



For Immediate Release from the Board of Commissioners – May 2, 2008

COOPERATION, NOT CONSOLIDATION

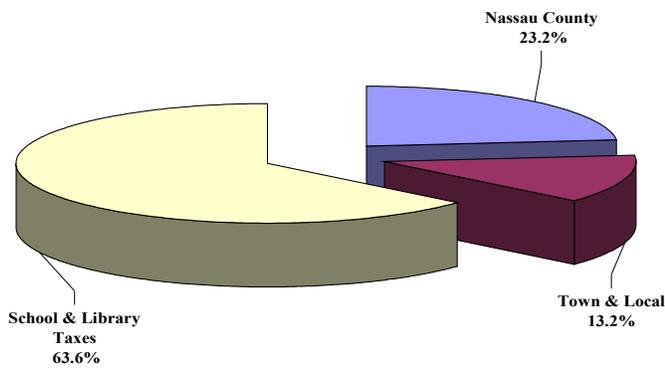
The Massapequa Water District provides quality drinking water at affordable prices

For over 75 years, the Massapequa Water District has provided quality services at rock-bottom prices as is evidenced by the fact that we provided this essential natural resource at a cost below the national and Nassau County average according to a recent Long Island Water Conference survey.

The Massapequa Water District accounts for one of the lowest portions of your total taxes. A breakdown of the average yearly Residential Taxes paid for the Year 2007 reveals the following:

School & Library taxes----63.6%; General Fund---- 36.4% (Nassau County 23.2%, Town & Local 13.2%)

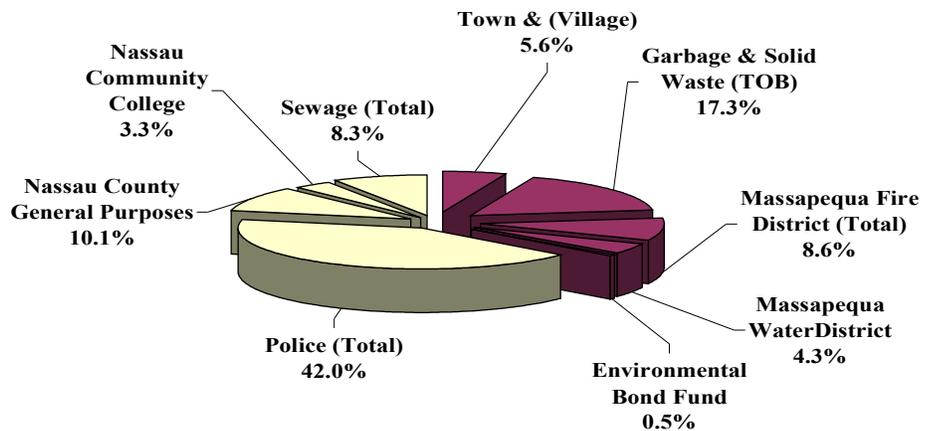
Nassau County Tax Structure



Our average consumer indirectly pays \$121.00*, or just 33 cents per day, of their Town Tax bill to the Massapequa Water District which represents 4.3% of your Town tax bill or 1.5% of your total Real Estate Taxes (School +Town + Nassau County).

* Data from Nassau County Assessors Office

2007 General Tax Analysis (36.4%)



Let's Take a Look at Our Water Rates!

In Nassau County, the average cost of water was only \$ 2.14 per one thousand gallons. The Massapequa Water District provides this essential natural resource for \$ 2.12 per one thousand gallons with an average annual residential water bill of \$ 210.00. Therefore, with the average residential water bill of \$ 210.00 and the previously stated average annual residential taxes paid to the Water District of \$ 121.00*, ***together the average annual residential water cost is \$ 331.00.*** While costs associated with other utilities continue to climb year after year, consumers can rest assured that access to safe and reliable drinking water will remain significantly lower than most homeowner's utility costs.

Some Important Facts!

- The Board of Commissioners has implemented a sound fiscal plan that reduces costs for expenditures such as the elevated storage tank painting, water main replacements and operational diagnostics through non-borrowing. In essence, over the past 10 years this practice has saved over \$ 2,000,000 in debt service (principal and interest) for you, our consumers. This is the very basis of a Special Districts function, to be responsible to our local constituents for service.
- You undoubtedly have heard or seen recent media reports relating to the Nassau County Executive, Comptroller and Assessor's desires to consolidate special districts such as schools, libraries, villages, sanitation and water districts, including our own Massapequa Water District. The County, in an attempt to find a quick fix to its ever-increasing financial woes, would have the public believe that by consolidating Nassau County Water Districts into one governmental authority that your property tax bills would be lower when in actuality they will increase. Remember LIPA The Long Island Power Authority! In addition, as previously stated, the average consumer indirectly pays \$121.00 of their Town Tax bill to the Massapequa Water District. In actuality, how much of that \$ 121 can the County Executive really save the resident?
- The County Executives' proposed consolidation plan would be similar to the Authority created by the changeover from LILCO to LIPA and when was the last time you had a voice or control in the election (in actuality appointment) of LIPA Board members. ***Once consolidation of the municipal water supplies is a reality, all local control is lost.*** Your elected Water Commissioners are members of the Massapequa community as are many of the District's employees and are intimately aware of the communities needs and can respond within minutes to any emergency, a comforting thought.
- If an Authority were to be created, Nassau County would also view the water rates as revenue for the general fund (did someone say "Cash Cow") and would divert the revenues obtained through water rates to the county's general fund and away from necessary water district infrastructure and capital improvements that could jeopardize our future water supply. It is obvious that this could be considered self-serving!

The Massapequa Water District prides itself on its team of professionals that on a daily basis respond to you the consumers we serve and are continually looking for innovative methods to improve our operations and water quality as well as keep our cost under control. Massapequa Water District personnel are on call 24 hours a day, 365 days a year to quickly respond to emergencies and ensure that safe drinking water is available to the public at all times. The consumers of the Massapequa Water District can rest assured that they are being supplied with a safe and bountiful water supply that will be available for generations to come.