



# ALBERTSON

## WATER DISTRICT NEWS

Volume 15, Number 1 • SPRING 2024

# LEAD AND

# COPPER

# RULE REVISION

## WHAT IT MEANS TO ALBERTSON WATER DISTRICT CUSTOMERS

As part of the most recent revisions to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Lead and Copper Rule Revision (LCRR), water suppliers across America are charged with taking inventory of all public and private water service lines to determine if they are galvanized, lead or copper.

Here in Albertson, we are happy to report that our initial inventory shows no indication of galvanized or lead service lines. Despite knowing this, we will be following the EPA guidelines and conducting a full inventory assessment across the District. Although we do not see any galvanized or lead service lines within a home or business at this time, we do believe a handful of residents may have a galvanized or lead connector at the curbside, which we will swap out for customers at no charge. Rest assured that whether you have a lead connector or not, our water is tested regularly and is safe for all to drink and enjoy.

It is our responsibility to provide this report to the EPA as part of this program and to ensure the safety of our water. We wish to thank everyone in the community for their understanding and cooperation during this process.

Customers can contact the Albertson Water District (AWD) to schedule a complimentary assessment of your home or building if we cannot determine if galvanized or lead service water lines exist within the dwelling. The cost to replace those lines within the home or building will be the responsibility of the homeowner or business owner.

### Town of North Hempstead Offers Replacement Grant

Grant dollars may be available to offset this cost should it become necessary. More information on the grant is available through the Town of North Hempstead Community Development Agency and their website, [www.northhempsteadny.gov/CDALPRG](http://www.northhempsteadny.gov/CDALPRG).



SCAN HERE

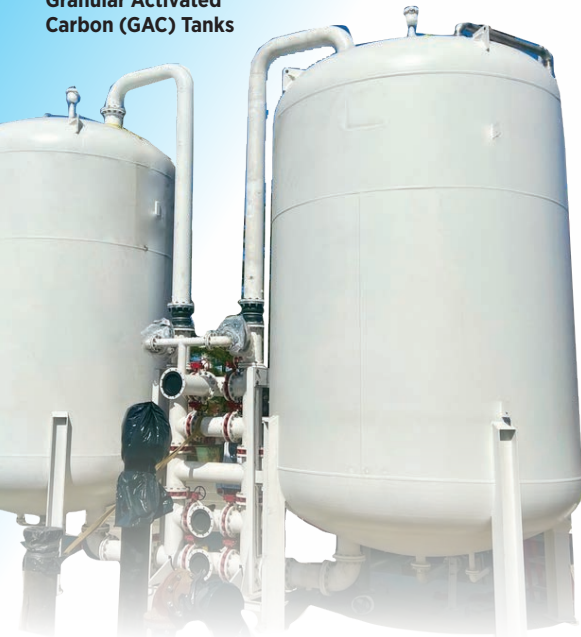


# CAPITAL PROJECTS



As the local, state and federal regulations for drinking water continue to evolve, it is of primary importance for the Albertson Water District to move forward with safeguarding its water supply. You may have read about the recent announcement from the Environmental Protection Agency to lower the PFOA and PFAS levels in drinking water all across the country. “The regulation of our water supply is not just a local issue, but a national concern,” said Superintendent Rudolph Henriksen. “The Albertson Water District commends the EPA for setting a national standard on PFOA and PFAS, and we are up for the challenge.”

**Granular Activated Carbon (GAC) Tanks**



The District has been making careful choices on advancements with our capital work, which we are happy to share with you, and we’ve been conscientious to uphold our fiduciary responsibility to taxpayers.

## Well No. 3 AOP Treatment System

All bids for this project were rejected and will be rebid.

## Well No. 4 GAC

The Granular Activated Carbon system (GAC) at well No. 4 is substantially complete and finally ready to be put online. As this site is a vital part of the District’s distribution system no other projects can be started until this well is put back into service.

## Funston Avenue Water Main Replacement

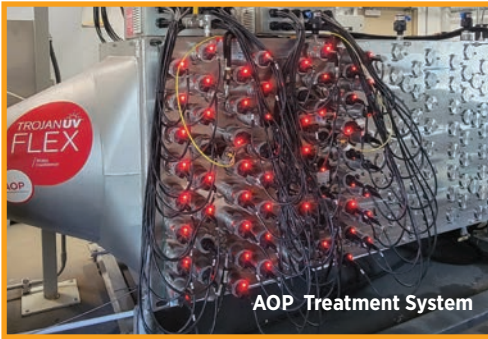
In compliance with the Lead and Copper Rule Revision, a new water main has been installed on Funston Avenue. This project is complete and in service.

## Transmission Main Installation on Albertson Avenue and Yale Street in Roslyn Heights

A recent hydraulic study of the District’s water system showed that the installation of the transmission mains was necessary when Well 3A is removed from service to meet Nassau County and New York State Department of Health new mandates. This project began in early May as all approvals from Nassau County Department of Health have been received.

