

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 rates by a modest 3% for the average customer, effective January 1, 2012. The new usage rate is \$3.37 per 100 cubic feet, which is the same as \$4.51 per 1,000 gallons. As a result, the average customer will pay annually about \$9 more this year as compared to last year.

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 \$306 per year for water, which is the equivalent of approximately 84 cents per day for an entire household's daily water supply. For a household size of 3 people, that's only 28 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 that costs less, 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 our public water. 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 - 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.): 215-855-3617
After Hours Emergency Number: 215-855-9945

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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. 1

NPWA TOPICS:

WATER BREAK

- NPWA Rates

WATER NEWS

- Interconnection with Schwenksville Borough
- Seasonal Reminders

TOYS FOR TOTS

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Due to the overwhelming generosity on the part of the Authority's employees, our customers and area companies, over 815 items were collected during the recent Toys for Tots Program sponsored by the U.S. Marine Corps. In the twelve years that NPWA has been a drop off site, over 6,600 items have been collected. Your generous support demonstrates the true spirit of Christmas in our community and benefits many needy children. Thank you again for your ongoing support.



WATER NEWS *Interconnection with Schwenksville Borough*

As noted in the last Water Currents, with the reduction of new residential housing developments in the area, North Penn Water Authority has been seeking various ways to continue growing its revenue base, without substantial rate increases. Doing so is necessary to provide the funds needed to maintain and upgrade infrastructure and other improvements while giving NPWA's existing and new customers the best possible value for their dollars. The last edition of the Water News featured the purchase of the Sellersville Water System. In addition to outright purchase of a water system, another way to achieve the goal of Authority growth is through cooperative efforts with neighboring water utilities. One way to do this is by selling them the excess water capacity that we have available from the Forest Park Water Treatment Plant, which permits the water utility to maintain autonomy while still meeting the water demands of its customers.

With the desire to maintain ownership and control of its system while obtaining an additional emergency water supply, the Schwenksville Borough Authority (SBA) approached NPWA seeking to collaborate on installation of an interconnection between the two water systems which would serve as a backup emergency supply in case they ever needed it in the future. Schwenksville has experienced a shortage of supply during high water demand periods in the summer. They currently rely on a combination of their own groundwater wells along with the purchase of bulk water from another neighboring water supplier. Both of those sources have a limited capacity.

SBA obtained state grant money for the interconnection project which will provide capacity from the Forest Park Water Treatment Plant anytime it is needed. Construction began at the end of 2011 to interconnect NPWA's distribution system in Skippack with the SBA system, via a new pipeline that will be installed from Squirrel

Hill Road and under the Perkiomen Creek. The project allows SBA to purchase water from NPWA on an as-needed basis as an emergency backup source when and if their currently available supplies prove insufficient to meet the demand. NPWA is assisting them by assuring that they will have the high quality, reliable water supply needed to serve their customers. At the same time, the Authority is also meeting the goal of expanding its revenue base while helping to fulfill the original mission of the Forest Park Water Treatment Plant and Point Pleasant Pumping Station to

provide the area with a regional water supply, as those needs arise in a larger geographic region of Montgomery and Bucks Counties. These types of sales augment ongoing revenue generation and allow NPWA to operate its system in a way that meets the goal of being an excellent value for all its customers.



WATER NEWS *Seasonal Reminders*

"No Water": During the cold winter months, should you experience "no water" in your home, check all faucets before calling the Authority's office. The problem could be related to a frozen pipe in your home's internal plumbing. As the property owner, you are responsible for repairing the home's internal plumbing. To avoid freezing pipes and costly repair bills, we suggest the following winterizing tips:

- (1) Wrap and insulate pipes in unheated areas such as basements, closets, attics, or crawl spaces;
- (2) Caulk windows and replace or cover cracked or broken windows that are near water meters or pipes as well as where the pipe goes through walls; and
- (3) Locate and tag your master valve just in case pipes freeze and rupture.

Hydrants: Hydrants throughout the NPWA distribution system are equipped with markers to assist the fire department in finding them if they become covered in snow or grown over with weeds or shrubs. Please don't tamper with the hydrant markers and call our office if you notice a marker has been removed or vandalized. After a snow storm, please clear (or have someone clear for you) the snow and ice from around the fire hydrants located in front of your properties. This allows the fire department and the Authority's crews quick access to the hydrant in case of a fire, or for a necessary repair.

Spring Hydrant Flushing Program: Our program of flushing and inspecting the hydrants should start, weather permitting, at the end of March and run through the middle of May. As flushing time approaches, notices of hydrant flushing dates and locations will be posted in local newspapers and announced on WNPV Radio (1440). You can also check the message portion of your bill or our website at www.northpennwater.org for this information.

