

PIPELINE

CPWA Introduces County Water and Looks at Softening

Over the 19 years of the Water Authority's existence, numerous improvements have been made to deal with the deficiencies of the original system. Treatment plants have been built to deal with high iron and manganese levels, towers constructed to improve pressures and storage, and transmission mains installed to enable unrestricted water flow throughout the system. In 2010, however, the CPWA completed a project that forever changes the operation of the water system, and ensures sufficient source capacity for current customers and future growth of the system.

The CPWA's interconnection with the Saratoga County Water Authority system was completed on June 1, 2010. The initial connection, which is one of two connections to the SCWA system, provides capacity of up to 1.5 million gallons per day of treated water from the upper Hudson River. A second connection, to be built this spring, will provide much greater capacity through a shared pumpstation with the Town of Ballston.

With the newly acquired SCWA source satisfying the long-term capacity needs of the CPWA, the Authority turned its attention to improving the water quality at its largest source, the Boyack Road Water Treatment Plant. This facility provides approximately 60 – 70% of the system's drinking water on a daily basis.

Although the plant removes iron and manganese from the water, minimizing discolored water issues in the system, the finished product still contains significant amounts of hardness. Hard water, although not a health concern, causes calcium deposits to form on glassware, flatware, appliances and fixtures, and can cause premature failure of some items like humidifiers and hot water tanks.

In 2010, the CPWA Board of Directors asked CT Male Associates to conduct a study of softening options for the supply at the Boyack Road Water Filtration Plant (a copy of the softening study can be viewed on the CPWA website under [Public Information>Reports>Other Reports](#)). CT Male looked at a number of different options, from ion-exchange and lime-soda ash softening to replacing the water from Boyack with water purchased from the Saratoga County Water Authority. In the end, the findings revealed difficulties with materials handling and waste disposal that made all the studied alternatives too costly or difficult to be considered.

Despite the setback in the Authority's efforts to deal with the hardness of the water, the determination is still there to continually improve water quality and service. The CPWA will continue to explore new technologies and techniques that can help in improving what we do and how we do it.

Capital Projects Completed in 2010

As it does every year, the Clifton Park Water Authority completed a number of system improvements in 2010. These projects are funded using surplus capital. Here is a list of improvements and additions made last year:

Interconnection with Saratoga County Water Authority

The Authority installed water main and a metering/chlorination station in the northern end of the water system to facilitate the purchase of water from the Saratoga County Water Authority.

Cost - \$423,830

Redevelopment of Preserve Wells 4 and 6 and Boyack Well 5

The Authority contracted with Smith Well Drilling to redevelop these wells to improve production. Redevelopment includes the chemical treatment of the well to remove mineral encrustation from the well screen, and mechanical removal of fine materials from the formation around the well screen to improve well capacity and flow.

Cost – \$34,957

Redevelopment of Berryfarm Well

The Authority contracted with Smith Well Drilling to redevelop these wells to improve production. Redevelopment includes the chemical treatment of the well to remove mineral encrustation from the well screen, and mechanical removal of fine materials from the formation around the well screen to improve well capacity and flow.

Cost - \$9,380

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.

Fire Hydrant Use

All entities that use CPWA fire hydrants for commercial purposes must obtain or renew Fire Hydrant Permits in order to take water from the CPWA system. Annual permits expire on March 1st of the year following permit issue.

You may view or download a Permit Application, and the Hydrant Use Regulations at our website, www.cpwa.org, under Commercial > Fire Hydrant Use.

Customers witnessing fire hydrant use that they think may be inappropriate or illegal are encouraged to contact the Water Authority. Improper or unapproved use of fire hydrants can cause damage and/or disruption to the water system.

Lead and Copper Sampling

The Clifton Park Water Authority is required to sample for lead and copper at 120 sites throughout the water system in 2011.

Lead and copper samples are taken as first-draw samples, meaning that the water placed in the sample bottle must be the first water drawn from the home after a minimum of six hours of no use. Customers willing to participate will be delivered a sample bottle and instructions on the day prior to sampling.

If you are interested in participating in the sampling program, please contact our office at 383-1122. Customers who have water softeners or inline filters will need to bypass, or remove these items during the sampling.

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 2010 included the start of our water purchase from the Saratoga County Water Authority in June. The CPWA is purchasing a minimum of 500,000 gallon of water per day with the option to purchase more water as is needed. This added source of water supply will enable the CPWA to provide our customers with excellent softer water, a long-term source, and will allow us to shut down other water sources in our current system that are not of the same quality as Saratoga County Water.

This past July the CPWA pumped 6.9 million gallons of water to our customers in a single day. This was a record for the CPWA. Providing this amount of water without having placed any significant water restrictions on our customers would have been extremely difficult without the Saratoga County Water connection.

This past year Stacy Clifford stepped down as a CPWA board member after three years of excellent service. Her intelligent insight and professionalism will be greatly missed by the CPWA. We wish her all the success with her three new children. George Peterson, a long time resident of Rexford, and former head of the Rexford Water District Advisory Committee, has joined us as a new board member of the CPWA. George has attended numerous CPWA board meetings over the past few years and has an excellent understanding of the former Rexford Water District. We are delighted to have him on our board.

The CPWA recently had its annual financial audit completed by Marvin and Company, PC. They have given the Authority an excellent bill of financial health as we head into 2011. The report can be viewed on our web site.

We look forward to an equally productive 2011, 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 4 – April 8
Crescent Estates Shirewood and Aspenwood, Tremont Woods Southwick Meadows	April 11 – April 14
Huntwood, Village Green, Countryman Estates, Woodcrest Pointe, Maple Leaf Estates, Presidential Estates	April 15 – April 20
Clifton Gardens, Hollandale	April 21 – April 25
Clifton Knolls, Mill Creek, Grooms Pointe, Wyncrest, Stoney Heights, Rosemary Court	April 26 – May 2
Coburg Village, Wishing Well, The Oaks, Summer Hill, Meadow Estates, Avenly Way, Addison Estates	May 3 – May 6
Park Lane Estates	May 9 – May 10
Somerset, Settlers Hill, Cortland Manor	May 11 – May 13
Calico Colony, Woodland Hills, Green Meadow	May 16 – May 18
Country Knolls West	April 4 – April 8
Chandler Dr., Windsor Pointe, Van Wyck, Stonegate, Ashley Drive Area	April 11 – April 12
Country Knolls North	April 13 – April 19
Woodstead, Dutch Meadows, Fairway Woods	April 20 – April 25
Northway 11 Communities, Customers North of Round Lake Rd.	April 26 – May 3
Country Knolls South, Innisbrook, Renaissance, Fire Road	May 4 – May 10
Tallowood, Robinwood, Northcrest	May 11 – May 12
Knolltop, Sherwood Forest	May 13 – May 18
Sterling Heights, Falcon Ridge, Dawson Lane	May 19 – May 20

2011 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.