the only way a representative from the Authority will contact you is in advance by phone or email to set up an appointment. Also, at the time of your appointment, proper identification will be presented indicating employment with the Authority.

**Our sole mission is to provide residents with the best, safest, clean drinking water at a reasonable price.**

## REMINDER: BACKFLOW TESTING IS MANDATORY!

### HOMEOWNERS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR ANNUAL TESTING



Backflow devices prevent contamination and pollution from entering our drinking water. They are required on irrigation systems, pools, hot tubs and fire sprinkler systems, and need to be tested annually by a certified backflow tester chosen by you. Failure to comply can result in fines and eventual discontinuation of water services.

Visit [www.waterauthorityofgreatnecknorth.com](http://www.waterauthorityofgreatnecknorth.com) for a list of certified backflow testers, guidelines, fees, and shut-off dates.

**EMAIL BACKFLOW TESTS TO: [backflowprogram@wagann.org](mailto:backflowprogram@wagann.org) - Include your address and account number in the subject line. If you have any questions, call us at (516) 487-7973.**

# MAIN EVENT:

## BOTTLED WATER VS. TAP WATER

Despite the accessibility of regularly tested and high-quality tap water, bottled water consumption has increased greatly over the last few years. However, there are certain risks associated with bottled water that are difficult to avoid, especially given the relative benefits of tap water. Here are some eye-opening reasons why you should choose tap water over bottled water!

### Tap Water Is Inexpensive and Convenient

Everyone loves to save money, and why not start with tap water? The Authority works to keep costs low, and tap water is always available. Bottled water can cost anywhere from 250 to 1,000 times as much as tap water. And there's no need to make a pit stop at the store to get your water fix!

### Tap Water is Tested Regularly and is Monitored by the EPA, NYSDOH and NCDOH

Tap water is constantly tested and meets or exceeds all local and federal standards for water quality. It is also closely monitored by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) and Nassau County Department of Health (NCDOH). Bottled water does not have the same rigorous testing procedures and is monitored by the Food & Drug Association (FDA). This does not mean that bottled water is inherently unsafe, but small pieces of microplastic have been found in bottled water. This can cause negative health effects in some consumers and harm marine life as well.

### Tap Water Tastes Just as Good as Bottled Water

This one is simple, but effective! Taste matters, and there is no clear winner between the two options. Still, you can't go wrong with filling up at home instead of the store!

### Bottled Water Has a Greater Environmental Impact

With the total number of plastic bottles consumed on an annual basis, there is no way around a negative impact on the environment. It is estimated that only around 20% of plastic water bottles in the United States get recycled, which leads to bottles winding up in landfills and bodies of water. Plastic bottles also release toxins as they degrade over time.

## The choice is ultimately yours, but it looks like we have a clear winner in this epic showdown: Tap Water!



## Reminder: We've Made It Easier for You To Pay!

### GO PAPERLESS WITH eBILLING



No more wasted paper! Go paperless and receive your water bill and notices online. Registration is simple. Visit the billing section of our website, download the authorization form, and email the completed form to [customerservice@wagnn.org](mailto:customerservice@wagnn.org) or drop it off with payment to the office.

### Prefer to Pay a Different Way? We've Got You Covered!

**In Person:** 50 Watermill Lane, Great Neck  
Monday - Friday: 8a - 4p, Cash, Personal Checks and Credit Card Payments are accepted.

### Drop Box in Office Vestibule:

Personal, Bank or Cashier's Checks ONLY

**By Phone:** (516) 774-4001 - E-check or Credit Card

### Direct Debit:

[www.waterauthorityofgreatnecknorth.com/billing-debit.html](http://www.waterauthorityofgreatnecknorth.com/billing-debit.html)

**Pay Online:** Through Smart Energy Water, customers can pay utilizing a secure, third-party provider. Convenience Fees will apply. The Authority does not receive this fee.

### For more information on payment options, visit:

[www.waterauthorityofgreatnecknorth.com/billing.html](http://www.waterauthorityofgreatnecknorth.com/billing.html)





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Monday through Friday  
8 a.m. - 4 p.m.  
(516) 487-7973

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

[www.waterauthorityofgreatnecknorth.com](http://www.waterauthorityofgreatnecknorth.com)

# Water Conservation Tips for Summer

Ahhhh Summer! As the warm weather rapidly approaches, please consider these useful tips to help conserve our planet's most valuable resource:

- 1 Water early in the morning when evaporation loss is minimal
- 2 Observe proper watering days outlined in our 'Irrigation Guidelines'
- 3 Use short, repeated watering cycles to deliver water at a rate soil can absorb it
- 4 Replace old irrigation controls with smart sensors, which helps minimize unnecessary watering
- 5 Frequently check underground sprinklers, pools and spas, and repair those pesky leaks

**Bonus Tip: Don't forget to have FUN!**

# IRRIGATION GUIDELINES

The Water Authority of Great Neck North adheres to an Odd/Even watering schedule as follows:

- No watering between 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.
- No irrigation during periods of rain
- A rain gauge or moisture sensor is required for automatic lawn irrigation systems

**Odd numbered addresses water:**  
Monday, Wednesday & Friday

**Even numbered addresses water:**  
Tuesday, Thursday & Sunday

