



WEST  
HEMPSTEAD  
WATER  
DISTRICT

# H<sub>2</sub> REPORT

A PUBLICATION OF THE  
WEST HEMPSTEAD  
WATER DISTRICT  
SPRING 2020

CHECK OUT OUR  
**NEW SITE**  
➔ [www.westhempsteadwater.org](http://www.westhempsteadwater.org)

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SERVING WHWD **P.1**

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## Annual Drinking Water Quality Report: Available Online

Our 2019 report has been approved by the Nassau County Department of Health and is available on our new website [WestHempsteadWater.org](http://WestHempsteadWater.org). Simply click on the “Water Quality” button on the home page to download the report.



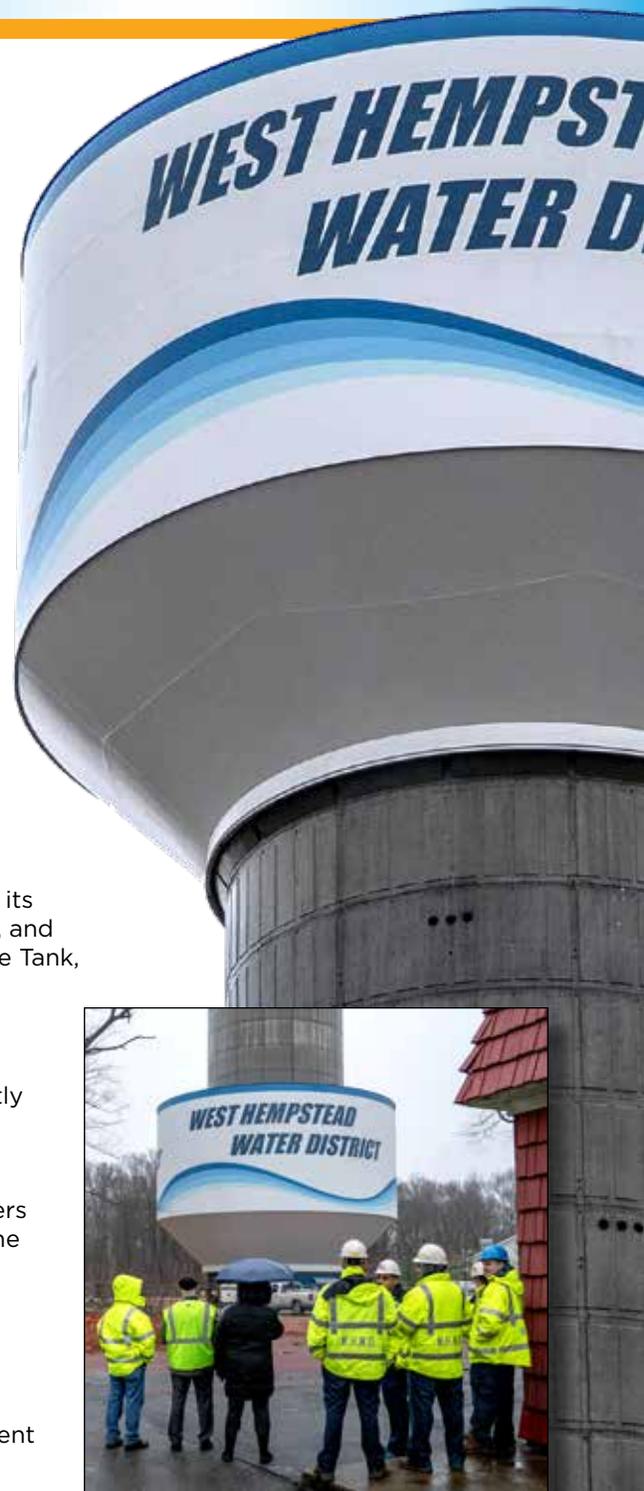
# New Water Tank Rises Above District

High up above the West Hempstead community stands a modern marvel — A one million-gallon water tank standing 215 feet tall, providing water to over 8,000 homes, schools and businesses within our boundaries. It’s hard to miss the concrete pedestal and steel bowl as it can be seen from miles away, proudly displaying the “West Hempstead Water District” signature.

