

## Spring 2011 Newsletter

*The Manhasset-Lakeville  
Water District  
serves all of Manhasset  
and Lake Success and  
portions of New Hyde  
Park, North Hills,  
and Great Neck*



# H2O

# UPDATE



## MLWD CELEBRATES 100 YEAR ANNIVERSARY!



### Board of Water Commissioners

**Chairman**  
Andrew J. DeMartin

**Secretary**  
Brian J. Morris

**Treasurer**  
Donald T. O'Brien

### Superintendent

Paul J. Schrader. P.E.

170 East Shore Road  
Great Neck, NY 11023

It was back in 1911 when a group of concerned citizens first gathered to discuss the need for a municipal water supply for the area. Several uncontrollable fires in nearby communities lead to serious conversations on the need to protect people and property in the Manhasset and Lakeville School Districts. A committee was formed and charged with delivering a plan and cost estimate for establishing a municipal supply.

The plan would include the purchase of existing private water mains, the installation of new water mains and hydrants, and the construction of a main production facility on East Shore Road. The design standard for the water supply system was simple and based upon fire fighting requirements. The new system would be capable of providing six streams of water at 160 gallons per minute through a one inch nozzle for four hours. The pressure would be sufficient to shoot the stream 50 feet high. The total cost of this endeavor was estimated at \$155,000.

The main plant was to be built on two acres of land purchased on East Shore Road. The plant would

consist of three 350 gpm (gallons per minute) pumps driven by coal fired steam engines. A 150,000 gallon stand pipe would be erected to 100 feet and would be used to stabilize water pressure and supply water for emergencies and fire fighting. The total construction cost, including land, would be \$30,000.

The plant would also require a staff for oversight. An engineer, account clerk, and a laborer would need to be employed on an annual basis. The total projected annual salary cost, \$2,000. This, together with fuel costs and debt service, would require an annual revenue stream of almost \$10,000. The plan was to generate tax revenue based upon the assessed value of the properties served. The total assessed value of the area was \$2,000,000. At \$0.30 per \$100 of assessed value, they would generate \$6,000 in annual income. The balance would be derived from the sale of water at \$0.14 per thousand gallons.

On May 23, 1911 the Town of North Hempstead Board adopted a resolution establishing

the Manhasset-Lakeville Water District. The following year the Water District started providing fire protection and thus the Manhasset-Lakeville Fire District began. Since our establishment, the Manhasset-Lakeville Water and Fire Districts have grown in a tradition of excellence. Through our dedicated volunteers, elected officials, and staff, we continue our commitment to the community of providing a high level of service to our residents and the best water supply and fire protection possible.

Today, the District delivers over 2 billion gallons of water each year to residents and businesses in our service area. The original production capacity of 950 gpm has grown to over 16,000 gpm. The District's modest investment of \$155,000 has grown into over \$40 million in plant and equipment.

Through the District's capital improvement program, we continue to invest in our infrastructure in expectation of providing future generations with the same clean potable water supply our residents have enjoyed since 1911.



## Strengthening Our Infrastructure



### Searingtown Nitrate Removal Plant Nearing Completion

The construction of a nitrate removal plant at our Searingtown station is nearing completion. This project was financed through our 2009 bond issue. The nitrate level in these wells had risen steadily over the past several years. Typical sources of nitrate in groundwater include cesspools and lawn fertilizers. Since the District is largely unsewered, nitrate will continue to impact our groundwater supply for the foreseeable future.

As part of our commitment to providing residents with the highest quality drinking water, the District removed the two Searingtown wells from service in 2009 and moved forward with the construction of the new plant. The nitrate removal plant utilizes an ion exchange process to eliminate excess nitrate from the potable water supply. We expect the plant to be available this summer.

### New Main on Lake Road

The Water District has completed the first phase of a two-part replacement of the water main serving Lake Road in the Village of Lake Success. The second replacement section of the main is currently out to bid and is expected to be completed in late May. The old cast iron main had a history of main breaks.



### MLWD Continues Fire Hydrant Replacement Project

The Water District services approximately 1,500 public fire hydrants within the Manhasset, Lake Success, Great Neck, North New Hyde Park, and North Hills areas. A small percentage of these hydrants, known as "Eddy Grade" hydrants, date as far back as the 1900s. Last year, the district initiated a program to replace the almost 100 remaining Eddy hydrants in its service area. The goal of this program is to eliminate the last of these older hydrants by 2015. By the end of 2011, we will have replaced over 80 hydrants, thereby putting us ahead of schedule.

The new hydrants are equipped with control valves, breakaway flanges, and large four-inch 'steamer' outlets. The flanges allow the hydrant to "break away" if hit by a vehicle, allowing for quicker and easier repairs following an accident without disrupting water service. The large four-inch outlet allows the fire department to utilize the current standard for connecting to their pumper trucks, facilitating a faster connection and additional water flow when every second counts.



The fire hydrant replacement project has had minimal impact on area residents and foot and vehicle traffic. During the course of the work you may experience slightly discolored water. The discoloration is not harmful and can usually be eliminated by flushing the cold water taps for several minutes until clear. If you experience a persistent problem with discoloration, please contact the District for assistance.

In addition to this replacement project, the District also conducts routine hydrant maintenance and inspection programs.

## TIPS ON FIRE SAFETY IN THE HOME

- If you wake in the middle of the night smelling smoke, should you open the bedroom door?
- Is your alarm company dialing the Manhasset-Lakeville F.D. directly?
- In a fire, do you know what you and your loved ones should do after exiting the home?
- Do you have a key lock on the inside of an exit door?

### Were you able to answer these questions to your own satisfaction?

Some people think they know what to do; others say they will look into it when they get a chance. Most people just don't think about it at all. The reality of it is that you may not get a second chance. Your best protection is education.

The MLFD offers a free class on Fire Safety in the Home. Learn what you can do to protect your family and your home. Help the fire department help you. Through your village, civic group, church or any other organization, contact us to schedule a class. We will come to wherever your group regularly meets. What you will learn in less than an hour can help save your life.

For more information, please call the Fire District at 466-4423.



MANHASSET-LAKEVILLE WATER DISTRICT

170 East Shore Rd., Great Neck, NY 11023

### The Board of Commissioners Meets Weekly

The Board meets Tuesdays and Thursdays at 6:30 pm to discuss the weekly business of the Water and Fire District.

Special arrangements can be made through Barbara Pisani 466-4416, ext. 704. All meetings will be conducted in the boardroom at the district office, 170 East Shore Road, Great Neck, unless otherwise publicly notified. Office hours are 8 am to 4 pm.

**Member:** Long Island Water Conference, American Water Works Association, Nassau Suffolk Water Commissioners Association, National Fire Prevention Association

### EMERGENCY NUMBERS

Water.....(516) 466-4413

Fire.....(516) 466-4411