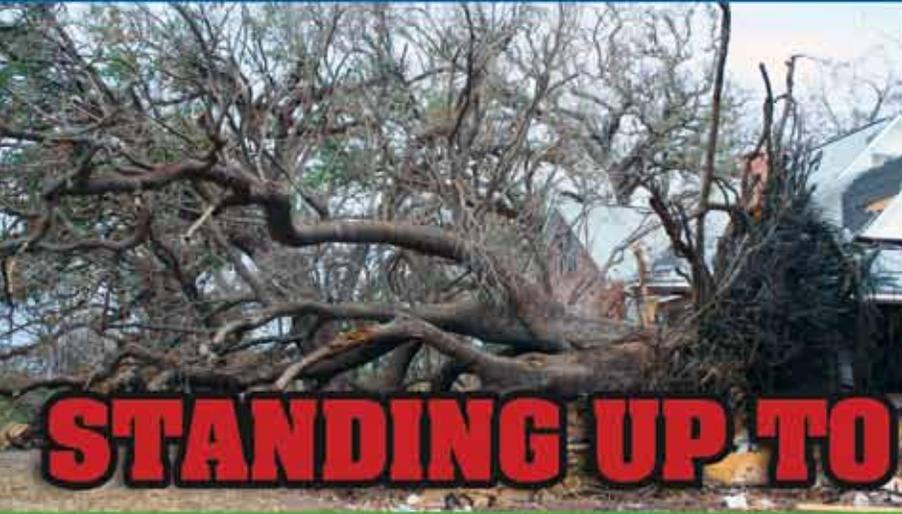




ALBERTSON

WATER DISTRICT NEWS

Volume 3, Number 2



STANDING UP TO

HURRICANE SANDY!

There is no crystal ball for predicting natural disasters like Hurricane Sandy. The best way to deal with them is... to be prepared!

As Sandy approached, AWD personnel were prepared and put our Emergency Preparedness Plan into action.

"Preparations began long before Sandy actually hit the area," Commissioner Howard Abbondandolo said. "All water plant operators and district technicians were on the job to handle any potential emergencies."

And they were well trained, with all taking Continuing Education courses with a certification review every three years. Several have completed a most pertinent course, *Disaster Management for Water and Wastewater Utilities*, in cooperation with Homeland Security and FEMA. Although each of the five AWD well pump stations are regularly inspected, with the Emergency Preparedness Plan in place, crews went over each with a fine tooth comb. All the pump stations have standby generators that power large electric well motors and the additional equipment necessary to continue

to supply water. Lubricants and coolants were sampled and the engines test run. All five were made ready for the potential superstorm. Four of the generators are powered by natural gas and the newest, at the Well No.1 Air Stripping Facility, is diesel-powered.

"We chose to diversify between natural gas and diesel power," Commissioner Abbondandolo explained, "to ensure that the District would

Continued page 2...

EXTRA EFFORT & A JOB WELL DONE

"On behalf of all the Commissioners, I want to thank the entire crew of the AWD. We especially want to thank Superintendent Rudy Henriksen for his devotion to duty and his management of this unprecedented crisis. He began tracking Sandy's progress a week ahead of its projected arrival, and he was on the job around the clock managing preparations and response beginning on Saturday, October 27th. Rudy worked straight through the storm and continued supervising AWD efforts while LIPA crews re-established power to the area. He made sure that the AWD crews were fully prepared and that the water supply was safe and uninterrupted. All Albertson Water District residents are indebted to him for his efforts on our behalf."

- Commissioner Rich Ockovic



Left to right, Commissioners Howard Abbondandolo, Rich Ockovic and Ken Vey.



HOMETOWN RULE & LOCAL CONTROL.

The AWD operates for Albertson Water District residents 24/7/365, year after year. Our mission has always been to ensure the safest, most plentiful water supply as well as to hold the line on costs.

Your tax dollars go directly to the production of high quality water solely for the Albertson Water District, including services, technology and infrastructure updates. All records of expenditures, income, distribution and management are public record. In a consolidated district, there is no guarantee that tax rates will not rise dramatically and regularly, but there is a guarantee that your votes will be part of a much greater regional pool. This could make Albertson responsible for the redistribution of the financial burdens of other districts without much say. Taxation without much representation!

Commissioner Rich Ockovic remarked, "We are District residents, too, with deep commitments in the community. What happens in Albertson is our concern. Elections where every registered resident can vote assure the greatest grass roots involvement possible."

Commissioner Ken Vey added, "Albertson residents should not be forced to subsidize any other area's water situations or financial problems."

The history of the AWD has been one of uninterrupted success. Back in 1917 when the AWD was formed, Albertson was mostly rural. Times have changed, but low cost delivery of Earth's greatest resource hasn't changed. Your Commissioners are pledged to this end.



Standing Up to Hurricane Sandy.

Continued from cover

not be dependent on a single fuel source. Hurricane Sandy showed that was the right way to go."

All District storage facilities were filled to capacity, securing 3,500,000 gallons in storage. The AWD crew worked around the clock, and the whole system performed admirably. AWD residents experienced no interruptions in water supply as a result of Hurricane Sandy. Unlike a few unfortunate areas on Long Island, AWD water remained fully potable and safe to drink without boiling throughout the duration of the storm.

