



# WaterTalk

Your Questions,  
Our Answers About Vital  
Drinking Water Topics





# WaterTalk

**Seth Wallach**

*-Community Outreach  
Coordinator*



# Why WaterTalk?

- There's a lot of information out there about drinking water quality. It can be confusing, so we want to make sure you're getting accurate information.
- So a few years ago we created this forum which we hold in communities all throughout our service territory, from Melville to Montauk.
- Today, you'll hear from on-staff experts about topics vital to the protection and preservation of our drinking water supply.
- For instance, you'll hear about the steps our laboratory takes to make sure your drinking water is always safe.



# Why WaterTalk?

- We'll talk about the local infrastructure that provides your water.
- We'll talk about a program we developed called WaterTraQ that lets you monitor water quality from home.
- Most importantly, we're here to take your questions.



# What SCWA is...

- The Suffolk County Water Authority is an **independent public-benefit corporation** operating under the Public Authorities Law of the State of New York.
- SCWA serves approximately **1.2 million** Suffolk County residents.
- Beginning operations in 1951, SCWA operates without taxing power on a **not-for-profit** basis.
- SCWA is one of the largest **groundwater suppliers** in the country.



# What SCWA is **not**...

- SCWA is not a branch of Suffolk County Government.
- SCWA does not create or enforce drinking water regulations. This is the responsibility of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and New York State Department of Health (DOH).







# WaterTalk

Connecting to

SCWA Water

John Marafino

*-Customer Growth Coordinator*



# Why choose SCWA Water?

## Protect your health & your family's

- How often do you test your well?
- Do you know how many compounds your well is being tested for?
- How often do you change your filters?
- **SCWA water is safe and constantly tested.**
- **SCWA tests for 414 compounds so you will always have peace of mind that your water is safe.**





# Why choose SCWA Water?

## Affordability & Reliability

- Our water is inexpensive! \$2.20 per one thousand gallons or \$0.002 per gallon.
- You won't lose water when power is out.
- If water infrastructure in the street is damaged or stops working, SCWA staff fixes it at no additional cost to you.



# The problem with private wells

## Expensive & Unreliable

- Private wells are expensive to redrill & repair.
- Connecting to SCWA can reduce your electric bill.
- It has never been more affordable to connect.



# Cost to Connect

- New financing options are now available:
  - Only \$500 down payment required.
  - SCWA offers financing of up to 25 years.
  - Interest rates as low as 3%.
  - Payments are due quarterly.





# WaterTalk

**Water Quality**

**Kevin Durk**

*-Director of Water Quality  
& Laboratory Services*



# SCWA Water Quality Testing Laboratory

- SCWA's state-of-the-art water quality testing laboratory is the **largest groundwater laboratory in the country**.
- Test samples are taken at the wellhead, at various stages of treatment and within the distribution system for bacteria and a wide range of inorganic and organic chemicals.
- Analyzed **91,251** samples last year for 190,950 tests.
- Tested for **414** compounds (**265 more than** required by regulators).
- Testing at a **higher frequency** than required by SCDHS.
- SCWA's in-house standards for water quality are often **tougher than** state or federal regulations.

# Levels of Detection

- SCWA's state-of-the-art laboratory instruments can detect compounds in the water down to parts-per-**million**, parts-per-**billion**, or in some cases even parts-per-**trillion**.
- For reference:
  - 1 Part-per-million = 1 second in 12 days
  - 1 Part-per-billion = 1 second in 32 years
  - 1 Part-per-trillion = 1 second in 32,000 years





# Distribution Sample Station





# Consumer Confidence Report

Go to:

**SCWA.com**

To read the full  
Drinking Water  
Quality Report

Need Help

Interpreting the CCR?

