

November 24, 2021

THE MAYOR'S UPDATE

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LEAD UPDATE

The Village of Garden City was recently notified of a high lead level in the domestic water supply sample at a home in Garden City. The Village contacted the Nassau County Health Department immediately for information and any guidance and simultaneously conducted tests for lead at each of its active well sites where the treated water enters the Village-wide distribution system. Those tests came back “Non-Detect” for lead and the results were shared with the Health Department. In conversations with the Health Department, preliminary results indicate that the home in question has a lead service line connection to the Village water main. The Village is awaiting a final report from the Health Department’s investigation and any recommendations that may be forthcoming.

According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), lead can enter drinking water when plumbing materials that contain lead corrode, especially where the water has high acidity or low mineral content that corrodes pipes and fixtures. The most common sources of lead in drinking water are lead pipes, faucets, and fixtures. In homes with lead pipes that connect the home to the water main, also known as lead service lines, these pipes are typically the most significant source of lead in the water. Among homes without lead service lines, the most common problem is with brass or chrome-plated brass faucets and plumbing with lead solder. The Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) has reduced the maximum allowable lead content -- that is, content that is considered "lead-free" -- to be a weighted average of 0.25 percent calculated across the wetted surfaces of pipes, pipe fittings, plumbing fittings, and fixtures and 0.2 percent for solder and flux.

The Village immediately conducted tests for lead at each of its active well sites where the treated water enters the Village-wide distribution system. Those tests came back “Non-Detect” for lead and were forwarded to the Health Department. H2M, the Village’s water consultants, is evaluating the effectiveness of corrosion control treatment throughout the Village. The Village has conducted all required lead and copper compliance mandates as required under the Federal Lead and Copper Rule, including the most recent sampling conducted in 2020, and was found to be in compliance. The Village is aggressively monitoring the water supply and is in regular communication with the Health Department during its investigation. We will remain vigilant and provide updates as more information becomes available.

Residents can immediately request free lead testing kits through the New York State Department of Health. Email FreeWaterTesting@health.ny.gov and provide the following information:

1. *your name;*
2. *your phone number;*
3. *your e-mail address;*
4. *address for sample location and address for mailing test kit, if different;*
5. *county for sample location;*

6. *1st choice for participating laboratory selected from the list below; and*
7. *2nd choice for participating laboratory selected from the list below.*

You should be aware that the results of these samples are not made available to the Village. If you wish, you can forward a copy of the results to the Village Water Department, but it is not a requirement of your participation in the New York State Department of Health program.

List of Laboratories

- Advanced Analytical Technologies, Orangeburg, Rockland County
- EMSL Analytical, Inc., New York, New York County
- Envirotest Laboratories, Inc., Newburgh, Orange County
- Erie County Public Health Laboratory, Buffalo, Erie County
- NY Environmental and Analytical Labs Inc., Port Washington, Nassau County
- Westchester County Department of Laboratories and Research, Valhalla, Westchester County

According to the EPA, there are several steps residents can take if their water has tested positive for lead:

- **Learn if you have a lead service line.** Contact your water utility or a licensed plumber to determine if the pipe that connects your home to the water main (called a service line) is made from lead. If a lead service line is discovered, it is a homeowner's responsibility to replace it.
- **Run your water.** Before drinking, flush your home's pipes by running the tap, taking a shower, doing laundry, or doing a load of dishes. The amount of time to run the water will depend on whether your home has a lead service line or not, and the length of the lead service line. Residents should contact their water utility for recommendations about flushing times in their community.
- **Learn about construction in your neighborhood.** Be aware of any construction or maintenance work that could disturb your lead service line. Construction may cause more lead to be released from a lead service line.
- **Use cold water.** Use only cold water for drinking, cooking and making baby formula. Remember, boiling water does not remove lead from water.
- **Clean your aerator.** Regularly clean your faucet's screen (also known as an aerator). Sediment, debris, and lead particles can collect in your aerator. If lead particles are caught in the aerator, lead can get into your water.
- **Use your filter properly.** If you use a filter, make sure you use a filter certified to remove lead. Read the directions to learn how to properly install and use your cartridge and when to replace it. Using the cartridge after it has expired can make it less effective at removing lead. Do not run hot water through the filter.

