



CONTINUOUSLY TESTED DRINKING WATER QUALITY

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The gentle touch of Mother Nature combined with the hard work of our dedicated staff has blessed Riverhead with some of the most pristine drinking water in New York State.

All of our water plant treatment operators are New York State certified and continuously check the water that leaves our plant sites to ensure that your drinking water is safe.

Year after year, Riverhead is recognized throughout the region for the quality, purity and safety of our water supply. Water - that sustains our centuries old tradition of family farming. Water - that is vital to our day-to-day existence. Water - that refreshes our children on a hot summer's day.

When we turn on the tap, we don't think much about how our water comes to us and the people that labor to ensure our ample supply of this essential building block of life.

This annual report is dedicated to the people of the Riverhead Water District who are ever dedicated to bringing you a healthy, high quality and plentiful supply of water. Please take a moment to read about the steps we are taking to continue to efficiently and properly serve you.

Wishing you and your family a happy and safe summer,

Sean M. Walter

SUPERVISOR, TOWN OF RIVERHEAD

Sean Walter - Town Supervisor

John Dunleavy - Councilman

James Wooten - Councilman

George Gabrielsen - Councilman

Jodi Giglio - Councilwoman

Gary Pendzick
Water District Superintendent

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1035 Pulaski Street
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Monday - Friday
8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

www.townofriverheadny.gov

*Riverhead Water District - Providing Water To The Community
For 99 Years!*

WATER CONSERVATION PROGRAM

Over the past 25 years, the Riverhead Water District has grown significantly to meet the changing needs of our community. The District was extended to areas of the Town where existing homes utilized private wells that had a concern for possible contamination and needed a safe and reliable water supply. Development of both residential and commercial areas occurred which also pushed for the expansion of the Water District service area. And the change in our everyday actions significantly increased our daily water use demands, mostly due to the availability of automatic irrigation systems.

In addition, the demand for public water has increased by 600 percent over this 25-year period. During this same period, the Riverhead Water District has implemented capital improvement projects to increase its water supply and storage capacity. We have constructed new supply wells, new storage tanks and new transmission mains. However, “The demand for water during the peak summer days continues to increase at a significant rate,” stated Supt. Gary Pendzick. In 2010, we delivered a record 22.5 million gallons of water during the peak day of July 6. Last year we used a total of 2.33 billion gallons of water. That’s equal to 182 gallons per day per person.

Supt. Gary Pendzick added, “We have completed the construction of three new well sites that increased our pumping capacity to be able to meet our new water demands.”

The District maintains a total of 17 supply wells. On a typical day in November through March, the District only needs to run four (4) of these wells. However, for a few days a year, during the hot and dry periods of the summer, the District needs all wells running to meet the demand and continue to maintain adequate fire flow protection.

“The only other option to continuing to construct additional supply wells and storage tanks at a cost of several million dollars is to implement an effective water conservation plan”, stated Supervisor



Sean Walter. “By modifying the way the residents of the District use our water, we feel we can reduce our water use and ensure we have a sufficient supply of water for our needs during the periods of high water demand”, continued Supervisor Walter.

Working with Supt. Gary Pendzick, the Town and District have developed a water conservation plan that has been able to reduce our peak water use by approximately 10 percent over the last two years. However, we need the cooperation of the residents of the District to continue to implement the plan. It is imperative that all residents follow the conservation plan procedures and tips. If we do not succeed, we may need to implement more stringent water restriction measures this summer.

Should any resident have questions concerning our water conservation plan, please call the Water District at 631.727.3205.

WATER QUALITY REPORT

Enclosed with this newsletter is the Riverhead Water District’s Annual Water Supply Report for 2012. This report presents the facts about the quality of our water supply and summarizes the water quality sampling test results taken throughout 2012. A copy of this report can also be found at the Town’s website.

The District is proud to report that our water now meets or exceeds all Federal and State drinking water standards. Should you have any questions concerning this report, please contact the Water District at 631.727.3205.

ODD AND EVEN TO REDUCE THE PEAK BUT WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Once again this year, the Riverhead Water District will be implementing a voluntary lawn irrigation restriction program that will only permit the watering of a lawn every other day, based on the address number of your home. ODD number houses would water on ODD days of the month; EVEN number houses would water on EVEN days of the month.