Call 631-218-1138





# WaterTalk

**Water Infrastructure**

**Tim Kilcommons**

*- Chief Engineer*

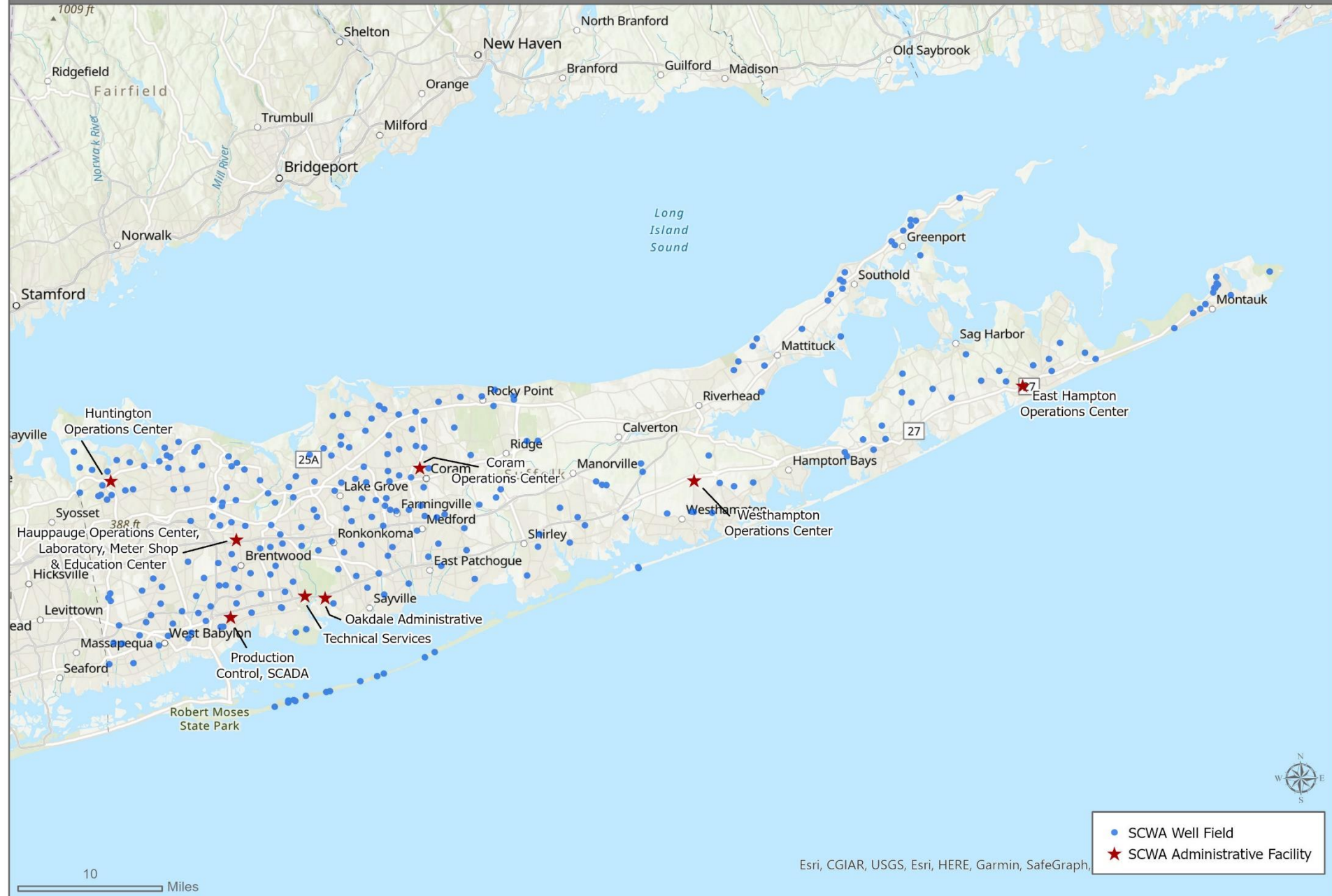


# SCWA Statistics

- 633 total wells at 240 pump stations.
- 68 Storage Tanks with 71.6 Million Gallons (MG) of storage.
- Avg Daily Pumpage: 210 MG.
- Avg Peak Pumpage: 470 MG.
- 37,000 fire hydrants

