

VILLAGE OF FLOWER HILL SPRING 2014 NEWSLETTER

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In order to communicate more effectively, the Village will be emailing residents updates on issues pertaining to the village, decisions and upcoming events.

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PSEG OVERHEAD TRANSMISSION POLE PROJECT

By now we are sure most of you have seen the 80' poles that have been installed along Port Washington Blvd and Northern Blvd. all the way to Great Neck. When PSEG took over from LIPA their goal was to improve reliability. They believe the PSEG Long Island Port Washington to Great Neck Overhead Transmission Project will accomplish that goal. According to PSEG Long Island, the purpose of this project is to improve the reliability of electric service to the area by replacing 200 existing utility poles with taller, wider, and stronger poles capable of withstanding 130 mph winds, greater than what was experienced during Superstorm Sandy. PSEG Long Island's reliability engineers assessed the customer demand in the area and determined that there is a critical need for the summer of 2014 for a new transmission circuit to reliably serve its customers in the area and to reduce the risks of customer outages.

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DOGWOOD LANE WATER TOWER TO BE REPLACED

On Tuesday, April 8th, the Manhasset-Lakeville Water District held a public meeting to discuss replacing the water tower on Dogwood Lane. The existing tower was built in 1929 and needs to be replaced. Although nothing has been decided yet, the water district has retained the engineering firm of H2M who have recommended replacing the existing tower with an elevated pedestal type that can store 750,000 gallons of water versus the current storage capacity of 500,000. The proposed tank will conform to current building code, cover peak summer and fire flow demand and provide a cushion from any unwanted surges. H2M reported that law requires them to propose a design that can meet the highest demand day historically and account for a fire on that day and a possible well closing. They also

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ROSLYN WATER DISTRICT TO LIMIT WATERING THIS SUMMER

**Emergency Water Restrictions:
Roslyn Residents may water only be-
tween 8 am and 10 am on odd/even
days**

The District will not be able to meet the anticipated watering demands this summer based on previous lawn-watering trends. This is due to two (2) of their eight (8) wells being taken out of service for treatment installation. Their team of experts is working to get the wells back in service as soon as possible.



If, and only if, it is absolutely necessary to water your lawn, the District, its engineers and the village mayors have created a lawn-

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VILLAGE TAX PAYMENT DUE NO LATER THAN JULY 1, 2014

Your tax bill should arrive in the mail during the first week of June. If your mortgage company receives the bill, it would be wise for you to check on whether or not it was received. If you have not received a bill by the week of June 8th, please call the Village Hall to obtain a duplicate bill.

Village taxes must be paid on time. Late charges begin to accrue on July 2nd. Under New York State Law there is no excuse or exemption from late fees. If you are new to the Village, please be sure we have the correct address for your tax bill. Please be aware that we may not accept cash for payment of taxes. Payment by credit card is available through the Village website for a small additional fee.

NEW BUSINESSES IN FLOWER HILL

We welcome the following new businesses to the Village:

At 1085 Northern Blvd.: PearleVision. The same owners of the old PearleVision across from IHOP on Northern Blvd. have moved to a beautifully designed new location with eyeglasses for the whole family.

Also at 1085 Northern, SLT. Strengthen, Lengthen and Tone offers group Pilates classes on the reformer for 10 students at a time. This is a really tough workout that will change your body in a very short period of time.

Coming soon at 15-25 Port Washington Blvd. is Arhaus, an upscale indoor and outdoor furniture.

We urge you to shop locally and support all our Flower Hill Businesses

MANAGING YOUR SEPTIC SYSTEM

In our Village, as is typical of many north shore communities, rather than having sewer systems to remove wastewater from our homes, we have septic systems. **As a homeowner, you are responsible to care for your septic system.** A properly constructed and maintained system can last in excess of 25 years. Effective treatment of sewage keeps property values high and prevents the spread of disease and infection to people and animals.

Symptoms of a failing system are wastewater back-ups, offensive odors and sluggish drains, lush growth of vegetation over the system, pump out required more than once a year.

Causes of failure are failing to pump out and inspect the system periodically, putting solvents, poisons and household chemicals into the system, overflowing the system with large quantities of water such as from a hot tub, swimming pool or large quantities of wash water.

To avoid problems:

- Have your system inspected regularly and pumped out every 3—5 years
- Limit the amount of chemicals entering the system—use low phosphate detergents, avoid chemical drain cleaners. Use a snake or boiling water to clear pipes.
- Never use anti-bacterial soap or dispose of household chemicals such as paint, disinfectants, medicines into sinks or toilets.
- Don't dump non-biodegradables such as dental floss, sanitary products, cooking fat or paper towels
- Plant only grass over your system. Shrub and tree roots clog the system.
- Use water efficiently

(Water Tower, continued from page 1)



reported that the existing storage tank went as low as 5 feet of remaining water during a recent fire. The proposed tower will be exactly the same height, but have a smaller head range and base diameter. H2M also reviewed the possibility of building a ground level storage tank as an alternate solution.

