



Water Talk

FYI: Proper Disposal Keeps Aquifer Healthy!

While other areas get their water from surface sources, one hundred percent of our water comes from deep in our sole source aquifer. Keeping the aquifer healthy keeps us healthy, and certainly groundwater is not the proper place for the disposal of unwanted medicines and pharmaceuticals.



"Today, we know that flushing unwanted medicines down the drain is not a safe method of disposal because trace amounts of medicines can get into water supplies," Commissioner Dominick Feeney commented.

"We're acting now to keep South Huntington's water pure for our children's future. There are many ways residents can help, and here are seven important things to observe." ■

- 1 Your local pharmacy may accept unused or unwanted drugs. Check with them first before disposing medicines.
- 2 Read the labels: Never wash unwanted/unfinished medicines down the drain or toilet unless the label specifically indicates these actions are acceptable.
- 3 Remove unwanted drugs from containers and place them in sealable bags to prevent the drug from leaking or breaking out of a garbage bag. Dispose of them with your trash for incineration.
- 4 Wild and domestic animals can get into garbage. Keep them away. Mix the items with kitty litter or coffee grounds.
- 5 Many communities have drug take back programs to bring unused drugs to a central location for proper disposal.
- 6 Doctors prescribe medicines for a specific individual's specific symptoms and medical history. A medicine that works for you could easily be dangerous for others. Don't share medicines!
- 7 Before throwing out a medicine container, make all identifying information on the prescription label unreadable. This will help protect your identity and the privacy of your personal health information.

IF YOU ARE IN DOUBT ABOUT PROPER DISPOSAL, TALK TO YOUR LOCAL PHARMACIST.



Big Town Service, Small Town Attitude.

Providing water to a population exceeding 80,000 requires "Big Town Service." For those who remember the Andy Griffith Show or enjoy it in reruns, you can appreciate its comforting small town, highly personalized "Small Town Attitude." Sometimes the world is so busy and automated that even things like phone assistance can be more of an annoyance than a help. How many times have you phoned an agency for assistance



only to be greeted by an automated operator offering supposed solutions through a bewildering array of numbered, anonymous extensions?

Despite our dramatic growth over the last few decades, the South Huntington Water District still prides itself on "Small Town Outlook" and personalized service. "We're here for you," Commissioner Ciro DePalo stated. "Just call us during the business day, 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM, Monday through Friday, 631-427-8190, and you'll be pleasantly surprised that your call will

be quickly and efficiently handled by a knowledgeable District employee!"

He or she will answer your questions, resolve your problems or politely connect you with someone who can do just that. And by the way, don't be surprised if that person is a District Commissioner, a Foreman or the Office Manager. No one here, regardless of position, is too busy to speak with you. Sure, we deliver professional "Big Town Service," but we do it with "Small Town Attitude."

Call us weekdays, 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM, Monday through Friday, 631-427-8190. ■



THE SILENT SENTINELS.

Fire hydrants are silent sentinels, ever ready to provide water to firefighters in an emergency. The South Huntington Water District owns the 1,700 fire hydrants within our boundaries. Commissioner Paul Tonna stated. "Their care and maintenance are top priorities, and we make hundreds of adjustments and repairs to them each year, working in conjunction with our local fire department(s), and we ask for your vigilance to help supplement those checks and inspections."



THE PURPOSE OF PERMITS

While we do allow a limited number of contractors to use our hydrants (upon fee payment and only with adherence to a strict set of rules), occasionally, others "conveniently forget" rules and illegally take water from the hydrants. This hurts all consumers and taxpayers. All contractors properly permitted by the SHWD will have a bright yellow permit bearing the Water District logo and the legend "2016" on their vehicles.

So, if you have questions about someone using a hydrant or if you spot a leaking or damaged hydrant, please call 631-427-8190 any day, any time. ■



Avoid The Moving Blues!

The Blues may be great to listen to, but not something you want when you're selling your home or changing tenant status!

With a change in ownership or tenancy, a final water bill must be calculated. This bill is sent to the property seller, and the new owner's name and billing information is required for us to prepare an accurate and new account.

It's important to remember that any unpaid water charges from a former owner will be levied against the new owner.

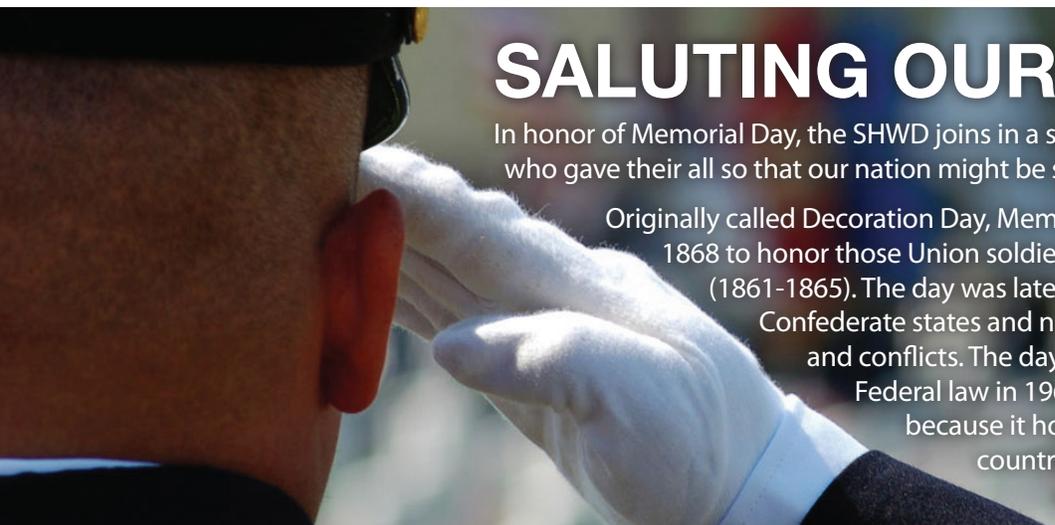
If you are going to be on the move, please let us know the details so we can help make that transition smoother for you. Add the District to your planning checklist. Let us know as early as possible when you're moving and where we can reach you. If you are the new owner, introduce yourself so we may properly welcome you and prepare an accurate new District account...and avoid the Moving Blues! ■



SALUTING OUR VETS.

In honor of Memorial Day, the SHWD joins in a salute to the brave men and women who gave their all so that our nation might be safe and free.

Originally called Decoration Day, Memorial Day was initially enacted in 1868 to honor those Union soldiers who perished during the Civil War (1861-1865). The day was later expanded to include soldiers from Confederate states and now honors all who perished in wars and conflicts. The day officially became Memorial Day by Federal law in 1967. It is distinguished from Veterans Day because it honors those who died while serving the country, while Veterans Day is dedicated to all who served in the U.S. military. ■



WaterTalk

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Nine-Time Winner of Suffolk County's
"Best Tasting Water."

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