

ALBERTSON

WATER DISTRICT NEWS

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COVID-19 UPDATE

The COVID-19 pandemic was unanticipated in its advance and remains unprecedented in its scope. No community was left untouched. Despite the onslaught of the virus, delivery of water is not optional, it is a necessity, and as essential workers who enable the delivery, the team at the Albertson Water District met the challenge head on.

We are pleased to report that District employees worked through the worst of the Coronavirus pandemic without incident, adapting work schedules as needed and always following CDC, New York State and Town of North Hempstead guidelines.

"We recognized that potential demand could increase dramatically with more residents at home..."



Commissioner
Richard Ockovic

"It was extremely difficult to get a grip on the developing situation, so essentially we had to be prepared to battle an unseen enemy no matter what happened," Commissioner Richard Ockovic stated. "Superintendent Rudolph Henriksen and our commissioners devised a plan to maintain uninterrupted delivery 24/7 with maximum safety for all during this emergency situation."

"We recognized that potential demand could increase dramatically with more residents at home working remotely, kids doing remote learning and older kids home from college. But we were prepared, and the plan worked to meet the demand."



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1 is the loneliest number

Meeting the new state regulations.

When the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) issued aggressive new water quality regulations in August, 2020, the Albertson Water District was proactively designing treatment for Well 3A at Hollow Court. Although the well had not exceeded the Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) for 1,4-Dioxane, PFOA, or PFOS, it was approaching 50% of the MCLs for PFOA and PFOS and 80% of the MCL for 1,4-Dioxane.



The design of an advanced oxidation process (AOP) facility at Well 3A is approximately 25% complete. A Basis of Design Report (BODR)

for the proposed treatment facility will be submitted to the NYSDOH and Nassau County Department of Health (NCDH) which will summarize the features of the proposed facility.

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A Winter Wonderland?

Winter can be a white wonderland, but it isn't all candy canes, cakes and candles. With some preventive activity you won't have to worry about winter's icy cold freezing your pipes or damaging your home!

OUTSIDE

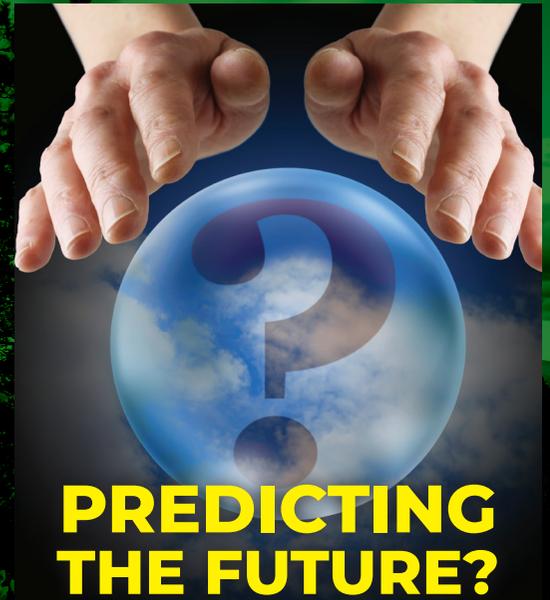
- Disconnect and drain outside hoses and store them inside for the winter.
- Turn off outside spigots from inside your home and leave the spigot open to allow it to drain. This will save them from being damaged by ice.
- Check that the water meter pit cover is securely locked down and not cracked or broken.
- Have professionals winterize underground irrigation systems, including blow out, to clear the system of all water.
- Turn off all automatic timers and supply valves.

INSIDE

- Foam pipe insulation on pipes in unheated areas can prevent freezing.
- Seal all leaks that allow cold air to flow in.
- Mark your main water valve for emergency situations, just in case. (They are usually located in the basement and in line with the meter pit in your front yard).

CALLING ALL SNOWBIRDS!

- We all can't head south for the season, but if you do, have a plumber winterize your home before you fly away.



