# **WATER BREAK**

With Tony Bellitto - Executive Director NPWA



The North Penn Water Authority is continually focused on the importance of environmental stewardship in all of our policies and business practices. The Water News section of this newsletter focuses on this topic, including the availability of E-Billing. This option for bill payment provides customers with the convenience of an electronic email notification that their bill is available to view online rather than receiving a paper bill, thus reducing the amount of paper bills that the Authority needs to print and mail out. Both customers who use E-Billing and those who receive a paper bill can choose to pay their bills on-line by going to the Authority's website, and clicking on the "Pay Your Bill" icon on the upper right hand corner of any page.

Electronic bidding of contracts has reduced the need to copy large quantities of documentation for the various construction contracts that are bid out. The E-bidding system allows the Authority to efficiently distribute and evaluate

contract information. The Authority also relies heavily on electronic maps of our water supply system that our employees use on mobile laptop computers, rather than big bulky paper maps.

The Authority conducted an energy audit of our operations center building to find ways to save energy and money. As a result of those findings, we have installed more energy efficient light fixtures along with room motion sensors, and also replaced our old HVAC system with a newer, more efficient unit.

These are just some of the ways that we at the North Penn Water Authority are doing our part to protect the environment. For more details, read through the Water News article in this newsletter.

Business Hours (Mon-Fri - 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.): 215-855-3617
After Hours Emergency Number: 215-855-9945

Printed on Recycled Paper

www.northpennwater.org "WATER CURRENTS"

NPWA accepts Discover, MasterCard and VISA

Please Return the BILL STUB with your payment to ensure faster and more accurate processing. Thank you.

(Near the intersection of Forty Foot Road & Allentown Road)

Location:
300 Forty Foot Road
Lansdale, PA 19446
(Towamencin Township)

Speakers and Films are available through NPWA for Civic Organizations, Schools, and Churches.

A dedicated, professional workforce committed to providing the community with a safe, reliable, and economical water supply



# WATER CURRENTS

NORTH PENN WATER AUTHORITY NEWSLETTER -2012 Volume 13/No. 2

### NPWA TOPICS:

#### WATER BREAK

Environmental Stewardship

#### WATER MARKS

• 100 Years of Service

#### WATER NEWS

- E-Billing
- Public Notification
- Relay for Life

TOYS FOR TOTS

## WATER MARKS

#### Thank you for your 100 YEARS OF SERVICE!

The North Penn Water Authority had a landmark event this year. For the first time in its history, three employees, with years of service totaling over 100 years, retired within just a few months of each other. We at the Authority want to thank Terry Gable (43 yrs.), Norman Haslup (40 yrs.), and Dianne Karhan (22 yrs.) for their combined 105 years of service to the North Penn Water Authority, and extend our best wishes to them for a happy, healthy, and successful future in this next phase of their lives.





# WATER CURRENT

2012 Volume 13/No. 2

# WATER NEWS E-Billing and Environmental Stewardship

The Authority has been involved for several years with watershed protection groups that are engaged in a variety of activities geared toward protecting the water quality in our region's streams, lakes, and groundwater wells. As the North Penn Water Authority has become increasingly active in watershed and wellhead protection, it became clear that there is much that can be done by municipal authorities, companies, and the public to protect this vital natural resource. In addition to preserving the water supply, the Authority is practicing environmental stewardship in other areas, some of which are contained below and in the Water Break section of this newsletter.

E-Billing, which was recently implemented by the Authority, was driven primarily by serving our customers better but has the added advantage of also meeting our philosophy of protecting the environment wherever possible. The E-Billing option allows you to opt-out of receiving a paper bill. Instead, when your water bill is generated by North Penn Water Authority, you will receive an email notification that your bill is online and ready for payment. To use the E-Billing option, you will need to be a registered user on our site. To register and/or add the E-Bill option, you will need to go to the Authority's website, click on the "Pay Your Bill" icon on the upper right side of the page. In the login screen, enter your customer account and go to the Preferences section of your online account, select E-Billing

on the pull down menu. Once you have changed that preference, you will receive email confirmation of this change to the Delivery Method for your bill. The next time that the Authority generates a bill for your account, you will receive an email letting you know that your bill is available online for payment, as well as a link to the site to log in and view and pay the bill. Útilizing this option saves paper, processing time, and energy.

In addition to E-billing, other areas of environmental stewardship practiced throughout Authority operations include optimizing our usage of wells during off-peak hours to reduce energy costs. Our valve maintenance and leak detection programs help to conserve water and reduce energy costs associated with pumping. The automatic meter reading program uses radio signal technology, thereby reducing the number of vehicles as well as the amount of gasoline that is needed to read our customers' meters. In order to help protect aquatic life in storm water receiving streams, the annual fire hydrant flushing program includes dechlorinating the water before it reaches the storm drains.

The practices noted in this newsletter are among the many ways that the Authority is working to preserve the environment for future generations. We urge our customers to look for ways in which they can do the same in their own areas.

### WATER NEWS Public Notification

As detailed in previous issues of the Water Currents and letters sent to customers, NPWA has implemented a high-speed mass communication system. This has improved the speed and efficiency with which the Authority can convey important information related to the water supply system. With a recent change to a new provider, if you have caller ID, the number will now appear as the Authority's phone number, 215-855-3617, or name, North Penn Water Authority.

Just a reminder to please add NPWA to the list of those entities that you provide updated contact information as it changes. The ability to notify you in the event of a problem in your water system is only as good as the latest information you have given to us.

# VATER NEWS American Cancer Society 14th Annual North Penn Area Relay for Life



For the ninth year, NPWA's "Thirsting for a Cure" team participated in the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life event held on June 23-24, 2012 at the North Penn High School Track in Lansdale. As of this writing, the overall event total raised by all 44 teams (547 participants) has exceeded \$201,000 for the fight against Cancer. The NPWA "Thirsting for a Cure" team included: Tony and Sharon Bellitto, Helene Dunn, Gary Raser, Maryann Regan, Bill Smith, Karen Sullivan, and team captain Dianne Karhan. Working together, the NPWA team members raised over \$1,700 for this important cause. Funds were raised through contributions by team members, family, and friends who sponsored them on the walk, and through donations by employees who supported various activities throughout the year. Special thanks to Dianne Karhan, Helene

Dunn, Bill Smith, and Karen Sullivan for their efforts in preparing for this event and setting up the site. For information on becoming involved in the Relay for Life, please check out the ACS relay website at http://www.relayforlife.org.

## TOYS FOR TOTS TOYS FOR TOTS



While it may be "rushing the season" to mention Christmas so soon, now that the newsletter is semi-annual, this is the only opportunity we have to

let customers know that for the thirteenth year, the North Penn Water Authority will be a drop-off site for The Toys for Tots Program sponsored by the U.S. Marine Corps. Please consider purchasing an item for a child up to 18 years of age, such as toys, books, art supplies, disposable cameras, music CDs or gift certificates. The drop-off bin will be available in the Authority's front lobby area Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., from the last week of October until December 17. Thank you very much for your continued support in providing needy children with a better Christmas.

