

Massapequa Water District

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Commissioners
Frank J. Flood, Jr.
John F. Caruso
Vincent Guadagno

Constance A. Belegirinos, Business Manager

Dear Resident:

January 13, 2010

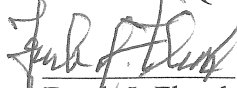
Recently the New York Times published a front page article (12/17/09) entitled "*That Tap Water Is Legal but May Be Unhealthy*" by Charles Duhigg. Unfortunately the article is an example of extremely poor journalism that is designed to alarm rather than properly educate the public. In the case of the Massapequa Water District, the New York Times provided a web site link that indicated three contaminants below legal limits, but above health guidelines. We found that the data was not based on science and was clearly very subjective. Our annual Drinking Water Quality Report, which is published and mailed to our customers, documents the safety of our water supply based on stringent federal and state water quality regulations.


We have issued a detailed response to the New York Time expressing our concerns and have clearly pointed out that the article was a gross mischaracterization of our water quality and impact on public health. Our letter also advised the New York Times to place its efforts into the real issue of hazardous waste site and groundwater contamination clean-up. This is an issue that our Water District is proactively addressing to insure the safety and quality of the water delivered to our residents. Effective media attention in this area could compel federal and state regulatory agencies to perform their regulatory duties properly to remediate contamination.


As your Board of Commissioners, we would like to assure the community that the drinking water provided by the Massapequa Water District is safe to drink and complies with all of the stringent federal, state and county standards established for drinking water. Residents can be assured that the Water District takes every proactive measure within its jurisdiction to protect public health.

In closing front page stories in a prominent newspaper must be based on accurate and truthful information. Misleading the public is unethical and does a disservice to public water supply systems that are committed to public health protection.

Very truly yours,
MASSAPEQUA WATER DISTRICT


Frank J. Flood
Commissioner


John F. Caruso
Commissioner


Vincent Guadagno
Commissioner