The tv, radio and social media people who provide our weather forecasts have a thankless job, as no one can always predict Mother Nature's whims. The very dry summer we experienced in 2020 is a good example, and points out the need for the Long Island region to conserve water for long term sustainability and to satisfy New York State mandates.

"We're blessed with a wonderful aquifer system, but it is both delicate and a single source resource," Commissioner Howard Abbondandolo commented. "We need to respect it. Conservation today affects water resources for the future. We can never ignore the possibility that emerging contaminants from Long Island's farming and industrial past, including right here in the Albertson - Roslyn Heights area, could endanger the future supply we bequeath to our grandchildren. Conservation of our precious resource now, in 2020, can mean true sustainability of our water supply for the future. Fix leaks. Obey summer usage rules. Small steps mean big savings."

COVID-19 *...continued from page 1*

Life at the District changed immediately as controls were put in place. The District restricted office access at 184 Shepherd Lane to protect both AWD people and the public. "We instituted strict hygiene practices," Commissioner Ockovic added. "We also promoted drop box usage and the mailing of bill payments as we communicated with the public through our website postings and through our newsletter outreach. And the water continued to flow without interruption."



Commissioner
Howard Abbondandolo



The Loneliest Number

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The existing facility is equipped with a packed tower aeration system (PTAS) for removal of volatile organic compounds (VOCs) in the raw water. The proposed AOP treatment will be installed downstream of the existing PTAS. Granular Activated Carbon (GAC) vessels will be installed downstream of the AOP facility for quenching of excess hydrogen peroxide and removal of PFOA and PFOS.

This project will likely require rehabilitation of other components including demolishing and replacing the existing booster pump and treatment building, reconfiguring site piping, installation of a new emergency generator and upgrading the electrical service. Total project costs including contingencies are estimated to be \$10,466,000. We will apply for a grant for Well 3A if New York State issues a new round of funding. Well 3A will be out of service for about a year because the existing treatment facility must be demolished to make room for the new facility.

BOND ISSUE:

A capital improvement program has been implemented along with a bond issue request that addresses various projects, including:

- Well Station No. 2 replacement and miscellaneous improvements
- Well Station No. 3A 1,4-Dioxane and PFOS treatment
- Well Station No. 4 PFOS treatment
- SCADA system
- Shepherd Lane ground storage tank rehabilitation
- Shepherd Lane elevated storage tank replacement (tentative)



WATER LEAKS: LISTEN TO THIS!

Fixing distribution system leaks conserves water. “From our spring hydrant flushing program to our continuing cross connection program, we constantly check for leaks,” Commissioner Ken Vey explained, “and acoustics can play a big role in detection.”

The loudness and frequency range of water leaks in subterranean, pressurized pipes are affected by:

- Water pressure
- Pipe materials/diameters
- Soil type and compaction
- Depth of soil over the pipe
- Surface cover: grass, loose soil, asphalt, concrete, etc.

Once detected, further investigation determines the leak location and repairs are made by District personnel. If water flow is detected after the water meter, or in instances where only the curb stop is accessible, it is the homeowner’s responsibility to make the repairs.

“If you know of leaks in your home please have them repaired,” Commissioner Vey added. “This will save you money and help conserve our most precious natural resource.”



Commissioner Ken Vey

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VOTE★VOTE★VOTE★VOTE★VOTE★VOTE

Water Commissioner Election!

December 8th

Local level voting is part of the American fiber. The annual election of an Albertson Water Commissioner is for a 3-year term, beginning January 1, 2021 and running through December 31, 2023.

When: Tuesday, December 8, 2020

Where: Albertson Fire House, 100 I.U. Willets Road, Albertson, New York.

Time: 3:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Eligibility: Section 213 of the Town Law of the State of New York provides that no person shall be entitled to vote for improvement district commissioners unless he or she is a registered voter and a resident of the Albertson Water District a minimum of 30 days prior to election date. Contact us at **516.621.3610**, or visit our website **www.albertsonwater.org** for more information.