



# water works

The Plainview Water District Newsletter

## Administration Building Renovations Near Conclusion

The Plainview Water District Commissioners would like to thank everyone in the community for their support during the renovation of the District administration building. The process is nearing completion and should be finished within a matter of weeks.

“The 21st century calls for adaptations on many fronts, and the Water District is no exception. New measures in energy conservation and rapid advancements in technology demand that we remain current in order to better serve our consumers,” said Superintendent Richard Tobin. “We’re excited to get back in to the administration building and bring the advantages that come with these renovations to the Plainview community.”

Plainview Water District’s 60-year-old administration building was in dire need of an overhaul. Now, thanks to the carefully planned construction that has taken place over the past few months, the entire



*(L-R) Plainview Water Commissioner Ed Shulroff, Nassau County Legislator Judy Jacobs and Superintendent Richard Tobin at the new administration building’s flag dedication ceremony*

infrastructure has been gutted and replaced with high-quality, environmentally friendly materials. New insulation will contribute to reduced heating bills, and a new lighting system will lower monthly electric bills. Other antiquated systems and utilities have also been replaced, including the old telephone system, wiring and plumbing fixtures.

Plainview community members will further benefit from the new lobby and waiting area that have also been included in the upgrade. The Board of Commissioners and Water District employees are thrilled with the

anticipation of serving the community in their newly improved workplace.

“We are dedicated to providing the best services and highest quality water to Plainview,” commented Commissioner Ed Shulroff. “These renovations will further enhance the service and product we deliver to the Plainview community.”

## Celebrating the ‘Art’ of Water Conservation

### Plainview Water Commissioners Honor Winners of Annual Poster Contest

Every year, Plainview-Old Bethpage students in grades one through six take part in the Plainview Water District’s Water Conservation Poster Contest by creating their own original poster artwork on the topic of water conservation, demonstrating its role in maintaining a healthy environment. In this year’s contest, Plainview Water Commissioners

Kevin Langberg, Joel Kessler and Edward Shulroff voted on the top three entries from each grade level. First-place winners each received a \$100 U.S. savings bond, and \$50 bonds were awarded to second- and third-place winners.

“It was very difficult to select these winners out of so many outstanding entries,” said Commissioner Kessler. “This is obviously a very talented group of kids who truly understand the importance of conserving water and protecting the environment.”

The winners of the 2009 Water Conservation Poster Contest are as follows:



Plainview Water Commissioners Joel Kessler and Edward Shulroff with Superintendent Richard Tobin and the winners of this year’s water conservation poster contest: (Front Row, L-R) Kristine D’Onofrio, Angelina Kim, Samantha Speirs, Anastasia Grossfeld and Callie Shapiro; (Second Row) Commissioner Joel Kessler, Erica DiGregorio, Jake Schwartz, Lauren Prince, Kaylee Riemann, Melissa Dulberg, Commissioner Edward Shulroff and Superintendent Richard Tobin; (Top Row) Jacqueline Kitzes, Erica Kam, David Weissman, Emily Masiakos. Not pictured: Jane Sohn.



Grade	First Place	Second Place	Third Place
Second	Jacqueline Kitzes	Kristine D’Onofrio	Anastasia Grossfeld
Third	Callie Shapiro	Samantha Speirs	Angelina Kim
Fourth	David Weissman	Erica Kam	Emily Masiakos
Fifth	Kaylee Riemann	Jake Schwartz	Melissa Dulberg
Sixth	Erica DiGregorio	Jane Sohn	Lauren Prince

## Thank You for Your Survey Responses

Featured on the new Plainview Water District website, [www.plainviewwater.org](http://www.plainviewwater.org), and included in our summer newsletter, a new survey prompts community members to provide feedback about their general level of contentment with the services provided by the District. Within the first few months of its introduction, the survey has already received a phenomenal response. The Commissioners of the Plainview Water District are delighted with the volume of replies and would like to thank all those who filled out the surveys.

The Plainview Water District staff is in the process of reading every one of your responses, and we will consider every comment as we continue to seek ways to serve the Plainview community better. Look for updates on the survey results in a future newsletter and on our website, and learn how we’re working to meet your needs.

If you have any questions or concerns, or if you would like more information regarding the Plainview Water District, please don’t hesitate to contact us at 516-931-6469. If you still haven’t filled out the survey, we’d love to hear from you. You’ll find it on the District website, [www.plainviewwater.org](http://www.plainviewwater.org).