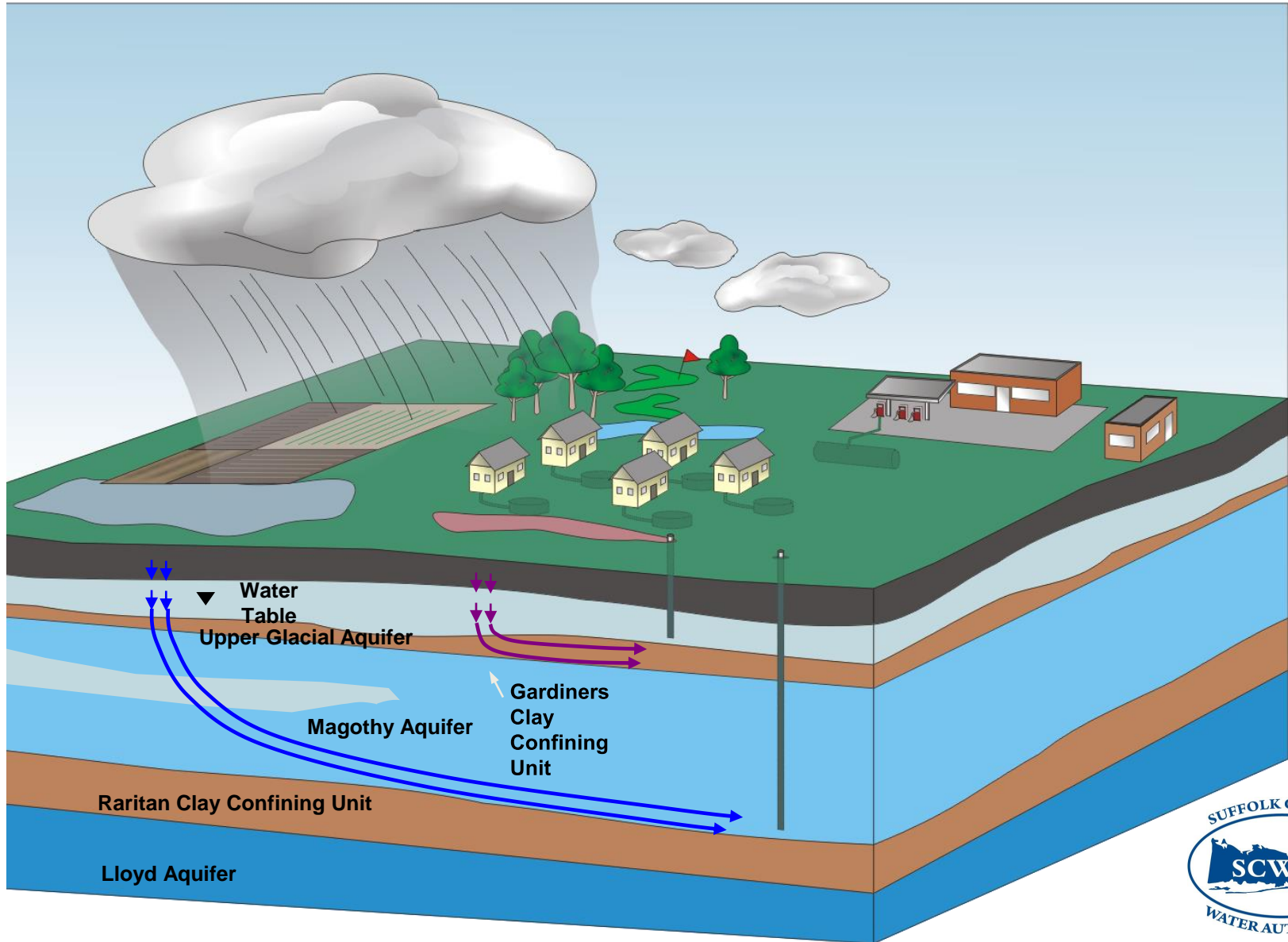


# Suffolk County Water Authority Well Fields & Administrative Facilities





# Source Water – Where Does Our Water Come From?





# Area Wells





# Town Line Road Ground Storage Tank

















# Infrastructure Improvement Projects

- **April 2022:**  
2,000-foot replacement on Bridgehampton-Sag Harbor Turnpike(CR-79), done in coordination with a County drainage project.



# Infrastructure Improvement Projects

- **Winter 2022:** 16-inch tie-in on Montauk Highway through Sagaponack. This will help distribution in the area once the Town Line Tank is online.







# WaterTalk

WaterTraQ

Seth Wallach

*-Community Outreach Coordinator*



# WaterTraq

- WaterTraq is an online GIS-based water quality database from the Long Island Commission for Aquifer Protection (LICAP).
- Users can search by address, or by contaminant at: [LICAPonline.com](http://LICAPonline.com)
- Water quality data is pulled from:
  - Wells
  - Laboratory
  - SCWA, all other Long Island suppliers.





# Searching with WaterTraq

The screenshot shows the WaterTraq web application interface. At the top, the browser address bar displays the URL: [scwany.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=f133851c4347418ba9961ea2d7ada741](https://scwany.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=f133851c4347418ba9961ea2d7ada741). The application header includes the title "WaterTraq Long Island Water Quality Viewer" and a link "CLICK FOR TOP COMPOUNDS & MCLS".