In their professional opinion, this is not the ideal solution because it will not provide the water pressure that we have become accustomed to, requires pumps to generate pressure versus natural gravity, will necessitate a significant amount of electricity and may cause an increase in noise to the surrounding neighbors. Many of the community members present requested additional information on ground level storage which the water district will provide on their website. For a copy of the entire presentation, please visit our village website, www.villageflowerhill.org.

(Roslyn Water, continued from page 1)

watering schedule to avoid applying additional stress to the system.

Non-compliance may result in residents having to boil their water before use.

Automatic irrigation can only be permitted for **a maximum of two hours on alternate odd and even based-days** as permitted by Nassau County. Homeowners who live on odd-numbered premises can water their lawns on odd-numbered days, and homeowners who live on even-numbered premises or premises with no numbers are allowed to water their lawns on even-numbered days.

Hand watering may be done on odd/even days between the hours of 4 pm and 10 am.

We ask residents to always practice water conservation, but understand that our **primary concern for adopting this restriction is that lawn irrigation is the biggest use of our water supply during the summer.**

(Roslyn Water cont.)

Please make sure your automatic rain or soil moisture sensors are working properly. Based on the degree of cooperation, the Roslyn Water District may alter this schedule if necessary. For more information, please contact the District's office at 516.621.7770 or email roslynwaterdistrict@gmail.com.

DO NOT SOLICIT LIST

The Village maintains a list of residents who do not wish to be disturbed by canvassers. All canvassers who go door to door are required to register with the Village. Part of the registration process is their agreement to abide by our list. To join the list, download the form from the website by clicking on the forms tab or stop by the Village Hall.

BOARD APPROVES 2014—15 BUDGET

The Board of Trustees unanimously approved the 2014/2015 Village Budget at the April 7, 2014 meeting. The Village will **decrease** the amount of revenue to be raised from taxes by 1.97%, a significant decrease given that the overall budget increased by \$209,854. The increase in the 2014/2015 budget is predominantly due to an increase in road improvements, sanitation costs and employee benefits. This increase in expenditures is being offset by greater permit fees, cost savings and grants. The estimated Village Tax Rate for the coming fiscal year is expected to go down by 3.42% to \$33.66. The budget is available on our website and call Kathy Wade, Village Treasurer, with any questions.

(PSEG cont. from page 1)

Many trees under the new poles have been trimmed to accommodate them however PSEG has committed to doing some replacement/beautification to remediate the effects of this. They have also assured us that all of the old poles will be removed within three months.

The Village is working with PSEG and the State Dept. of Transportation (owner of Port Washington Blvd, a State highway) to create green traffic islands, planted with trees and ground cover that will soften the effect of the poles.

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VILLAGE REPEATS STREET TREE PLANTING PROGRAM

Thanks to the Mayor, Board of Trustees and the Tree Committee we will be repeating last year's program to replant trees along the Village's right-of-way , continuing the mitigation of the effects of Hurricane Sandy on our Tree Population. Last year we planted 26 trees, We are excited that we are able to continue this program this year.

The planting will be by resident request only. Residents interested in having a tree planted in the ROW in front of their home must complete a form to be placed on the request list. Depending on number of requests we will be able to determine how many trees we can purchase and either plant trees for all submissions or hold a lottery among all those interested. If you received a tree last year you will not be considered. Only one tree per property owner is permitted. Forms are due by June 16. Notification to residents eligible will be in the early Summer.

Code Enforcement Official Robert Rockelein and Village Arborist Ann Frankel will visit to each home that requests a tree to determine whether the planting is feasible, the best location, and the most suitable species for the site in consultation with the homeowner. The Village will request a utility mark out to determine proper placement of each tree so that it will not interfere with gas or water lines. Once selected, the property owner will be required to sign an agreement promising to care for the tree by watering and providing whatever typical tree care is necessary. The homeowner agreement will also waive any liability for damage to sprinkler lines, landscaping or other property during the planting. If the tree should fail within a reasonable period of time because of neglect the property owner will be responsible for the cost of replacement. Planting will take place during the fall planting season. Mr. Rockelein will follow up at each residence receiving a tree to insure that the homeowner is caring for it appropriately.

Once planted the homeowner assumes all responsibility for the tree, the Village will not do any future maintenance on the newly planted tree or any other trees that currently exist in the ROW per Village Code 195-11.

CONTACT THE VILLAGE HALL FOR A TREE REQUEST APPLICATION

Or visit the Village website www.villageflowerhill.org