

PIPELINE

What Does the Addition of County Water Mean to CPWA Customers

As most people are aware, the Clifton Park Water Authority has completed a deal to purchase a minimum of 500,000 gallons of water per day from the Saratoga County Water Authority, beginning sometime this spring. So what does that mean for the CPWA customer?

The Clifton Park Water Authority supplies an average of 3.1 million gallons of water per day, which means that on average, the SCWA will supply approximately 16 – 20% of the water used daily in the CPWA system. This percentage will be considerably lower during the high demand periods of the summer, when usage is as high as 6 million gallons per day.

The water from the SCWA will originate in the upper Hudson River. Despite some claims by individuals opposing the water project, the water in that part of the river is very clean, and well upstream of the introduction of PCBs by General Electric. In fact, the Town of Queensbury draws its water from the opposite side of the river, and has never had a PCB detect in any water sampling done on their system.

The water from the SCWA will be considerably softer than the water currently supplied by the CPWA, but most customers will not notice a drastic reduction in the hardness of their water, since only a small portion of our water will come from the County. Almost all customers will, however, see some improvement in their water quality as a result of the purchase from SCWA.

At the time when the connection to the County water system is complete, the CPWA will be eliminating some of the lesser quality sources from its system once the additional water is available. Most of these sources are seasonal sources that are only used in the summer months. Problems with these sources include increased iron, hardness, dissolved air, and high sodium levels.

The water from the SCWA will enter the CPWA system from the northernmost end of the system near Exit 12 of the Northway. Customers at the point of connection to the County main will receive all of their water from the SCWA source, and the percentage of water received from SCWA will decrease as you move south through the Clifton Park system. Although it is impossible to determine who will receive what percentage of County water at any given time, it is expected that customers north of Ushers Road will see the majority of the water taken from the SCWA.

In an effort to mitigate the hardness for the remainder of the CPWA system, the Authority has asked CT Male to look at possible softening methods for the Boyack Road Water Treatment Plant. If a viable method is determined, design work could begin later this year.

Capital Projects Completed in 2009

As it does every year, the Clifton Park Water Authority completed a number of system improvements in 2009. These projects are funded using surplus capital. Here is a list of improvements and additions made last year:

Connection of New Well at Kinns Road

The Authority installed piping and electrical equipment to connect an existing backup production well at the Kinns Road Pumping Station. The active production well was taken out of service and sealed off due to a failure at the point of connection between the well screen and the well casing.

Cost - \$9,621

Replacement of Pump Impellers at Boyack

The Authority replaced the pump impellers on two 50-hp pressure pumps at the Boyack Road Water Treatment Plant. The existing bronze impellers were deteriorated due to corrosion, and were replaced with stainless steel models.

Cost – \$23,407

Replacement of Antenna and Cabling at Boyack WTP

This project involved the replacement of the antenna and associated cabling on the radio telemetry system at Boyack. The system transmits operational information from storage tanks, pumpstations, wellfields, and the treatment plant to various locations throughout the CPWA system.

Cost - \$2,866

Moving Out? Make Sure You Schedule a Final Reading

If you are moving out of your current residence, make sure you have the water service taken out of your name, or you may be stuck paying for water you didn't use.

Prior to the closing on your home, you must schedule a final water meter reading in order to establish an ending point to your water usage, and a starting point for the next owner. A Water Authority employee will

read the meter on the day of the closing, and a final bill will be generated and faxed to the attorney(s) for settlement at the closing table.

Customers who neglect to make the appropriate arrangements prior to moving out, may find themselves paying for water used by the new owners until a reading can be obtained.

CPWA to Begin Serving Rexford

Within the next 30 days the Clifton Park Water Authority will be purchasing water from the Saratoga County Water Authority. At that same time, the CPWA will end its purchase agreement with the Town of Glenville.

The Rexford Water District has received its drinking water from the Glenville system since the District was created. Over the past year, the Authority has negotiated with Glenville to continue the flow of water into Rexford, but a compromise could not be reached.

Water will be supplied into Rexford from the CPWA water system through a pumpstation on Route 146 that will maintain pressures in the Rexford system at their current levels. Since the Clifton Park and Glenville sources are both groundwater supplies, customers in Rexford are not expected to see a noticeable difference in water quality.

The CPWA will continue to work with Glenville on a long-term, mutual emergency agreement.

CPWA Offers E-Bill Option

The Authority is following the move by many to offer the receipt of bills by e-mail. Environmentally-friendly initiatives have encouraged consumers to reduce the negative impacts that they have on the environment, and reducing the number of paper bills sent to their homes and businesses is one of the ways to do that.

Customers wishing to have their water bills sent to an e-mail account can sign up on the CPWA website at www.cpwa.org/ebill.asp.

Lawn Watering Do's and Don'ts

Do

Water your lawn first thing in the morning as the sun rises. This ensures proper absorption without the sun drying it out too quickly.

Don't

Water your lawn in the evening. Doing so will cause mold and fungus to grow on it.