The search bar at the top left contains the text "121 W Broadway, Port Jeffe" and a search icon. Below the search bar, a dropdown menu shows "Long Island Aquifer Sample Point BY COMPOUND (Ne)".

A results window titled "2015-2018 Untreated Compounds" is open, displaying a table of results for "2017 SCWA Untreated Water Samples: Chloride". The table has two columns: "Tasks" and "Results". The results are as follows:

| Tasks      | Results   |
|------------|-----------|
| SUPPLIER   | SCWA      |
| WELL ID    | S-121-100 |
| COMPOUND   | Chloride  |
| RESULTS    | 318.63    |
| UNITS      | mg/l      |
| MCL        | 250.00    |
| EXCEED MCL | YES       |
| AQUIFER    | MAGOTHY   |
| WELL DEPTH | 313.00    |

The background map shows the Long Island Sound area, with various locations labeled, including Northport, East Northport, Kings Park, and Farmingville. A red circle highlights a specific location on the map, corresponding to the search results.

[www.LICAPonline.com](http://www.LICAPonline.com)



# WaterTalk

**Water Conservation**

**Seth Wallach**

*- Community Outreach Coordinator*



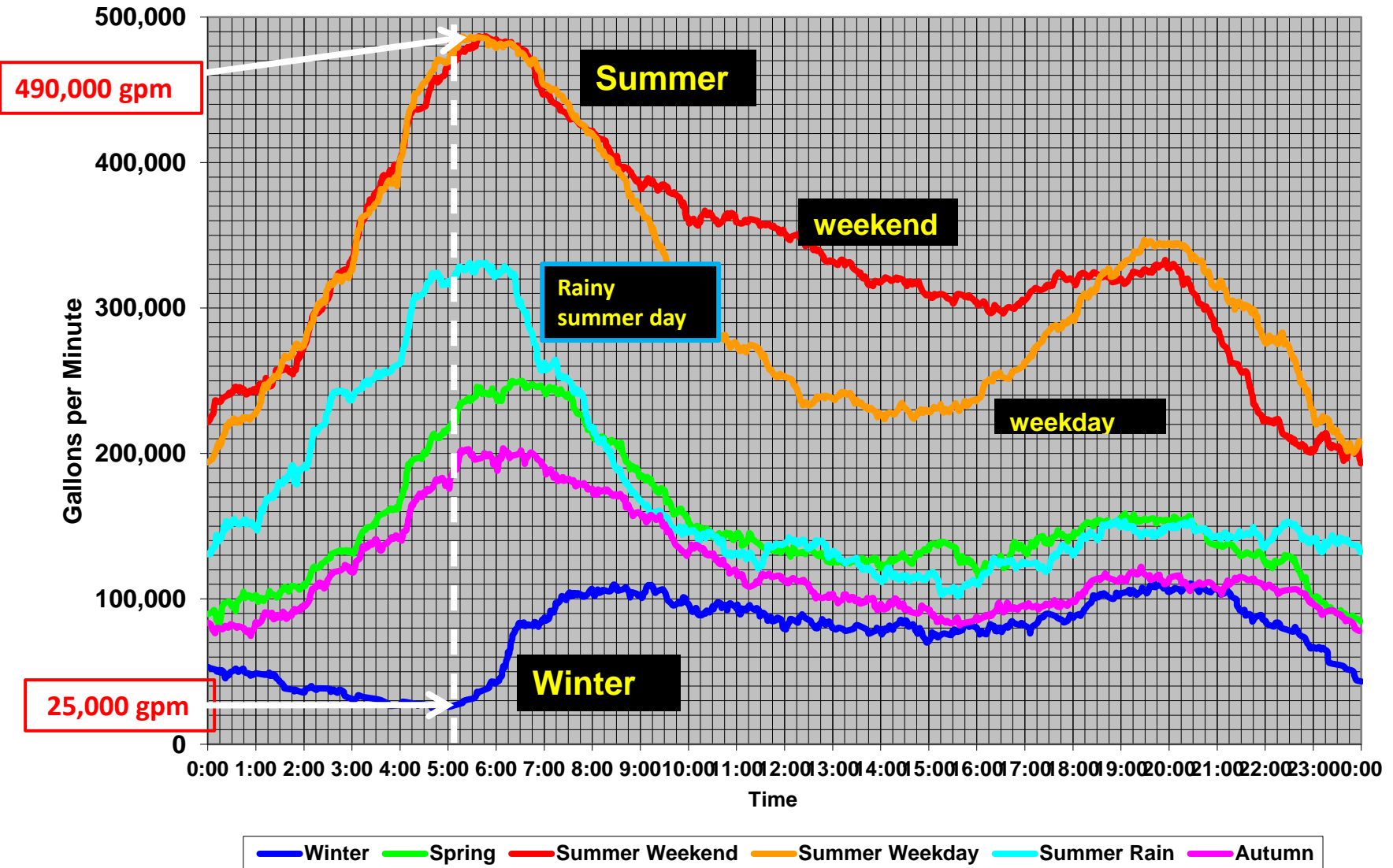
# Why Should I Conserve Water?

