



AMR Transmitter

## \$252 million to install an Automated Meter Reading (AMR) network throughout New York City

The AMR network is a system of low-power radio transmitters that sends readings from your water meter

to a computerized billing system up to four times a day. This network will eliminate the need for estimated bills and will allow you to regularly track your water consumption and spot potentially costly leaks before they become a billing problem.



Alley Creek

New York City has invested in its water and wastewater systems for more than 150 years, and much of that infrastructure has served the people of New York for more than a century. DEP is continuing that tradition with the most comprehensive upgrades to the City's water and wastewater systems in decades. These projects will serve New Yorkers for generations to come.

Front Cover: Jamaica Bay

Cover photo credit: Don Riepe, Jamaica Bay Guardian



# Your 2011 Water and Sewer Fees at Work: Queens

Michael R. Bloomberg, Mayor

Caswell F. Holloway, Commissioner



Water and sewer fees are being used to make important investments in our future—investments that will guarantee clean drinking water and cleaner harbors for you, your family and for future generations of New Yorkers.

DEP uses the majority of the monies generated by water and sewer rates to make investments that have been mandated by the State or Federal government to ensure public health, including watershed protection, wastewater treatment plant upgrades, the Water Filtration Plant for the City's Croton water supply and the Ultraviolet Light Disinfection Plant for the City's Catskill and Delaware watersheds.

In addition to mandated investments, DEP is making billions of dollars of improvements to the water and sewer networks throughout the five boroughs, including 265 capital projects in Queens. Highlights include:



Upstate watershed

### **\$1.4 billion to protect upstate watersheds**

The City supports a number of watershed protection programs in its Catskill and Delaware watersheds.

These programs, which include everything from

rehabilitating upstate septic systems to buying land around our watershed, protect the high quality of New York City's source waters for years to come.



City Water Tunnel No. 3

### **\$6 billion to build City Tunnel 3**

The City currently relies on City Tunnels No. 1 and 2 to deliver the majority of drinking water within the City. These tunnels were first put into service in 1917 and

1936, respectively. Completing City Tunnel No. 3 will provide New York with critical supply capacity, and will allow DEP to repair City Tunnels No. 1 and 2 for the first time in their history.



Croton Water Filtration Plant

### **\$4.7 billion to construct the Croton Water Filtration Plant and the Catskill/Delaware Ultraviolet Light Disinfection Plant**

Ten percent of the City's water comes from Westchester and Putnam

Counties, where development can affect drinking water. The Croton Water Filtration Plant will ensure that water from these areas continues to meet the City's high water quality standards. The Catskill/Delaware Ultraviolet Light Disinfection Plant will disinfect 90% of the City's drinking water supply, treating for microorganisms like *Cryptosporidium* and *Giardia*.



Newtown Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant

### **\$3.7 billion to upgrade wastewater treatment plants**

To upgrade our wastewater system, the City is investing \$100 million in the Rockaway WWTP. In the early 1990s, DEP began a \$5 billion upgrade of the

Newtown Creek WWTP. The Newtown Creek Plant is located in Greenpoint, Brooklyn, and serves parts of Queens.



Alley Creek

### **\$1.1 billion to decrease the amount of Combined Sewer Overflows from entering New York City's Waterways**

The new \$135 million Alley Creek CSO Overflow Tank will capture, retain and pump

up to 5 million gallons of overflow to a wastewater treatment plant before the stormwater can affect our environment. DEP's water and sewer improvements include a \$30 million upgrade to the Douglaston Pumping Station, which will alleviate street flooding.