A Publication of The Westbury Water District

Watergram

Winter 2023/2024

# **SIGNIFICANT HEADWAY** Construction is in Full Swing

Construction of the Westbury Water District's state-of-the-art water treatment plant is moving along at a steady pace. We are pleased to update the community on our progress as we enter this next phase, and substantial advancements across all facets of development are happening.

#### **DREXEL AVE, WELL 6 AND WELL 7A**

**SINCE 1911** 

WESTBURY WATER DISTRICT

- The removal and abatement of the existing office building's exterior facades have been successfully executed. We anticipate the installation of the new office exterior finishes by April 2024.
- The garage building abatement/demolition has now concluded, creating the foundation for construction of the new building, also set to begin in April of next year.
- The interior demolition of the existing office building/headquarters is now underway, and our staff relocated to temporary offices in well-equipped trailers.
- •Underground piping work, an integral part of the infrastructure, has begun and is ongoing.
- •And lastly, the new treatment facility building construction (foundations) will likely begin in late spring with full completion anticipated in the later part of 2024.





Granular Activated Carbon (GAC) vessels are standing tall at Well 12 & State Street.





Aerial view of the Granular Activated Carbon (GAC) vessels being lowered into place.

### WELL 12 & STATE STREET

We're making great progress at this well site as pavement, fencing, and site restoration have been completed. Foundation construction for the treatment equipment is in progress and our new state-of-the-art Granular Activated Carbon (GAC) vessels have been delivered and are currently being installed.

### **GOOD NEWS FOR THE DISTRICT!**

Well 12 & State Street is scheduled to be put back in service upon receipt of principal electrical equipment, expected Summer 2024.

## Don't Leave Lithium-Ion Batteries Charging Unattended

Lithium-ion batteries are becoming a bigger part of our everyday lives. With their unique ability to store tremendous amounts of energy in small spaces, lithium-ion batteries can be found in many household items, including smart phones, laptops, e-cigarettes and toys, and larger items ranging from e-bikes to electric cars.

The National Fire Protection Association is reporting a steady increase in fires caused by lithium-ion batteries, mainly due to improper charging and battery degradation. Certain components are at risk of becoming combustible and could potentially release heat and flames in a dangerous manner, so it is important to follow some basic guidelines.

#### Tips for Lithium Battery Safe Charging and Handling

- Never leave a charging lithium-ion battery unattended
- 2. Use the battery and charging cord designed for the device
- **3.** Never charge a device under your pillow, on your bed, the couch or soft surfaces
- Do not keep charging a device after it has reached its full charge
- **5.** Store batteries at room temperature and dispose of them properly

For more safety tips, visit the National Fire Protection Association website: www.nfpa.org

## **Inventorying Our Water Lines Throughout The District**



85% Complete As part 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 full inventory of all public and private water service lines to confirm whether they are lead or copper.

Good news for our consumers here in Westbury is that the District has been working aggressively to take full inventory of all our accounts and more than 80 percent of the work is complete. Most importantly, your water is always safe to drink. What needs to be determined is if certain customers have lead plumbing inside the home and there are a few remaining buildings and homes that need to be tested to complete the submission.

"The Westbury Water District will be reaching out to those remaining customers that are on our inventory list and we'll schedule a complimentary assessment of their home or building," stated William Olson, Water Commissioner and Chairman of the Board. "We have a responsibility to provide a full and complete report to the EPA as part of the program and we appreciate our customer's cooperation for us to fulfill this task."

Commissioner Olson went on to say that the missing inventory has little to do with the age or construction of the building, nor the potential for lead or copper in the water line. Oversite in submission of materials during building construction is the common cause for lack of record. There is no reason to be alarmed should you receive a call.

If you get a call from the Westbury Water District to conduct a lead and copper pipe inventory test, don't be alarmed. We are just making certain your home or building is on record. The test is free, and it is our obligation to report back to the EPA.

# Winter Here

## Let's Get Your Home "Winter Ready"

It's that time of the year when temperatures can dip way below 32 degrees.

Winter preparedness involves protecting water lines...and protecting you from potentially damaging consequences. Frozen water expands, cracking and breaking pipes. Open spaces and leaks in your home can cause heating bills and repair bills to skyrocket, so when you forget to winterize your home, the effects of an early freeze can be costly.

### Here are some tips to help get you ready for winter

- 💥 Turn off your outside spigots from inside the home, drain hoses and leave spigots open.
- Shut down and drain all sprinkler systems and garden hoses, disconnect from faucets and store in shed or garage. Cover the faucets.
- Insulate pipes located in unheated areas, such as the basement. Open cabinet doors where pipes may be exposed to an outside wall.
- Fix and replace and broken windows. Add or replace weather stripping. Apply caulking to seal any gaps around windows. You can also caulk seams to make certain cold air can't get in.
- 🗰 Know where your shut-off valve is in case of an emergency.

# **Snow Patrol:** Clearing a Path to Your Hydrants

With the winter months upon us, we kindly ask our neighbors to remember to help clear a path to our fire hydrants during snowstorms. Ensuring that hydrants are easily visible and more accessible to our volunteer firefighters helps in an emergency. If you live on a cul-de-sac, hydrants are more susceptible to being buried.

#### If you see a damaged or broken hydrant, give us a call.

Westbury Water District personnel canvasses the entire District yearly to inspect each hydrant. However, if you notice a hydrant is damaged or potentially broken, please notify us immediately by calling (516) 333-0427.

## Wishing Everyone a Happy and Healthy New Year





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Office Hours: Monday - Friday, 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

**Board of Commissioners:** William C. Olson, Chairman Barry Green, Secretary Rodney Caines, Treasurer

Superintendent: John R. Ingram

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## Save a Trip... Save a Stamp

## It's Real Simple to Simplify Things

There is a major convenience to paying your bill online, and you can save yourself the hassle of mailing a check or making a trip to the District headquarters. What's more, we accept any major credit card, or you can make a payment from your checking account.

#### **DON'T FORGET**

When paying your bill, include your billing date and account number. Both can be found on your water bill.

**Please note**: Fees are charged by our third-party processor for all online payments. The Westbury Water District does not receive any portion of the fee.

Pay Online WestburyWaterDistrict.com