## Check Out Our New Website!

The Plainview Water District is celebrating the relaunch of our new and improved website, [www.plainviewwater.org](http://www.plainviewwater.org). The new site features a more comprehensive overview of the Plainview Water District, board meeting dates, recent news and a “Kids’ Corner” section for children featuring grade-specific water-education materials and conservation-based activities.

Not only does our new website provide more detailed information about Plainview Water District’s services, it is also easier to navigate. We invite you to visit the site to learn more about our services, read recent Water District news reports and newsletters and download activities for your children.



## Before You Reach for That Bottle of Water, Read This



The Plainview Water District has reported many times over recent years that the standards for our drinking water exceed federal and state requirements, as well as pointing out both the health and cost benefits of drinking tap water rather than bottled water. A recent report featured on *ABC News* examined

this issue; the results may come as quite a surprise to bottled-water drinkers.

The televised report noted that bottled water manufacturers are not required to disclose where they get their water from, how it is purified or whether it is treated at all. And yet despite this uncertainty, Americans are still spending \$16 billion a year on bottled water. In fact, the bottled water industry acknowledges that as much as 45 percent of bottled water comes from municipal water supplies; furthermore, an estimated 25 percent of those bottles hit the shelves unfiltered. After U.S. Congress held a hearing on bottled water in the House Energy and Commerce Subcommittee over the summer, members of Congress are now pushing for legislation that would require bottled water manufacturers to state where their water comes from and what's in it.

In a study of 188 bottled water brands conducted by the Environmental Working Group – a nonprofit public health advocacy organization – only two brands listed specific water sources and methods on their labels and offered recent water quality test reports on their websites. Conversely, municipal tap water suppliers, such as Plainview Water District, are required by law to produce an annual water quality report that is available to consumers. Congress is considering legislation that would regulate bottled water more like tap water.

Another major concern about bottled water is with the way bottles are discarded. The U.S. government estimates that three quarters of the water bottles sold are not recycled.

So before you grab that bottle, think twice. The latest research supports what Plainview Water District has confidently stated so many times in the past: tap water is of a higher quality than its bottled competition. It's healthier for you, better for the environment and unquestionably easier on your wallet.

**ABC News Airs Highlights of Recent Reports That May Surprise Bottled-Water Drinkers**

## Emergency Alert System for Priority Users

Priority water users in Plainview Water District are those individuals who are critically dependent on an uninterrupted supply of water. If for any reason, the Plainview Water District cannot supply water due to maintenance issues, water main breaks, natural disasters or power outages, we will immediately contact those priority users affected. To ensure that you'll be notified during any possible emergency, please contact the Plainview Water District at (516) 931-6469 and give us your name, cell phone number and personal information. You do not have to disclose your medical condition.

## Water-Efficient Devices Can Save You a Bundle

Plainview Water Commissioners know that although your water bill is almost certainly the lowest monthly bill you pay, in the current economy every dollar counts. Fortunately, there are plenty of adjustments homeowners can make to lower costs even further and conserve water in the process. Other than closely monitoring the amount of water you use, the best way to save money is to take advantage of water-efficient home plumbing products.

"It's amazing how much water we can save by using the proper plumbing fixtures," says Plainview Water District Chairman Kevin Langberg.

With devices such as aerated showerheads, energy-efficient washing machines and 1.6 gallon-per-flush toilets, you will not only lower your water costs, but will also significantly alleviate water pressure on the District supply, which is extremely important in densely populated regions such as Long Island. Water conservation is a win-win situation for everyone involved. Saving water means saving money, not only for the individual homeowner, but for the entire community.

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PRESORTED STANDARD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
HICKSVILLE, N.Y.  
Permit No. 175



Or Current Resident

## Plainview Water District Uses New Technology for Safest Water Possible

The Plainview Water District Commissioners Kevin Langberg, Joel Kessler and Edward Shulroff recently announced plans to install a new system of nitrate analyzers to verify the level of nitrate in the water system is within acceptable ranges.

“The installation of these nitrate analyzers is a proactive step in continuing to provide the highest quality water to the Plainview community,” said Water District Chairman Kevin Langberg. “We will continue to aggressively monitor our water supply to make sure that the people of Plainview always receive the best water possible.”

This new technology will detect and measure the level of nitrates in the water which will better allow District employees to continually evaluate the quality of the water supplied.

“It is our pledge to always bring in the most effective tools and technology to make our already exceptional water even better,” continued Chairman Langberg.