## Bond Reorganization

On April 16, 2024, a bond reorganization public hearing was held to discuss why the reorganization of the 2020 bond was necessary. The 2020 bond had projects that were no longer a priority as compared to the new treatment facilities mandated by all government agencies. To meet the new guidelines and dates, the District had no choice but to change the contents of the existing bond. Trivial as it is, the dollar value of the reorganization is \$31,481,591 compared to the 2020 bond of \$31,482,000. A savings of \$409.



**AOP Treatment System**

# COMMISSIONER UPDATES

**COMMISSIONER** Brian Hassan



Following his appointment by the Town of North Hempstead to fill a vacancy when a commissioner stepped down, Mr. Hassan was formally elected as a water commissioner for a 3-year term beginning January 1, 2024. Since his tenure began, Commissioner Hassan has made some very important and integral decisions to drive our District forward.

**COMMISSIONER** Janell Giordano



Commissioner Giordano is very involved in the District. She attends the Long Island Water Conference meetings and the Nassau Suffolk Water Commissioners’ Association meetings to help broaden approach to solving challenges faced by water service providers. . . not only for today, but for our future.

**COMMISSIONER** Emmanoyil Vlepakis



Meet the Albertson Water District’s newest Commissioner, Mr. Emmanoyil (Manny) Vlepakis. Commissioner Vlepakis has been an Albertson resident for more than 15 years. He has been a member of the Albertson Square Civic Association since 2008 and joined its executive board in 2012. In that role, he is responsible for community outreach and for monthly inspections of outside operational structures including the Albertson Kiosk. Commissioner Vlepakis is a NYS licensed and ASHA certified speech-language pathologist with over 20 years of clinical experience. With a proactive and results-driven approach, he is eager to contribute to and maintain the public responsiveness that was established by former Albertson Water Commissioner Edward Scott and fellow Commissioners.

# BACKFLOW TESTING & COMPLIANCE

**Backflow prevention devices are designed to protect the public water supply against contamination.**

## **Q: What is backflow?**

**A:** Backflow is the opposite of normal water flow, where non-potable water or liquids flow back into the public water supply or back into your home or business drinking water system.

## **Q: Is backflow hazardous?**

**A:** Considering that water in your home or business could be siphoned backwards into the public water main and cause public health threats, yes, backflows are potentially very hazardous.

## **Q: How do backflows occur?**

**A:** Backflow situations most often happen when water main breaks or damaged hydrants create low or negative street pressure.

## **Q: Are there different types of backflow prevention devices?**

**A:** Yes. There are many types of devices, but the most common residential device is a Double Check Valve (DCV).

## **Responsibilities Under the Law**

The AWD is charged by New York State and the Nassau County Department of Health to enforce the use of protective backflow devices with the use of underground irrigation systems.

## **Backflow regulations include:**

- Installation (or modification) of an underground irrigation system requires a permit
- Installations must include a backflow prevention device
- Inspection of completed systems prior to the issuance of a permit is mandatory
- Annual testing by a NYS certified backflow tester is mandatory

## **TrackMyBackflow.com**

The Albertson Water District has partnered with Aqua Backflow to assist with its backflow program operations. The District will be utilizing the TrackMyBackflow.com tracking website, which will alert customers when backflow testing is due and how to submit the proper paperwork to the District.

- 1. The District will no longer be accepting backflow test results directly.**
- 2. All backflow test results must be submitted on TrackMyBackflow.com.**
- 3. The District is assuming all costs to submit tests to Aqua Backflow.**

All local certified backflow inspectors have been notified of this change. When hiring a backflow tester, be sure to verify they are connected to us through Aqua Backflow and will submit your test results to the AWD through TrackMyBackflow.com.

More information can be found on our website, [www.albertsonwater.org](http://www.albertsonwater.org), by clicking on the **Backflow** tab.



# ALBERTSON WATER DISTRICT

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**Commissioners:**  
Janell Giordano  
Brian Hassan  
Emmanoyil Vlepakis

**Superintendent:**  
Rudy Henriksen

**Counsel:**  
Anthony J. LaMarca

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## Spring/Summer **WATER** Conservation Tips

The Albertson Water District has long promoted conservation and sustainability through our regularly published newsletters, website and various community outreach efforts. Long Island is home to a remarkable glacial aquifer containing an adequate supply of water for present and projected future needs. However, the AWD stresses conservation to achieve sustainability and to ensure the future of our greatest natural resource.

### WHY CONSERVE WATER?

- ✓ Cost savings
- ✓ Energy savings
- ✓ Infrastructure cost savings
- ✓ Takes pressure off our systems



We encourage you to read more about helpful conservation tips and suggestions that you can apply at your home by visiting,  
[www.albertsonwater.org/conservation](http://www.albertsonwater.org/conservation)