

Watergram

A Publication of The Westbury Water District

Fall/Winter 2022

Design and Construction of Water Treatment Plant is Underway

Westbury Water District has always been at the forefront of protecting our local water supply, and this requires thoughtful planning, vigilance, and foresight. Our penultimate responsibility is to deliver an adequate supply of potable water to over 6,000 households and businesses within our District. We've been extremely proactive in monitoring, testing, and planning and earlier last year we completed our action plan for our 5-year Capital Improvement Campaign. This aggressive plan includes the design and construction of multiple water treatment facilities to ensure the District continues to meet the evolving New York State Department of Health regulations and standards for treating emerging contaminants.

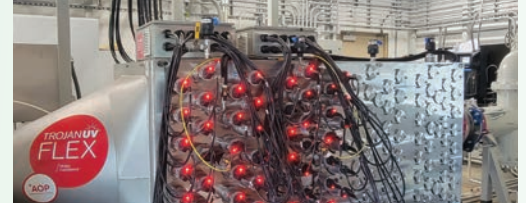
To this end, we are pleased to report that the design and construction of our state-of-the-art advanced oxidation treatment (AOP) plant at Drexel Avenue, Well No. 6 and No. 7A is now underway.

This plant site, which will be completely redesigned and renovated, will include both AOP and granular activate carbon (GAC) filtration for the removal of all organic and inorganic contaminants including 1,4-dioxane, PFOS and PFOA. Based on our construction schedule, our projected completion date is slated for late 2023.

AOP treatment is the only process found to remove these types of chemical compounds from the environment. The plant is located on the site of the former maintenance building, now reconstructed to house the new technology. In addition, a new garage has been erected adjacent to the plant to accommodate the maintenance equipment and offices.



What is AOP?



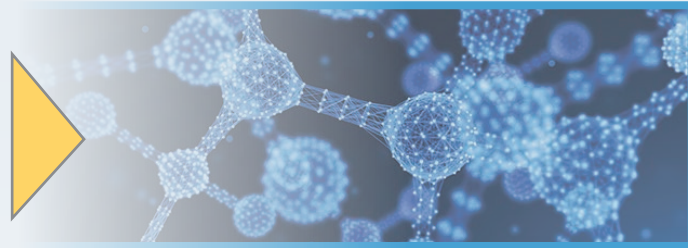
Technically speaking, oxidation is a reaction that involves the moving of electrons in a substance. Advanced Oxidation Process (AOP) is a highly regarded solution that removes organic and inorganic materials from drinking water. The primary treatment mechanism involves the reaction of UV light with a strong oxidizing agent like hydrogen peroxide or chlorine to generate highly reactive hydroxyl radicals. The final processing goes through a Granular Activated Carbon filter to remove the contaminants from the water.

New Maintenance Building



Prior to the reconfiguration and renovation of Drexel Avenue, the District took a major initiative to find a new home for the maintenance office and garage. Just this year we completed the buildout of our new garage which will now house all of our equipment, tools and fleet of 12 vehicles in a protected environment, for better security, preservation, and maintenance.

WHAT'S "EMERGING" IN THE WATER?



When a new chemical is found in our environment that is not a known pollutant and has a suspect effect on our health and the health of our environment, that is not yet conclusive, it is classified as an "emerging contaminant."

This is done to allow for the scientific and regulatory community to begin mobilizing campaigns and guidelines to address concerns around them and safeguard the public, all while continuing to determine toxicity.



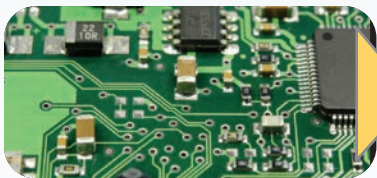
WHERE DID 1,4-DIOXANE, PFOA AND PFOS COME FROM?

These emerging contaminants are man-made chemical compounds that have been around for decades. They are part of the manufacturing of products but can also be the by-product of manufacturing processes. How they affect human health in their various capacities is only now being understood. Environmentalists have dubbed these compounds "forever chemicals" because long after factories close or the products are banned, the compound lives on in products, their decomposition, in the soil, air, run off, and water. They require removal from the environment through treatment.

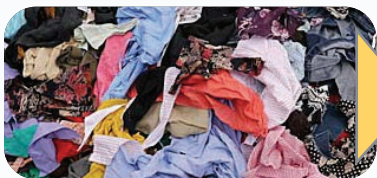
EMERGING CONTAMINANTS - BY DEFINITION



1,4-Dioxane occurs as a liquid and gas. It has been used as a stabilizer for chlorinated solvents. It is used in the production of medicines and glues and is found in paints, lacquers, dyes, waxes, greases and cosmetics. It is also in detergents, food supplements, even pesticides. 1,4-Dioxane can even be present as a by-product of the process of manufacturing.



PFOS, or polyfluoroalkyl substances, include thousands of carbon fluorine based chemicals used across a multitude of military, industrial, commercial and consumer industries. Products range from food and cosmetics to circuit boards, airplanes and frying pans. For over 100 years these chemicals were not only included in the products but, at times, they were released as a by-product in the manufacturing process.