Once the pre-existing water tank reached the end of its useful life, the District knew it was time for a change, and opted for constructing a Composite Elevated Storage Tank, which would be the first of its kind on Long Island. This bold vision is a shining example of WHWD’s commitment to improvement for its consumers.

The new water tank is much easier to maintain, greatly resilient and up for the challenge to meet the peak water supply demands for the summer season. It also meets and exceeds today’s stringent safety and structural standards, while ensuring District consumers will continue to receive an uninterrupted supply of the highest quality water possible.

“This is quite an event for the District,” commented Chairman of the Board C. John Sparacio. “Our consumers are seeing their bond dollars at work. We have a landmark tank holding 250,000 gallons more than the previous tank. This is quite an accomplishment and will serve us well for generations to come.”



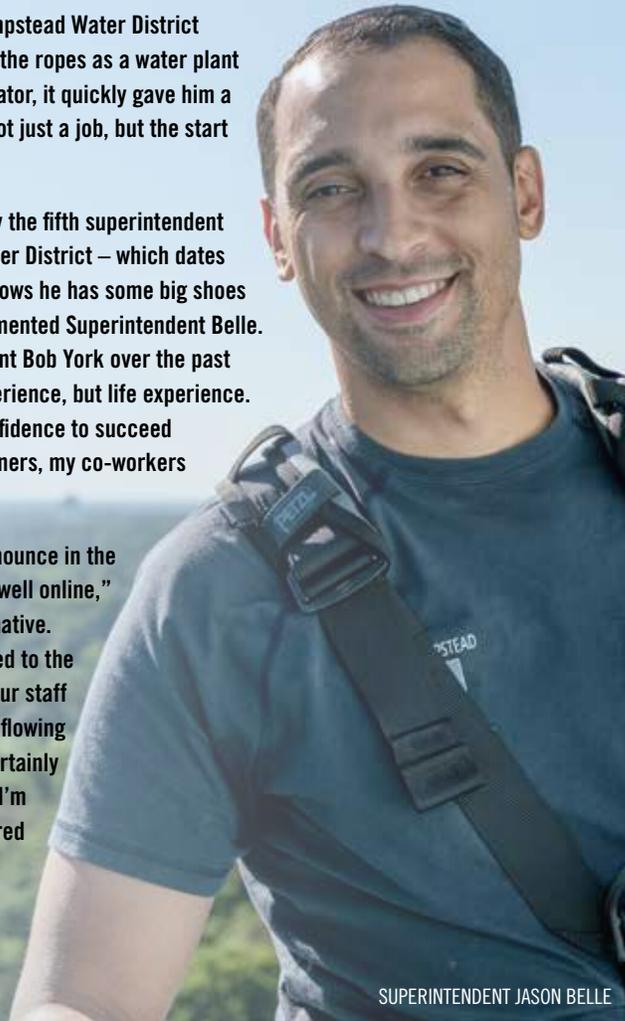
## CLIMBING TO NEW HEIGHTS

## MEET THE NEW SUPERINTENDENT JASON BELLE

Jason Belle began his tenure at West Hempstead Water District over 15 years ago. As he began learning the ropes as a water plant attendant and then as a water plant operator, it quickly gave him a sense of pride and he realized this was not just a job, but the start of his professional career.

On January 1, 2020, Belle was named only the fifth superintendent in the history of the West Hempstead Water District – which dates back nearly 100 years! Belle certainly knows he has some big shoes to fill. “I’m learning from the best,” commented Superintendent Belle. “Working alongside former Superintendent Bob York over the past decade has taught me not only work experience, but life experience. Learning on the job has given me the confidence to succeed while being responsible to my commissioners, my co-workers and my community.”