During the hottest summer day, approximately 80 percent of all the water being supplied by the Riverhead Water District goes directly to lawn irrigation, with over 70 percent of all homeowners having an irrigation system. They are great for keeping our lawns green throughout the summer, but they are putting a tremendous strain on our precious water supply system. The real question is, do we need to water everyday?



Horticultural specialists have determined that it is better for a lawn to be irrigated less frequently than daily to promote deep

root growth. And the Cornell Cooperative Extension recommends that Long Island lawns only need 1 inch of rain or irrigation per week.

The Riverhead Water District is recommending that all homeowners with automatic irrigation systems set up their control panels to operate every other day. You may also want to install a rain sensor that will shut down the irrigation system during rain events.



I want to be here for you.

If only our water infrastructure could talk to us. The corner hydrant might remind us that only tap water protects us against the threat of fire, and that the pipes below our streets need constant attention to keep life-saving water flowing at the right pressure, 24/7, without fail.

We are all stewards of the water infrastructure generations before handed down to us, and our water bills keep that system strong and reliable. For more information about what your tap water delivers, visit

www.townofriverheadny.gov

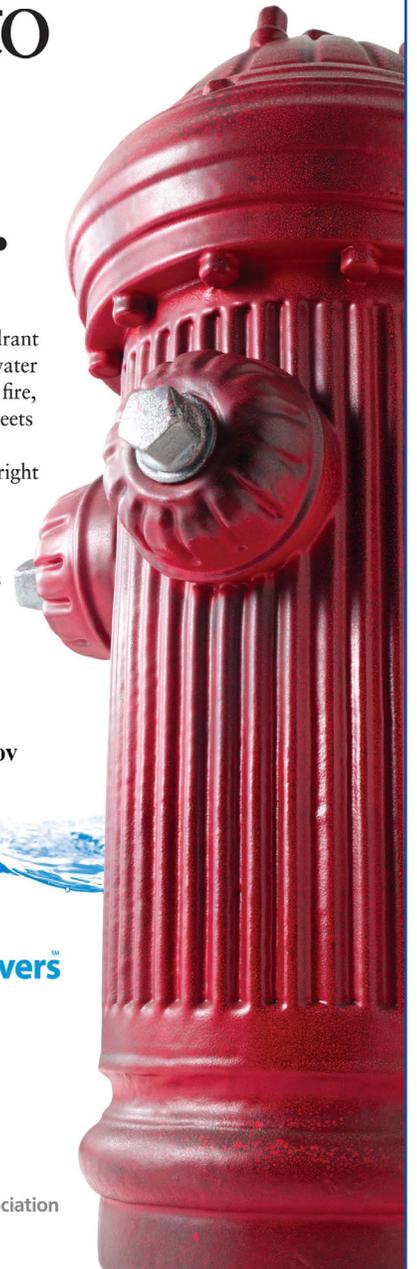


Only Tap Water Delivers™



Presented in cooperation with

 American Water Works Association





Town of Riverhead
Riverhead Water District
1035 Pulaski Street,
Riverhead, New York 11901
631.727.3205



“Celebrating Our 99th Year
of Providing Water to Riverhead”



OTHER WATER CONSERVATION TIPS

Irrigation restrictions on an every other day basis is the prime action of our Water Conservation Program. But there are many other ways every member of our community can save water everyday. Here are a few conservation tips that may help:



- Don't irrigate during the heat of the day. Studies have shown that up to 50% of the irrigation water applied during the middle of the day (10 am and 4 pm) is lost to evaporation and never makes it to the roots of the lawn.



- Install a rain sensor onto your irrigation system to shut down your automatic irrigation system when it is raining. Let nature do its own thing!

- Fix that leaking faucet. A leaking faucet or leaking toilet can amount to over 100 gallons per day. Multiply that by the hundreds of faucets that could be leaking on any given day and that adds up to a lot of wasted water!



- Store a pitcher of water in your refrigerator rather than letting it run until cold every time you want a cold glass of water.



- Don't let the faucet run when brushing your teeth or shaving. Turn it on and off when needed.

For more conservation tips, please visit www.epa.gov/watersense.