

# waterings

April - June 2008

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## Annual System Flushing

"System flushing" is the phrase used to describe the routine procedure of operating valves and fire hydrants in the water distribution system in order to maintain the highest level of water quality.

This year, system flushing will be done between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, beginning on March 25 and continuing through May 9.

This year's schedule is:

**Montgomery and New Britain Townships - March 25-April 30** (including Candlelight Farms, Parsons Lane, Meetinghouse Road, Goodman Tract, Gwynedd Knoll and Hunt Club sections of Lower Gwynedd Township)

**Upper Dublin Township-March 25-April 8** (including the Delaware Valley Industrial Park and Llewellyn, Annasmead, Baker and Llanfair Road

sections of Lower Gwynedd Township)

**Whitpain Township - April 2-April 10**

**Lower and Upper Gwynedd Townships & North Wales Borough - April 7-May 9** (including Normandy Farms, Normandy Farms Estates, Windermere and Amberley Sections of Whitpain Township)

You may notice reduced pressure or cloudy water when flushing is in your area. This is expected and is not harmful. Simply let the **COLD** water run from your taps until it becomes clear.

If problems persist, please call Customer Service at 215-699-4836 between 8:00 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. on Friday.

## AutoFlow - Convenient Bill Payment

What Is **AutoFlow**? NWWA's AutoFlow Program is an automatic bill payment program that withdraws funds directly from your checking or savings account. It is an easy and convenient way to pay your water bill and it is absolutely free.

You may enroll in the AutoFlow program by visiting our website at:

[www.nwwater.com/go/autoflow](http://www.nwwater.com/go/autoflow)

Or simply call our office to have an application mailed to you.

After you've enrolled, each billing period you will

be sent an invoice stating the exact amount due and the date the funds will be withdrawn from your bank. If, for some reason, you don't want us to withdraw the money, just call Customer Service at 215-699-4836.

On the specified withdrawal date, the bill payment will be electronically transferred out of your checking or savings account.

You'll never have to worry about paying your water bill again - it will be automatic. It is that simple, so why not sign up today?

## Tex Mex 5K Race for Open Space

Mark your calendars! June 25 marks the 19th consecutive year of the Tex Mex 5K, held to benefit the Wissahickon Valley Watershed Association.

Last year was the most successful to date, with 1200 runners and walkers raising over \$25,000.00 for open space protection.

North Wales Water Authority is proud to partner with and support the Association's work protecting and enhancing the open space in the Wissahickon Creek watershed. Visit their website for more information about the race:

[www.nwwa.org/tex\\_mex\\_5k.htm](http://www.nwwa.org/tex_mex_5k.htm)



# NWWA

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## Get to Know Us - NWWA's Engineering & Inspection Team

The Authority's engineering functions are coordinated by our CAD/GIS Manager. He oversees all computer-aided design (CAD) work and played a key role in the development and implementation of the Authority's geographic information system (GIS). Further, he submits all permit applications with local and state government for our in-street work and is the one who responds to all Pennsylvania One Call design tickets for our Inspectors.

Our Operations Coordinator is our "behind the scenes" person - the one who manages our extensive inventory of hydrants, meters, valves, fittings and other parts needed to keep our service crews rolling. He also plans, schedules, oversees and coordinates all facilities maintenance. One of our most senior employees he has been with the Authority for 29 years.

The North Wales Water Authority uses outside contractors to do the majority of our new water main installations because of the cost savings it provides our customers. Our Inspectors are charged with overseeing and inspecting this work to ensure all work is done to our high standards. This team of three Certified Water Works Operators has almost 60 years of experience between them. Along with inspections they are also responsible for locating and marking underground facilities in accordance with the Pennsylvania One Call Act and performing leak detection on the Authority's mains and customer service lines. They are also on call to respond to emergencies 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, every day of the year.



**Q:** *I heard on the business news where water was being referred to as a trading commodity. What is this all about?*

**A:** An executive at the Chicago Mercantile Exchange recently said that water could become a trading commodity as droughts and demand increase stress on surface systems and groundwater tables.

Several market economists believe that trading water as a commodity on the open market would put financial pressure on users to keep consumption down in the same way that carbon emission trading penalizes the biggest industrial polluters.

A water future would be an agreement to buy or sell a certain number of gallons of water at a pre-agreed price on a future date and would be used to hedge against risk. Supposedly, if a farmer, large corporation or water supplier wanted to protect themselves against rising water prices and dwindling availability, they could buy futures to cover the amount of water they believe will be needed. This is already happening in a smaller scale in California, where many northern farmers are not growing crops this year as they can generate more revenue by auctioning off their water allocations to farms, suppliers and industry in the southern part of the state.

This should not be a concern for residents of Pennsylvania where water is not subject to absolute ownership. Water, like all other public natural resources, is common property of all the people. The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania is the trustee of these resources and is tasked to conserve and maintain them for the benefit of all people, including generations yet to come.

**Water Rings is published Quarterly to Serve our Customers in:  
North Wales Borough and Lower Gwynedd, Montgomery,  
New Britain, Upper Dublin, Upper Gwynedd, and Whitpain Townships.**