



# Water Talk

## OUR WATER OUR LIVES



Commissioner Paul J. Tonna

South Huntington Water District has joined with the Long Island Commission for Aquifer Protection and dozens of dedicated organizations to urge Long Islanders to take steps to conserve water through the "Our Water Our Lives" outreach campaign.

"The initiative helps residents appreciate the value of our precious drinking water supply," Commissioner Paul J. Tonna stated. "All water used by Nassau and Suffolk residents comes from subsurface sand and gravel aquifers. Population

growth and overuse stress the quantity of water in our aquifers, and there are simple, everyday steps we can all take to preserve it for current and future residents."



### TO HELP:

Go to the "Our Water Our Lives" website at [ourwaterourlives.com/pledge/](http://ourwaterourlives.com/) to take the pledge and learn what you can do to save water and join this communal effort. Over 3,000 people have taken the pledge to date.

## WINTERIZING: IF YOU ARE INTO MYTHOLOGY...



Boreas was the Greek god of the north wind whose frigid breath brought on winter. Preparing for Boreas (AKA "Old Man Winter") is something everyone should do for comfort and home safety.

1. **Water Shut-Off Valve:** Always know where it is in case of emergency.
2. **Pipes:** Prevent freezing or bursting with insulation. This is vital in unheated spaces.
3. **Windows:** Windows can be huge loss factors. Insulate and caulk around them to reduce drafts.
4. **Attention All Snowbirds:** Have a plumber winterize your home before heading for warmer places.
5. **Outside Spigots:** Turn off all water to outside spigots from the inside shut-off valve and leave them open.
6. **Hoses:** Disconnect and drain all outside hoses.
7. **Irrigation Systems:** Make sure your system is drained, blown out and fully winterized.
8. **Meter Pit Covers:** Examine them for cracks, ensure they are level and securely locked down.
9. **Meter Pits:** Make sure your meter is recessed 12-15 inches to reduce the possibility of freezing.
10. **Garage:** Don't leave your garage doors open in cold weather.

## ELECTION NOTICE

Please come and cast your vote in the 2019 election of a South Huntington Water District Commissioner for a three (3) year term. The term will run from January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2022.

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2019  
FROM 3:00 P.M. UNTIL 9:00 P.M.**

- King of Kings Lutheran Church: Old South Path (Melville).
- SHWD Administration Building: Corner of Fifth Avenue South and West 13th Street, Huntington Station.

All registered voters who have resided within the South Huntington Water District for at least thirty (30) days are eligible to vote.

**And to help our firefighters and EMTs, if you live near a hydrant, keep it free from debris and snow, because every second counts in case of a fire!**

# LOCAL CONTROL KEEPS POWER IN YOUR HANDS

Commissioner-run water districts are an excellent example of local control as all commissioners are responsible to the people thanks to the power of the vote. Local control means exercising your right to elect the men and women that you want to manage your district, and to expect full accountability.



**Commissioner  
Joseph Perry**

"The South Huntington Water District has been maintaining a safe and plentiful water supply since 1925," Commissioner Joseph Perry stated. "We are compliant with all federal, New York State and local regulations while supplying safe water to over 81,000 residents through 271 miles of water main infrastructure. Consolidation proponents often maintain that cost efficiencies will result, but in addition to sacrificing local control, consolidation would mean reallocation of other districts' financial burdens and increased tax rates. We are proud that our average SHWD residential bill is less than \$21 per month, which computes to 5 gallons of water for one cent. I personally feel that's a great bargain."



**Commissioner  
Ciro DePalo**

## DEDICATED FUNDING

Commissioner Ciro DePalo added, "It is important to appreciate that in a locally controlled district like SHWD, 100% of tax dollars are devoted to water production including delivery infrastructure and new technologies. Funds are never mingled with other budgets or utilized for other purposes. And transparency is paramount. As a proactive District, we listen to our taxpayers at all times. Our personnel are on call 24/7, and it's a tribute to our people that we have won the drinking water contest eleven times. Our meetings are open to all, and expenditures, income, distribution and management are public record."

Local control. It makes nothing but sense.



## CELEBRATING ALL OUR VETERANS...

President Woodrow Wilson established Armistice Day in 1919 to honor those who fought in World War I. In 1954, President Dwight D. Eisenhower changed the name to Veterans Day to recognize all military veterans who have served honorably in the United States Armed Forces.

In 2001, the US Senate designated the week of Nov. 11 through Nov. 17, 2001 as National Veterans Awareness Week.

"The dedication and contributions of all veterans who have defended our flag will never be overlooked," Commissioner Paul J. Tonna stated. "Honoring the men and women who served, and above all, those who sacrificed everything in the line of duty is a debt that can never be repaid. The South Huntington Water District salutes each and every one of our veterans as forever deserving of our nation's gratitude."



## CELEBRATING A 30-YEAR DISTRICT CAREER!



Ken Carsten recently completed his 30th year of service with the District, having started in July, 1989. As Chief Plant Operator since January,

2015, Ken is in charge of the overall production of water from the District's 18 active deep wells and the treatment to ensure that it meets all county, New York State and federal regulations. All required scheduling, sampling and reporting is organized by the Chief Plant Operator, as well. Congratulations, Ken! And thank you for your dedication, hard work and the valuable contributions you have provided to the people of the South Huntington Water District.

## WaterTalk

South Huntington Water District  
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Eleven-Time Winner of Suffolk County's  
"Best Tasting Water"

### Board of Water Commissioners

Paul J. Tonna, Chairman  
Ciro DePalo, Treasurer  
Joseph Perry, Secretary