

Article from AARP May 2010

Q: Heavy rain sent raw sewage backing up into our home. Our insurance company says the thousands of dollars of damage are not covered under our homeowners' policy. How can that be?

A: According to the Insurance Information Institute, most homeowners' and flood policies don't cover this kind of mishap. You must buy specific sewage coverage for \$40 to \$50 annually. If the backup made your home unlivable your homeowner's policy may provide loss of use coverage for such expenses as lodging and food.



WATER FACTS

- Water is the most common substance found on earth.
- The only water we will ever have is what we have now.
- Each day the sun evaporates 1000,000,000,000 (a trillion) tons of water

If you have any questions concerning your drinking water or any suggestions for this newsletter please contact John F. Wegele, Billy J. Doty, or Kathleen Shortway at the Pompton Lakes M.U.A. office, (973)839-3044. Office hours are Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Also visit our website www.plbmua.org to view the Consumer Confidence Report and previous newsletters in our archives.

**Pompton Lakes MUA
2000 Lincoln Avenue
Pompton Lakes,
New Jersey 07442**

***Resident of Pompton Lakes
Pompton Lakes, N. J. 07442***

**POMPTON LAKES
MUNICIPAL UTILITIES
AUTHORITY**

**LETS MAKE IT
CRYSTAL CLEAR**

*Issue #13
December, 2010*

The Pompton Lakes MUA will continue to keep our customers informed on both water and wastewater matters with our newsletters



- **OUR DRINKING WATER CONTINUES TO MEET OR EXCEED ALL FEDERAL AND STATE SAFE DRINKING WATER ACT STANDARDS.**
- **UPDATES INSIDE ON WATER AND WASTEWATER IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS AND PLANS FOR 2011**

**George D. Decker – Chairman / Exec. Director
Kevin P. Carroll – Vice Chairman/ Treasurer
Lawrence DeMaio – Sec. / Personnel Comm.
Neal Galletta – Water Comm. / Asst. Sec.
Michael Longo – Sewer Comm. / Asst. Treasurer**

A Message from the Chairman's desk:

2010 has been another busy year at the PLMUA! We are 10 years into the millennium and, as you will read later on, continue to upgrade and refurbish our treatment plant facilities, many of which were originally constructed in the 60's and 70's, and work with a water supply system that in some places is over 100 years old! Some things change and some things stay the same but we think the future is bright for your water and sewer system and we will strive to continue to provide quality service to all of our customers.

Let me take this opportunity to wish all of our customers a Safe and Happy Holiday season from all of us at the PLMUA!

G. D. Decker, Chairman, PLMUA
December, 2010

Wireless Water Meter Upgrade Project COMPLETED!

ONE TIME CHANGE IN BILLING PROCEDURE SET FOR JANUARY 2011

The Authority's wireless meter upgrade project which allows a water meter reading to be obtained by us from a portable hand held device without entering a customer's property was completed this year. What used to take 6 weeks to read meters now is accomplished in just a few days! We will now be able to do the quarterly reading of your meter during the month we actually bill you (January, April, July & October) rather than using a reading

from the previous month. Therefore, for one time only in January, 2011, we will adjust our billing system and bill you for 4 months water consumption (September 1st – first week in January). Thereafter, you will receive a normal quarterly bill for 3 months consumption of water.

UPDATES ON CONSTRUCTION AND CAPITAL PROJECTS:



NEW SAND FILTER UNITS BEING INSTALLED

In 2009 the Authority took advantage of the Federal Government's Stimulus Program through the New Jersey Environmental Infrastructure Trust (NJEIT) and 9 projects were approved for funding. We accepted 4 of the projects after bidding and they were basically completed during 2010.

- Sand filters were installed at the treatment plant to remove very fine suspended solids at the final stages of the wastewater treatment process, an excellent upgrade to our system and an improvement to the quality of the water leaving the treatment facility.

- The Aeration Basins, constructed in the 60's and 70's, were refurbished and now provide more effective air distribution during the treatment process and are more easily maintained.

These two projects, with total costs of \$2.8 Million, were approved under the "principal forgiveness" provisions which means the Authority will only have to pay back 50% of the loan amount, a savings of \$1.4 Million!

- The South Pumping Station was refurbished and a new channel grinder was installed at a cost of \$270,000. The channel grinder shreds solids entering the wastewater treatment plant allowing for easier removal, drastically reducing daily maintenance.

The Authority rejected a 5th project for installation of a sewer sludge thickener system because the bids had come in too high! However, we made some slight revisions and resubmitted the Project under the 2010 NJEIT Program and re-bid. We were pleased that the subsequent re-bid came in over \$500,000 less than the previously rejected bid and the project will now move forward at a projected cost of \$850,000.

Under the 2010 Stimulus and NJEIT programs, we qualified for 25% principal forgiveness and we will only have to pay back 75% of the loan amount, a savings of \$212,500!

This project also qualified as a "green" project under environmental guidelines and will be completed in 2011.