“We have a lot of exciting projects to announce in the coming months including bringing a new well online,” commented the former Franklin Square native. “Just like the rest of the world, we adapted to the coronavirus pandemic and I’m proud of our staff for their dedication to keeping our water flowing and providing this essential service. It certainly has been an interesting start for me, yet I’m up for any challenge and being one hundred percent committed to West Hempstead.”



SUPERINTENDENT JASON BELLE

## WATER TREATMENT AND TESTING ADHERING TO THE HIGHEST STANDARDS

The West Hempstead Water District has been maintaining and delivering the highest quality water to the residents of West Hempstead, Garden City South and a large portion of Franklin Square since 1926. The District’s commitment to providing our community with safe, potable water is unwavering and our water is tested regularly – meeting and surpassing all local, state and federal standards.

We test for over 7,000 compounds including all new and emerging contaminants. What this means to you, our consumers, is that the water that flows from your tap goes through more rigorous testing than any bottled water supplier provides.” We have a deep sense of commitment to testing our water and continue to do so on a regular basis.



## TECH-SAVVY WAYS TO SAVE ON WATER

Conservation of our most precious natural resource starts at home and here are a few tech-savvy ways to conserve within your house:

### SHOWER HEADS

New shower heads come equipped with a water flow restrictor. These devices reduce a flow of between 5 and 8 gallons per minute to 2.5 or fewer gallons per minute.

### WASHING MACHINE AND DISHWASHER

Energy efficient washing machines and dishwashers use less water than older models. Modern dishwashers reduce water use by about half of that used by older models, saving money on your electric bill and water bill.



### TOILETS

New low-flow toilets use 1.6 gallons per flush. They work as well as the older types but use considerably less water. Homeowners can also consider using dual-flush toilets, which offer two settings, depending on the type of waste in the bowl.

### SMART SPRINKLER CONTROLLERS

There are many new smart sprinkler controls on the market that allow for homeowners to utilize technology to meet and achieve landscape goals without overwatering. They are easy to install and by utilizing their mobile apps, residents can monitor their water usage, controlling the irrigation system anytime from anywhere.



# Tap Water vs. Bottled Water

## Let's Take a Closer Look

We can't live without water and while most of us turn to our tap for great tasting water, many people prefer to drink water from a designer water brand.

"Most people may not know that the water we deliver to your tap goes through more stringent testing than bottled water," commented Water Commissioner Joseph M. Marando. "In fact, bottled water is regulated by the Food and Drug Administration because bottled water is considered a packaged food product."



Tap water regulations are set under the Safe Drinking Water Act – enacted by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and the District complies with all testing standards issued by the Nassau County Department of Health, as well as the New York State Department of Health.

Here's some interesting data to support tap water:

1. The NRDC (National Resources Defense Council) conducted a comprehensive four-year scientific study of 1,000 brands of bottled water. The results showed that one third of bottled water companies violated their own industry standards for water quality.
2. Plastic water bottles can take between 400 and 1,000 years to decompose.
3. Only 20 percent of all plastic bottles are recycled.
4. On Long Island, a 16-ounce bottle of water can cost anywhere from 250 times to 1,000 times as much as a 16-ounce glass of tap water.
5. In 2013, the West Hempstead Water District won the Long Island Water Week annual award for Nassau County's "Best Tasting Water."

So next time you reach for that expensive designer brand bottle of water, consider the alternative and reach for a glass of great tasting West Hempstead Water District water!