Once District Superintendent Rudy Henriksen determined that the water supply was secure and stable, AWD personnel worked with the Albertson Fire Company in the face of Sandy's wrath to get the streets under control. Using a backhoe and many good strong backs, the AWD crew helped clear over 30 trees, innumerable boughs and branches, and tons of debris.

"The infrastructure maintenance program is part of our five-year plan and really proved its value. It's comprehensive and keeps things up to date," Commissioner Abbondonelo commented. "All AWD residents, including the Commissioners, benefit from regularly scheduled inspection and maintenance of equipment and facilities," Commissioner Vey added. "Good maintenance keeps a plentiful, uninterrupted supply of water flowing with good water pressure for every purpose especially fire prevention. And it conserves tax dollars."

As the clean up from Hurricane Sandy continues, the Commissioners wish to express their concern for all residents who suffered as a result of this devastating and unprecedented storm.



Sign up for EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION.

There are still some people who aren't part of the AWD's SwiftReach Emergency Notification System. In the event of a water emergency, SwiftReach automatically calls residents with a prerecorded message. The District merely needs the phone number where you would like to be notified. We can also notify you by text message and/or email. All information is strictly confidential, and it is free to all Albertson Water District residents.

Contact the AWD at (516) 621-3610 to be included. See the AWD website www.albertsonwater.org for more information.



7 IMPORTANT WINTERIZING TIPS!

You'll have a lot fewer problems if you follow these smart tips outside and inside your home.

1. Make sure that all lawn sprinkler systems are fully drained when they are shut down for the year and that all outside hoses are disconnected and drained. Store them in a garage, shed or basement.
2. Outside spigots should be turned off from inside the house and the lines drained.
3. Leave outside spigots open. It allows any trapped water to expand and prevents pipe damage or breakage.
4. Prevent freezing and bursting by insulating water pipes, especially in unheated areas.
5. Cover your pool or outdoor spa to reduce wasteful evaporation.
6. Know where your water shut off valve is in the event of an emergency.
7. Be a good citizen and keep any fire hydrants near you clear of bushes, debris and snow. You can help save time in emergency responses!



YOU MAY WONDER WHY?

Some consumers have asked, *"Why do AWD vehicles drive down my block so often, especially on weekends and holidays?"*

Let's start with the Duty Person's responsibilities for the weekend or holiday. Their day begins at 8:00 A.M. at the office where daily charts are updated and pumpage for the previous day is recorded. After that the Duty Person checks each of the District's five well sites. This also involves data recording and any necessary adjustments of feed rates to chemical feeders.

An interior and exterior walk through is performed at each well site to ensure that there has been no vandalism, no attempts at intrusion or any discarding of unwanted items on the property. Depending on the season, the monitoring usually requires an average of 2.5 to 3 hours and is repeated in the afternoon, which requires another 1.5 to 2 hours.

The Duty Person uses the time in between to travel the District looking for possible leaks, illegal use of or damage to fire hydrants, houses being demolished without first disconnecting existing water sources and the installation of underground irrigation systems without proper permits. All these efforts are done to ensure that the public water supply in the AWD is not adversely affected.



ALBERTSON WATER DISTRICT

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www.albertsonwater.org

Commissioners:

Richard W. Ockovic
Howard Abbondandolo
Kenneth Vey

Superintendent:

Rudy Henriksen

Counsel:

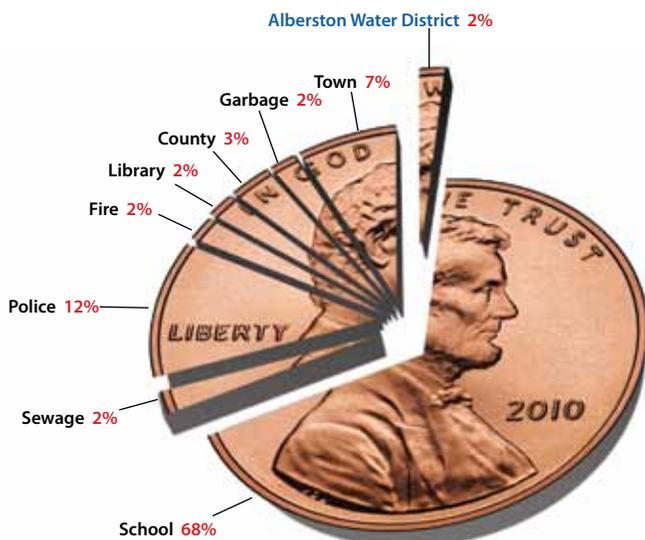
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WATER RATES Still The Best Buy In Town!

Currently, the average cost of water in the AWD represents the lowest regular cost of all utilities.



AWD Election December 11, 2012.



The election of an Albertson Water Commissioner will be held on Tuesday, December 11. The term of office is 3 years, beginning on January 1, 2013 and running through December 31, 2015.

Where To Vote:

Albertson Fire House
100 I.U. Willets Road, Albertson, NY
Time: 3:00 P.M. - 9:00 P.M.

Eligibility:

To be eligible to vote, you must be:

- A registered voter of the Albertson Water District
- A resident of the Albertson Water District at least 30 days prior to the election date

For more information, please call our office at
(516)-626-3610 or see our website
www.albertsonwater.org.