

Gary Scarpello Upper Dublin Township Ward 3 Commissioner

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Issue 13

Fall 2018

Water Quality in Upper Dublin Update

Ward 3 is supplied drinking water from AQUA. In June 2018, the CDC released a report recommending the safe levels of PFCs in drinking water be reduced from the EPA's 70ppt (parts per trillion) to 10ppt or below. Because UD Township does not have its own water authority, the Upper Dublin Board of Commissioners (UD BOC) cannot regulate the levels of PFCs in the drinking water from the three township water providers. UD can only recommend. The BOC is working with surrounding townships along with local, state, and federal officials to provide UD water at non-detectable levels (0ppt) of PFC. The Aidenn Lair well that supplies most of Ward 3 water has PFCs levels as high as 38ppt., well above the new CDC levels of 10ppt. At the July 10, 2018 BOC meeting, I made a motion, passed by the BOC, to have UD staff contact AOUA to recommend AOUA either filter the Aidenn Lair well's levels of PFCs to 0ppt from its current levels in the 30ppt range or take it off line. At this same meeting UD BOC passed a resolution in support of Pennsylvania House Bill 705, Pennsylvania Safe Drinking Water Act that would require all water providers in PA to supply water with PFC levels of 5ppt or below (non-detect levels). This house bill has been added to a Senate Bill. Governor Wolf supports this legislation. The bill is currently stuck in the house committee.

In August 2018, AOUA's Aidenn Lair well was taken off line. All residents of Ward 3 are now getting their water from AQUA's Abington well, which has 11ppt of PFCs. This is around the new levels that the CDC would like to see instead of the EPA levels of 70ppt. Residents are investigating putting in filters for their home or bottled water, but there is no guarantee that bottled water has low levels of PFCs. The township is looking into water treatment filters for individual residents' homes at a bulk rate price. AQUA is putting a filter on the Aidenn Lair well. When competed in 6-9 months, there will be non-detectable levels of PFCs in the water supply for Ward 3. On September 12, 2018, the BOC opposed

the proposed rate increase by AQUA. Background

PFC (PFAS, and PFOS) contamination of some of the water supplied to Upper Dublin is caused by run off from the old Willow Grove Navel Airbase. The UD BOC has been aware of this issue since 2016 and has been working with the three water suppliers to Upper Dublin residents: Ambler Water Company, AQUA, and North Wales Water Authority, to ensure we have clean water. Ward 3 gets its water from AQUA. On September 22, 2016, Paul Leonard, UD Township Manager and I went to a meeting conducted by Senator Casey in Washington D.C. about the PFAS water contamination in UD and other localities. At that meeting were representatives from the EPA, CDC, Department of Defense, local, state, and federal elected officials, and Horsham and Warminster water authorities.

Only North Wales Water Authority provides non-detectable levels of PFCs in their water. AQUA and Ambler have PFC contamination at various levels from 11-58ppt - all below 70ppt. but above the new CDC recommendations.

The UD BOC has had numerous stated meetings open to residents on this issue where water suppliers' representatives and government regulators were asked what actions were being taken to remedy the situation. To receive regular updates consider joining my email list or Facebook page.

For more information go to the UD Township website https://www.upperdublin.net/statement-on-public-water/

Sidewalk from Dreshertown Plaza to JES

The sidewalk from Jarrettown Elementary School to the Dreshertown Plaza is moving ahead. The Good News: the state is helping to finance the project. The Bad News: it means a cost to residents for their portion of the sidewalk. The costs for the sidewalk will be the same as it is for sidewalks for all newly constructed houses. All the costs for the storm water drainage, widening, and repair of road, etc., will be born by the township and grants from the state. There will be town meetings in the spring to inform everyone of the project, with the fall being the start of construction. I will keep you posted.

Upper Dublin Township Upgraded To Aa1 Rating

Moody's Investors Service has officially upgraded Upper Dublin Township's bond rating to Aa1 from Aa2. With this second highest possible rating, the Township is in the top 10% of rated municipalities in Pennsylvania.

The rating upgrade is the culmination of financial strategy and economic development directed by the Upper Dublin Township Board of Commissioners and implemented by strong management.

The improved bond rating will enable the Township to achieve lower interest rates on future bond issues and longterm debt used to pay for capital improvement projects, potentially saving taxpayers thousands of dollars in reduced debt service payments.

Moody's cited Upper Dublin Township's "high resident wealth and income, modest debt profile and strong, stable finances" in its rating analysis. New development in the community has helped to revitalize the Township, bringing in new residents and increasing tax revenue to support priorities like improving public safety, enhancing facilities, and the critical sidewalk connections. Additionally, the Township's robust effort in improving the sustainability of the Fort Washington Office Park through the investment in infrastructure improvement, including two flood-retarding structures, has significantly increased the value of properties.

Automatic Vehicle Locations

Upper Dublin Township was involved in a pilot study for using AVL (automatic vehicle locations) to send the nearest available emergency unit to a priority 1 call. That pilot has resulted in the entire County committing to the same dispatch protocol. This approach will reduce response time by about 2 minutes from the average.

ELECTION DAY

Tuesday 11/6/18 Polls Open from 7 am to 8 pm. LAST DAY TO REGISTER TO VOTE: **October 8. Must Be 18 on Election** Day to VOTE. Absentee Ballots: Apply by 10/30 received by 11/2.

Where to Vote

Ward 3 is divided into two voting districts, 3-1 (everything west of the Turnpike) and 3-2



(everything east of the Turnpike).

3-1 votes at Jarrettown United Methodist Church on Limekiln Pike.



3-2 votes at what was known as the Reformed Church, now Crossroads Fellowship Church, at the intersection of North Hills Ave., Fitzwatertown and Woodland Rds.

Election Information

Visit my website www.gsud3.com to find a map of our Ward to help you know where to vote. To register to vote and voter information go to: http://www.montcopa.org/753/Voter-Services

Join in the **Stay in Touch - Your Voice is Important Discussions**. **Come to Meetings**

P.O. Box 1182 Ft Washington, PA 19034

Township Commissioner for Ward 3 Gary Scarpello Your

- ✓ Water Quality in UD Update
- ✔ Sidewalk: Plaza to JES
- ✓ UD Upgraded to Aa1 Rating
- ✓ Automatic Vehicle Locations
- Election Day 11/6/18 ~

Gary Scarpello Ward 3 Commissioner

For more info contact me at: **Commissioner Gary Scarpello Upper Dublin Township** 801 Loch Alsh Avenue Fort Washington, PA 19034



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UPPER DUBLIN Township Ward 3 News

Upper Dublin is a vibrant community because the citizens care about the quality of life here.