## WHWD Wins Diamond ACEC!

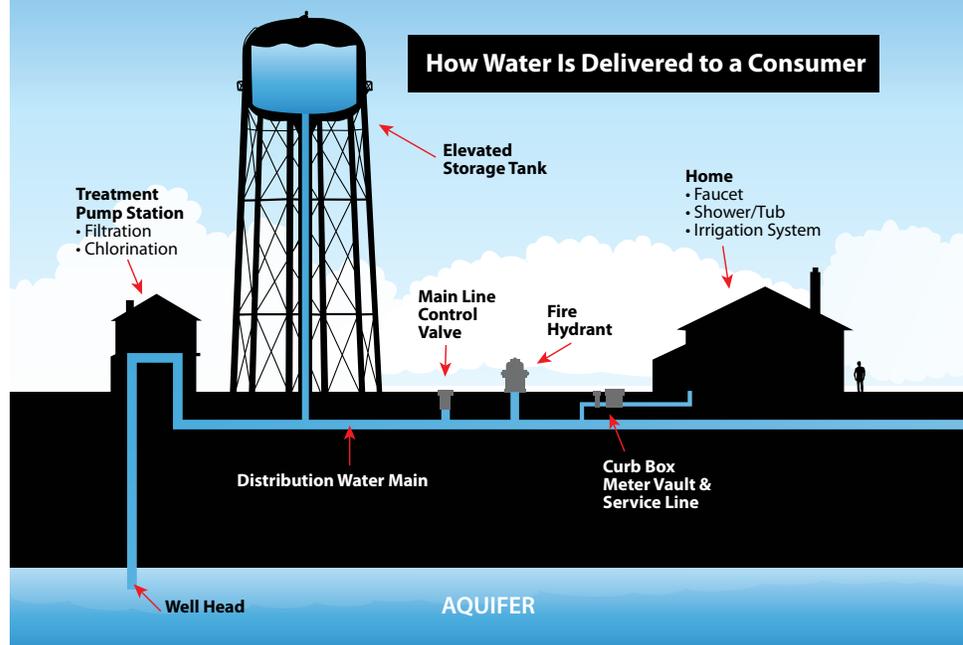
Earlier this year WHWD earned a Diamond Excellence Award from the American Council of Engineering Companies of New York (ACEC-NY). The tower project was submitted by our engineering firm H2M architects + engineers (H2M), and it received the highest honor that ACEC-NY bestows in the 'Water Resources' category. "It's an honor to receive this award," Chairman of the Board C. John Sparacio said happily. "We thank H2M for their dedicated service and engineering excellence. Winning this award validates our commitment to bringing new advancements to our water system for our consumers."

## Nassau County Water Restrictions

"We continually ask our consumers to be mindful of water conservation, especially during the peak pumping season," said Water Commissioner Kenneth P. Wenthen, Jr. "Please remember to abide by the Nassau County ordinances regarding the watering of your lawn, flower beds and gardens."

- No watering between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.
- Residents with even house numbers may water on even dates
- Residents with odd house numbers may water on odd dates
- Premises without numbered addresses may water on even dates
- Watering is not permitted on the 31<sup>st</sup> of any month

## Ever Wonder Where Your Water Comes From?





PRSR STD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
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HEMPSTEAD, NY  
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Board of Commissioners:  
Chairman: C. John Sparacio  
Treasurer: Joseph M. Marando  
Secretary: Kenneth P. Wenthen, Jr.

Superintendent: Jason Belle  
Secretary to the Board: Frederick Kurz

Board Meetings:  
Virtual Board Meetings are held each Wednesday at 5 p.m.  
For more information visit our website

Memberships:  
AWWA: American Water Works Association  
AWWANY: American Water Works Association New York Section  
LIWC: Long Island Water Conference  
NSWCA: Nassau Suffolk Water Commissioners' Association

## POSTAL PATRON

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# WHWD Launches *New Website*

To better serve consumers with water information and timely news, the West Hempstead Water District proudly launched our new website this spring [www.westhempsteadwater.org](http://www.westhempsteadwater.org). Visitors can easily access the site on any mobile device, tablet or traditional desktop.

[www.westhempsteadwater.org](http://www.westhempsteadwater.org)

The new website features:

- Timely news and updates
- Conservation tips and suggestions
- District information and history
- Water quality test results and procedures
- Billing information

The website was designed and developed to provide an informative and user-friendly experience for consumers. "It is important that we continually provide on-going communications with our consumers," said Water Commissioner Kenneth P. Wenthen, Jr. "Our new website will be a resource that residents can regularly turn to for the latest District news."

