



# WATER BREAK

with Tony Bellitto - Executive Director, NPWA

The theme of our Annual Report this year is "Succession Planning — Evolving into the Future." In this report, we are highlighting how we at North Penn Water Authority are responding to the challenge of an aging workforce. We have entered into a cycle in which many of our employees are reaching retirement age and moving on into their next chapter of life.

We are fortunate to have employees with varying years of tenure, ranging from decades on the job to only a few years with NPWA. This range creates an environment where those who have been on the job for many years can pass on valuable knowledge and training to those just joining the Authority. This ensures continuity of operations and allows the organization to remember its rich history as we move forward into the future.

The Authority has developed a staff that is well balanced between "newcomers" and "veterans." This is a positive and healthy cycle for any organization to go through. We have staff who have been part of our organization for a very long time. Their dedication, loyalty, and commitment to our work that is demonstrated by their longevity of service is much appreciated, and their "in-house" knowledge is invaluable. But we also have many new staff from outside our organization who bring a fresh perspective into our workplace, from their own prior experiences. This next generation of employees can eventually grow into becoming the new group of long-time employees in the future. We now have a balance of different generations working side by side to achieve common goals.

The veterans teach the newcomers, by sharing all that they've learned about our water system and the internal workings of the Authority. In turn, the newcomers can teach the veterans too, by sharing new ideas they have, and new ways of solving problems, which can help us all be better and more efficient as an organization.

You can read more detail about this subject in this year's Annual Report. Copies are posted on the Authority's website, or can be obtained at your local municipal office building, or by calling us to request that a copy be mailed to you. Feel free to contact us if you have any questions, as we're always happy to serve you.

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

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"WATER CURRENTS"

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(Near the intersection  
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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 -  
2022 Volume 23/No. 2

## NPWA TOPICS:

WATER BREAK

TOYS FOR TOTS

WATER NEWS

- The Timeline of Construction
- Employee Retirements

## TOYS FOR TOTS

For the 23rd year, NPWA will be a drop-off site for Toys for Tots, sponsored by the U.S. Marine Corps. The collection will benefit approximately 1,000 children in the Montgomery-Harleysville Region. **The drop-off bin will be available in the Authority's front lobby Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., from the last week of October until mid-December.** Please mark your calendar and consider dropping off a new, unwrapped gift for a child up to 18 years old. We appreciate your continued support in providing children in need with a Christmas gift.



## WATER NEWS *The Timeline of Construction*



As a nonprofit, municipal water authority, it is the duty of the North Penn Water Authority to maintain all assets of the water distribution system. The majority of that maintenance is done on our network of more than 595 miles of water main that is located beneath our roads.

As we all know, summertime roadwork can pose major inconveniences to anyone who comes across a "Road Closed" sign. This is why NPWA makes a conscious effort to try and schedule main replacement projects on the same roads that have work planned for them already. By doing this, NPWA can avoid digging up freshly paved roads and minimize the inconvenience within the community. Certainly, there are situations when we cannot coordinate with already planned roadwork, but we try as best as possible to minimize the impacts.

Each year, NPWA identifies water main within the service area that needs to be replaced. Qualifications include things like age of pipe, material of pipe and the amount of main breaks over the last few years. While planning which water mains need prioritizing, NPWA reaches out to municipalities for their construction schedules to narrow down which water main projects to work on in a given year.

If NPWA can replace a water main while the road is already dug up for another project, it will create less work and less inconvenience for customers.

Depending on the size and scope of a project, water main replacements can take anywhere from three to six weeks to complete, weather permitting. An NPWA employee inspects the work by taking water samples before the customer's water service lines are hooked up to the new main.

When all work is complete, a temporary patch is placed on the road. This is done for two reasons: first, if another project is planned at the same location, the contractor will not dig up a freshly paved road and second, the patch or trench needs time to settle before the final paving. Soil and sidewalk restoration is complete and final paving is done once all work is fully complete and road fill has had time to settle.

Unfortunately for NPWA, there is no way around digging up the road but it is necessary to ensure high quality, reliable water service. As always, we appreciate the understanding and patience from all NPWA customers during busy construction times.



## WATER NEWS *Employee Retirements*

Congratulations to our recent retirees, who combined, have over 100 years of experience:

- Jeff Hagan retired January 14 after 30 years in the Meter Department.
- Bill Wooler retired on January 28 after 48 years in the Operations Department.
- John Myers retired on July 15 after 45 years in the Operations Department.

We are grateful for their years of experience and for the knowledge they have passed on to our current employees. It's a great benefit for any organization to have a balance of different generations working side by side, and are hopeful to have many current employees grow into long-time employees in the future.



*Retiree Jeff Hagan with  
NPWA Executive Director Anthony Bellitto Jr.*



*Retiree Bill Wooler with  
NPWA Executive Director Anthony Bellitto Jr.*



*Retiree John Myers with  
NPWA Executive Director Anthony Bellitto Jr.*