# WATER BREAK

• • • • with Tony Bellitto - Executive Director, NPWA

In an effort to keep up with the effects of inflation that raise expenses each year, North Penn Water Authority has increased its total charges by a modest 3% for the average customer, effective January 1, 2021. The new usage rate is \$4.00 per 100 cubic feet, which is the same as \$5.35 per 1,000 gallons. Also, the fixed quarterly service charge for the standard domestic meter will increase to \$10.62. As a result, the average residential customer will pay annually about

\$11 more this year in total, as compared to last year. Sellersville Service Area customers will be converted to this rate structure in May of this year, under the terms of the Agreement of Purchase established in 2011.

Even with this modest increase, public water from NPWA is still "the best bargain in town." At this new rate, our average residential customer will pay about \$363 per year for water, which is the equivalent of approximately 99 cents per day for an entire household's daily water supply. For a household of 3 people, that's only about 33 cents per person per day. That's a very low cost for such a vital commodity, especially one that is reliably available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, without interruption, for all domestic uses, like drinking, cooking, showering, bathing, flushing the toilet, lawn sprinkling, car washing, and fire protection. There is simply nothing you can buy at this cost that has an equal or greater value than our product. It's a deal that can't be beat.

NPWA customers pay only one penny for about 2 gallons of the highest quality public water available. What else can you buy for one thin penny these days at your local store? Absolutely nothing. Our product also has the added convenience of being delivered directly to your home.

The Authority has been able to keep rates low while increasing operating efficiency, thereby enhancing the value of the service we provide to our customers. Our focus on sound fiscal practices and an increased reliance on new technologies and labor-saving automation has enabled NPWA to continue delivering an economical supply of water that is always safe and reliable.

Business Hours (Mon-Fri – 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.): 215-855-3617 
After Hours Emergency Number: 215-855-9945

"WATER CURRENTS"

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www.npwa.org

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 videos 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 -2021 Volume 22/No. 1

### NPWA TOPICS:

WATER BREAK TOYS FOR TOTS WATER NEWS

- Hydrant Painting Contest
- Seasonal Reminders
- Hillcrest Tank Update

## **TOYS FOR TOTS**

For the 21st year, North Penn Water Authority employees, customers and area companies donated toys to the Toys for Tots Program sponsored by the U.S. Marine Corps. **Donations to NPWA's collection totaled more than 430 toys, more than 30 books and \$200.** Local businesses and organizations contributed donations to NPWA's collection this year. Your generous support demonstrates the true spirit of Christmas in our community and benefits many children in need. We thank you for your overwhelming generosity and ongoing support.





# WATER CURREN

2021 Volume 22/No. 1

# WATER NEWS Hydrant Painting Contest

On August 14, 2020, NPWA welcomed Bridget Adinolfi to our Operations Center to paint a fire hydrant. Bridget submitted her winning design to our hydrant design contest held in May for Drinking Water Week.



distancing in place, Bridget was

director of NPWA, in front of the hydrant Bridget painted.

finally able to complete her hydrant design with supplies provided by NPWA. Bridget worked diligently to complete her masterpiece, which salutes essential employees. The hydrant is now proudly on display in front of NPWA's Operations Center, located at 300 Forty Food Road in Towamencin. A sign with her name also accompanies the hydrant, which will remain there until a new winner is announced during the 2021 contest.

2020's contest was held during the first week of May in honor of National Drinking Water Week, for students in grades Kindergarten through fifth to design a fire hydrant. Bridget, a third-grader at the time of the contest, submitted her design among over 35 other entries. A panel of judges consisting of NPWA staff voted her design the winner on Friday, May 8.



Bridget Adinolfi stands with the fire hydrant that she designed and painted.

"Bridget's winning design embodies a sentiment that many of us feel during these unprecedented times and we are proud to have her design displayed in front of our Operations Center," said Anthony Bellitto, Jr., Executive Director of NPWA. "We thank all of the kids who submitted a fire hydrant design for our Drinking Water Week contest. Drinking water plays a vital role in our everyday lives, which is why we wanted to draw attention to Drinkina

Water Week through this simple, at-home activity for kids."

National Drinking Water Week is an initiative of the American Water Works Association, and occurs during the first full week in May each year to recognize the vital role water plays in our daily lives. For more information, please visit www.awwa.org.

### WATER NEWS Seasonal Reminders

**Frozen Pipes:** If you experience "no water," during the cold months, check all faucets before calling our office. It could be related to a frozen pipe which is the property owner's responsibility. To avoid this situation and costly repair bills, we suggest:



- Wrap/insulate pipes in unheated areas of the home (ie: basements, attics, etc.)
- Caulk, cover, or repair broken windows that are near water meters or pipes.
- Locate and tag your master valve in case pipes freeze or rupture. We offer valve shut-off tags at our customer service desk so all members of the household will know which is the master valve.

#### **Clear hydrants:**

Please ensure that snow and ice are cleared from hydrants on your property. This allows the fire department and our crews quick access to the hydrant in case of a fire or for a necessary repair. Some hydrants are



equipped with markers to assist the fire department in finding them. Please do not tamper with them and notify us if a marker has been removed or vandalized.

**Hydrant flushing:** Spring fire hydrant flushing and inspection begins at the end of March (weather permitting) and runs through the end of May. Notices of flushing dates and locations can be found:

- Local newspapers
- Message portion of your water bill
- Our Website: www.npwa.org
- Facebook: Facebook.com/NorthPennWater

Fire Lines: Customers who wish to test their fire sprinkler system and fire service line should call the Authority's office ahead of time to notify us of their plans, allowing us to enact any necessary operational contingencies to ensure high quality, continuous water service to all customers.



## WATER NEWS Hillcrest Tank Update

NPWA's new Hillcrest Tank is up and running as of December 4, 2020. On Monday, August 24, 2020, the bowl of the Hillcrest Tank was raised with an audience of Hillcrest neighbors, Lansdale Borough officials and NPWA employees.

NPWA replaced the old water tank with a new elevated water tank on Frederick and Clearspring Roads. Replacing this tank was part of a larger infrastructure improvement project in the Hillcrest section of Lansdale that enhances fire protection, public safety and water quality.

Other benefits of the new water tank for the Hillcrest community include redundancies in water service, ensuring residents and businesses will always have access to safe, high-quality water and more consistently reliable water pressure.

#### **New Tank Statistics:**

- 250,000 gallon Spheroid
- 140 feet high
- 44 foot diameter bowl
- Gravity provides more consistently reliable water pressure
- Cell antenna equipment less visible
- New tank better meets the needs of the community at a cost about the same as refurbishing the old tank.