Do

Water your lawn one time per week, giving it a nice drenching, soaking watering. This allows the lawn's roots to dig deep for the water. An inch of water will do.

Don't

Water your lawn every day. Doing so keeps the lawn's roots near the surface, and exposes them to the dangers of the sun and excessive heat, as well as the cold when winter comes.

Don't

Put the sprinkler on and walk away. You need to monitor the water to ensure that the ground is absorbing it properly. Water that runs off never gets absorbed into the soil, and is essentially a waste of a precious natural resource.

A Message from the Chairman

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I would like to say how proud we are to serve the customers of the Clifton Park Water Authority. Each of us knows the importance of our jobs, and perform them in a manner that is constantly in line with the mission of the Authority; to provide good quality drinking water at the lowest possible price, while continually providing our residents with top notch customer service.

Last year was a productive year for the Clifton Park Water Authority. The successful highlights of 2009 included the finalization of a bulk water purchase agreement with the Saratoga County Water Authority and the successful refinancing of our 1999 Series Bond issue.

Last year came with some disappointment too, as we mourned the loss of a colleague, and one of the original CPWA Board Members, Joseph Stracuzzi. Mr. Stracuzzi had a long and distinguished career as a board member, serving the customers of the CPWA since 1993. His intelligent and thoughtful analysis of the issues facing the Authority over the last 17 years helped to create the successful organization that the CPWA is today.

For the past six years, the Authority has thoroughly investigated a solution to its water supply needs. After extensive research and analysis, the Authority determined that entering into a purchase agreement with the Saratoga County Water Authority will provide the best long-term answer to our future water needs. It will provide our customers with excellent quality water from a state-of-the-art treatment plant. We look forward to finalizing our connection with Saratoga County within the next few months.

This past fall, we were able to successfully refinance our 1999 Bond issue at a savings to the Authority of \$42,000 per year through 2029. The current financial climate created an ideal opportunity for the CPWA to restructure its debt, which in turn will help us to minimize future rate increases.

The Authority also implemented a new customer service software system, this will be utilized by the administrative staff to better track customer calls, issues, and complaints. It will help us facilitate work orders and service requests. The use of this software will increase our efficiency and effectiveness in providing the best possible service to our customers.

We look forward to an equally productive 2010, and will continue to look for ways to improve our product and our service to you, the customers of the Clifton Park Water Authority.

Helmut Gerstenberger
Chairman of the Board

HYDRANT FLUSHING SCHEDULE

The following is a tentative schedule for hydrant flushing on the Clifton Park Water Authority system. Unforeseen circumstances may cause this schedule to be altered, so customers are advised to use this as an approximation only. The Water Authority **will not** be sending postcards notifying customers of the flushing in their area. Instead, signs will be posted at the entrances to subdivisions prior to, and during flushing activities in that area. Daily updates on the progress of the hydrant flushing program can be found on the Authority's website, www.cpwa.org, or by calling the Authority at 383-1122.

South of Crescent Road	April 5 – April 9
Crescent Estates Shirewood and Aspenwood, Tremont Woods Southwick Meadows	April 12 – April 15
Huntwood, Village Green, Countryman Estates, Woodcrest Pointe, Maple Leaf Estates, Presidential Estates	April 16 – April 21
Clifton Gardens, Hollandale	April 22 – April 26
Clifton Knolls, Mill Creek, Grooms Pointe, Wyncrest, Stoney Heights, Rosemary Court	April 27 – May 3
Coburg Village, Wishing Well, The Oaks, Summer Hill, Meadow Estates, Avenly Way, Addison Estates	May 4 – May 7
Park Lane Estates	May 10 – May 11
Somerset, Settlers Hill, Cortland Manor	May 12 – May 13
Calico Colony, Woodland Hills, Green Meadow	May 17 – May 18
Country Knolls West	April 5 – April 9
Chandler Dr., Windsor Pointe, Van Wyck, Stonegate, Ashley Drive Area	April 12 – April 13
Country Knolls North	April 14 – April 20
Woodstead, Dutch Meadows, Fairway Woods	April 21 – April 26
Northway 11 Communities, Customers North of Round Lake Rd.	April 27 – May 4
Country Knolls South, Innisbrook, Renaissance, Fire Road	May 5 – May 11
Tallowood, Robinwood, Northcrest	May 12 – May 13
Knolltop, Sherwood Forest	May 14 – May 19
Sterling Heights, Falcon Ridge, Dawson Lane	May 20 – May 21

2010 Hydrant Flushing Schedule Inside

Summer Watering Restrictions

In the interest of balancing water system demand, maintaining proper system pressure, and conserving precious water resources, it is necessary to limit lawn watering to odd/even days based on your house number. You may water at any time of the day that you find convenient. This policy will be in effect from May 1st through September 30th, as it is every year. Please be aware of the inclining block rate structure used for billing by the Authority. Chart your water usage to avoid any surprise when bills arrive.