- Long Island has a sufficient, but not limitless supply of groundwater.
- Higher water usage means more SCWA infrastructure, which means more costs that are passed along to customers.
- Higher peak water usage (3:00 – 7:00 AM) impacts pressure and fire protection.
- Over-pumping can have negative water quality impacts.



# Seasonal Water Use - SCWA

## The Irrigation Situation



# Changing Irrigation Habits

- If you have an irrigation timer, please make sure it is **not** set to operate between 3:00 – 7:00 A.M.
- Use an odd/even watering schedule.
- Consider a smart irrigation timer that uses water more efficiently (and get \$50 off your next SCWA bill just for purchasing a smart controller).





# Average User vs. Water Waster

- Average residential customer uses just under 130,000 gallons annually.
- Largest residential user consumed approximately 22 million gallons over a recent year. (*Primarily Irrigation and Geothermal HVAC system*)
- A hospital in the same community used approximately 14.5 million gallons in 2018.



# Water Conservation Tips

- 1) Be smart about watering your lawn with smart irrigation controllers and rain sensors.
- 2) Water less often.
- 3) Use EPA WaterSense products.
- 4) Shorten your showers.
- 5) Detect & fix leaks.





# Water Conservation Tips

6) Shut off the tap when brushing teeth.

7) Fully load washing machines & dishwashers before running.

8) Keep you plants moist with mulch.

9) Don't hose it off if another tool will work.

10) Go to the car wash instead of using the hose.



# Water Wise Programs

- **SCWA water wise account credits-** up to \$50 for the purchase of water-saving devices. Apply today at [SCWA.com/WaterWise](http://SCWA.com/WaterWise).
- The **Water Wise Checkup program** is a free service. One of our water experts will come to your home for a one-on-one consultation and develop a personalized plan to help you save water.

**Sign up or learn more at [SCWA.com/WaterWise](http://SCWA.com/WaterWise)**

*Call: (631) 292-6101*

*Email: [WaterWiseCheckup@SCWA.com](mailto:WaterWiseCheckup@SCWA.com)*

*Direct Message us on:*

*Facebook @SCWAwater*

*Twitter @SuffolkWater*



# Our Water Our Lives Campaign



**DID YOU KNOW?**

Saving water is easy. In fact, there are a number of small steps you can take to make a **HUGE IMPACT**. Follow the 10 steps below to lower your water bill and help save Long Island's **ONLY** drinking water supply.

**THE STEPS TO SAVING WATER**

**1** **BE SMART ABOUT WATERING YOUR LAWN WITH SMART IRRIGATION CONTROLLERS AND RAIN SENSORS.**

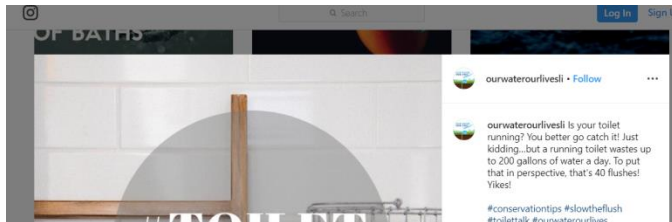
It's never been easier to have technology help you determine when your lawn needs to be watered. Rain sensors and smart irrigation controllers make sure lawns only get watered when they actually need it, eliminating wasteful overwatering and saving you money.

Select Language

**OUR WATER OUR LIVES**

HOW TO HELP OUR AQUIFER PLEDGE SHARE IDEAS CONTACT

PLEDGES SO FAR



**HELP SAVE LONG ISLAND'S ONLY DRINKING WATER SOURCE!**

Take the pledge or share ideas at:  
**WWW.OurWaterOurLives.com**



# WaterTalk

Questions?