PFOA, perfluorooctanoic acid, was globally banned in 2000. PFOA's legacy of contamination continues in a wide range of consumer products that exist across the world including non-stick kitchenware, food packaging, paints, paper, stain repellents, carpets, cleaning products and water-resistant clothing.

HOW ARE THEY REMOVED?

AOP Treatment is the only effective means of removing these inorganic pollutants from the water supply and offers several benefits:

- ▶ Compact system
- ▶ Simple operation
- ▶ Treats organic and inorganic pollutants
- ▶ Fast reaction rate
- ▶ Low energy consumption
- ▶ Easy to maintain and service

Bond Approval for up to \$65 Million



Westbury Water District Drexel Avenue headquarters

Westbury Water District has secured a bond of up to \$65 million dollars from the Town of North Hempstead to support our initiatives throughout our 5-Year Capital Improvement Campaign. Going to bond and securing grants from New York State will offset our costs and help to minimize rate increases to taxpayers.

The District's 5-Year Capital Improvement Campaign is complex and multifaceted, and the Board of Water Commissioners has been working tirelessly with a team of engineers, superintendent, assistant superintendent and support vendors to carefully plan and manage the entire process along the way.

Consumers can count on the Westbury Water District to continue to deliver an uninterrupted supply of quality water to their homes and businesses. During the spring and summer, WWD will implement a communications program directed to residents about the importance of conservation, especially during our construction phases in the height of the summer when our water pumpage is eight times more than winter.

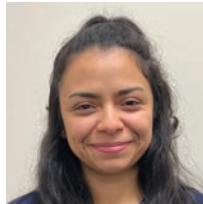
Westbury Water District Granted Deferral



The Westbury Water District received a compliance deferral from New York State's Department of Health allowing for additional time to install the necessary infrastructure upgrades to accommodate for the treatment of 1,4-dioxane, PFOSs, PFOAs and other emerging contaminants. Only water providers that have demonstrated progress regarding their infrastructure in the treatment of these emerging contaminants received this deferral. This deferral is important on two counts:

1. Supply chain issues disrupted construction progress, and may have an impact on mandated deadlines
2. The deferral allows the District time to consider any new regulatory changes, some implemented as recently as October 2022.

SAY HELLO TO SOME NEW FACES AT THE DISTRICT



Scarlet Catu - Clerk

Scarlet Catu joined our clerical team this September. Scarlet's municipal clerical experience includes the Mineola School District, Port Washington Public Library and the Nassau Board of Elections. With advanced language skills, Scarlet brings bilingual communications to the District's service, including Spanish and English, and also offers an intermediate understanding of the French language.



Benito DeGuida - Water Servicer

At the start of 2022, Westbury Water District welcomed Benito DeGuida to our team. He has experience as a water servicer in both Port Washington and Hicksville Water District, including water emergencies such as main breaks, curb box and service line repairs, as well as standard operational procedures, meter readings and mark outs.



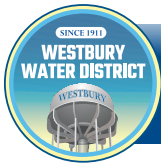
John Morrison - Water Servicer

John Morrison joined our staff as a full-time water servicer at this district in 2021. After working at the district in the Summer 2017 and 2018, then as a permanent part time employee in 2021, when he has become a full-time water service worker. He has since obtained his "D" License and "2B" License and has completed hands on training including chlorine residual tests, ph testing and bacteriological sampling.

Winter Water Main Season When Breaks Happen...We Fix 'Em!

Water main breaks commonly occur when temperatures fall below thirty degrees. WWD is responsible for servicing 92 miles of main within a 5 square mile radius... and our response time to any call is less than 20 minutes. That's an impressive feat for a crew of only 10 service operators.





Watergram

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The Season for Freezing is Here

As temperatures start to drop, it's a good time to prepare and protect your home:

- * Know the location of your shut-off valve and water pipes in case of an emergency
- * Insulate water pipes outside your home and in unheated areas of your house to prevent pipes from bursting
- * Check for cracks or openings in walls, floors, and ceilings
 - Caulking these areas to keep cold air from entering and affecting your pipes
 - **BONUS!** It also helps save on heating bills
- * Disconnect and drain all outside hoses to prevent freezing.
- * Turn off all outside spigots from inside your house, drain lines and leave the spigots OPEN.
- * Shut down and drain lawn irrigation systems

Notice Something Different?

Welcome to our **Fall/Winter 2022** Newsletter!

We're proud to share our new brand identity with our consumers in this issue. You'll start to see our **new logo** on our vehicles and signage over the next year.

Watergram will continue to be issued bi-annually to provide you with District news, updates on construction, infrastructure and developments...and as always, conservation tips you can apply at home.

In 2023, we will be launching our new website in time for the Spring.

We hope you enjoy the articles in this season's edition.

Happy Holidays,
*The Board of
Water Commissioners*