ST. PAUL'S COMMITTEE

Mayor Cosmo Venezia announced the formation of a St. Paul's Committee at the November 18, 2021 Board of Trustees meeting. Resident volunteers who will serve on the Committee are as follows:

- Brian Deveney, Chairman
- Robert Schoelle, Vice-Chairman

HISTORIC RESEARCH SUBCOMMITTEE

- Bill Garry (C)
- Brian Pinnola
- Kate Schmidt

PROGRAM and USE ANALYSIS SUBCOMMITTEE

- Frank McDonough (C)
- Jack Hartog
- Betsy Andromidas
- Johnathan Martin
- Michele Harrington
- George Salem
- Kathie Wysocki

BUDGET and FINANCE SUBCOMMITTEE

- Ryan Mulrooney (C)
- Stephen Fereance
- Bob Davis
- George Kane
- Thomas G. Ryan
- Kurt Ehrig
- Nicholas Eliopoulos
- Robert Orosz

LEGAL and ZONING SUBCOMMITTEE

- Charles P. Kelly (C)
- Tom Lamberti
- Remy Bernardo
- Ed Finneran
- Jason Danisi
- Keith Galanti

DESIGN and ENGINEERING SUBCOMMITTEE

- William Alisse, R.A. (C)
- Joseph Jabour, P.E.
- Joseph Plati, P.E.
- Richard Redmond, P.E.
- William Sollin
- Brian Gemmell
- Dan Clark
- Paul Capece, A.I.A.

VILLAGE MEET AND GREET NOVEMBER 30

To further increase engagement with residents, the Village Governance Committee is sponsoring a monthly Meet and Greet. It will be held the fourth Tuesday of each month although the first meeting will be held on November 30, 2021 at the Village Senior Center from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. This is a chance for residents to engage directly with the Board of Trustees members without going through any third parties or having to wait until the end of a Village Board meeting. We hope to have a maximum of three Trustees at each meeting to avoid any violations of the Open Meetings Law. These meetings will not have an agenda; Trustees will be available to discuss multiple issues and concerns.

WATER UPDATE

Water Tower: The painting and electrical subcontractors will remobilize in the next week or so to begin completing their work.

Discolored Water Complaints: H2M is mapping discolored water detections and investigating complaints as they are registered. H2M is sending the draft “blue water report” to the Village this week.

Well 7 (Waterworks site): The contractor completed punch list items; “as-builts” are under H2M review; and the contractor ordered spare parts (may have delayed delivery).

Wells 8 and 12 (Rockaway Avenue site): Plans for permanent building will be ready for bid this month. Meeting conducted onsite for brick selection for H2O2 canopy. H2M to review brick selection for H2O2 canopy with the Village. H2M is expected to have final documents for permanent buildings by early December.

Well No 9 (Wilson Street site): Nassau County Health Department endorsed engineering report to the NYS Department of Health. Soil Investigation was conducted. Report under review and will be submitted to the Village. Design of facility continues.

Wells 10 and 11 (Clinton Road site): Extended casing of Well No. 11. H2M working on plans for blower replacement and enclosure at Well No. 11. Pour epoxy floor coating.

Wells 13 and 14 (Garden City Country Club site): H2M met with PRI to discuss options for constructing foundation to minimize landscape modifications. H2M and the Village met with representatives from the Golf Club to review the expected work last week. The Golf Club requested additional renderings and a landscaping plan. H2M is preparing that now.

Wells 15 and 16 Hilton Park site): Finished insulation for packed tower, starting installing booster pumps, continued site grading, and installed bollards for generator. Upcoming work includes installing ceiling, well cleaning and continuation of site regrading.

FIRE SAFETY COMMITTEE REPORTS

The Fire Safety Committee presented several reports during a special meeting held Wednesday, November 17, 2021 at Garden City Middle School and via Zoom. Volunteer fire subject matter experts and residents, along with Chief Devyn Moody, and Assistant Chiefs Matt Pearn, Jonathan Parrella and James Tauton of the Garden City Fire Department, devoted hundreds of hours to this Committee. Resident volunteers serving on this Committee are: Billy Bedell, Kirk Candan, Bill

Castoro, Christopher Corbett, Jason Danisi, Thomas Faranda, Bill Ford, T.J. Michon, Larry Nedelka, Joe Plati, Michael Rendino, Bill Sollin and Bruce Torino. According to Fire Commissioner and Deputy Mayor Tom O'Brien, the presentation was not a debate on people's opinions on what the Village should or should not be doing but rather a thorough read out of the Committee's fire subject matter experts who came together to analyze the Fire Department's efficiencies and needs. Subcommittees provided thorough reports on the following subject matter:

- Legal Case Studies/After Action Report
- Emergency Action and Response Plan
- Facilities and Apparatus Needs Analysis
- Master Plan and Risk Assessment

The reports, and PowerPoint presentation can be found on the Village website, www.gardencityny.net.

TOYS FOR TOTS PROGRAM

With the holiday season upon us, it is the time to reflect upon how fortunate we are to have the opportunity to share these times with family and friends. As you may be aware, there are many children who are not so fortunate.

In an effort to bring some happiness to families who will not have the resources to provide a gift for their child this year, the Garden City Police Department has a gift depository for the United States Marine Corps (USMC) Toys for Tots Program.

In the spirit of giving, I ask that if you are able to do so, please drop off any unused, unwrapped gifts into collection boxes in the lobbies of the Garden City Police Department and Village Hall. Your generous gifts, no matter how small, could make a difference to a child. Thank you in advance for your support of this most worthwhile program. Last year, the Department collected several boxes of toys that were distributed to children by the Marines.

HOLIDAY SEASON SAFETY TIPS

The holiday season is always a special time of year. It is also a time when busy people become preoccupied and vulnerable to theft and other holiday crime. We can never be too careful, too prepared or too aware. The Garden City Police Department wishes you a safe, happy and peaceful holiday season and offers the following tips:

DRIVING

- If you must shop at night, park in a well-lit area. Lock your vehicle and close all windows.
- Avoid parking next to vans, trucks with camper shells, or cars with tinted windows.
- Park as close as you can to your destination and take notice of where you parked.
- Never leave your car unoccupied with the motor running or with children inside.
- Avoid leaving packages or valuables inside your vehicle where they can be seen by potential thieves.
- When approaching or leaving your vehicle, be aware of your surroundings.
- Do not approach your car alone if there are suspicious people in the area.
- Do not roll down your window if approached by a stranger; talk through the glass

or drive away.

HOME

- Ensure all doors and windows are locked when you leave the house, even for a few minutes.
- When leaving home for extended periods, ask a neighbor or family member to watch your house.
- Have someone pick up your newspapers, mail, and deliveries.
- Indoor and outdoor lights should be on automatic timers
- Leave a radio or television on so the house looks and sounds occupied.
- Gifts should not be visible through the windows and doors of your home.
- Be aware that criminals sometimes pose as couriers delivering gifts.

LEAVING HOME

- Plan your trip carefully and avoid getting lost by knowing the routes you will be taking.
- Tell someone when and where you are going, as well as what time you expect to return home.
- When leaving home, leave interior and exterior lights on and if equipped, activate your alarm system. Be aware of anyone watching or following you when you leave.
- Ensure your car has a full tank of gas and keep your doors locked and windows closed.
- Do not post that you are going on vacation on social media sites.
- Ensure your surveillance systems are on and notification alerts, if equipped, are activated.

AUTOMATED TELLER MACHINE (ATM)

- When using an ATM at night, choose locations that are well-lit and secure.
- Protect your PIN by shielding the ATM keypad from anyone who is standing near you.
- Do not throw your ATM receipt away at the ATM location.

SHOPPING

- Shop during daylight hours whenever possible. At night, shop with a friend or family member.
- Dress casually and comfortably; avoid wearing expensive jewelry.
- Do not carry a purse or wallet, if possible. They are easy targets for thieves in crowded areas.
- Avoid carrying large amounts of cash; pay for purchases with a check or credit card when possible.
- Keep cash in your front pocket.
- Notify the credit card issuer immediately if your credit card is lost, stolen or misused.
- Keep a record of all of your credit card numbers in a safe place at home.
- Avoid overloading yourself with packages and stay alert at all times.
- Be sure to locate your keys prior to going to your car.

- Beware of strangers approaching you for any reason.
- Beware of persons attempting to distract you with the intention of taking your money or belongings.
- If you have a key chain or fob with a panic button, be prepared to use it if you feel threatened.
- When leaving the shopping center, ensure that no one is following you.
- Call 911 when being followed and drive directly to a Police Station or area where people are present.
- If possible, leave small children at home with a trusted babysitter or family member.
- Teach children to stay close to you at all times while shopping.
- Teach your children to go to a store clerk or security officer if they become separated from you.
- Ensure your children know their full name, address and telephone number.
- Never allow children to make unaccompanied trips to the restroom.
- Children should never be allowed to go to the car alone and should never be left alone in the car.