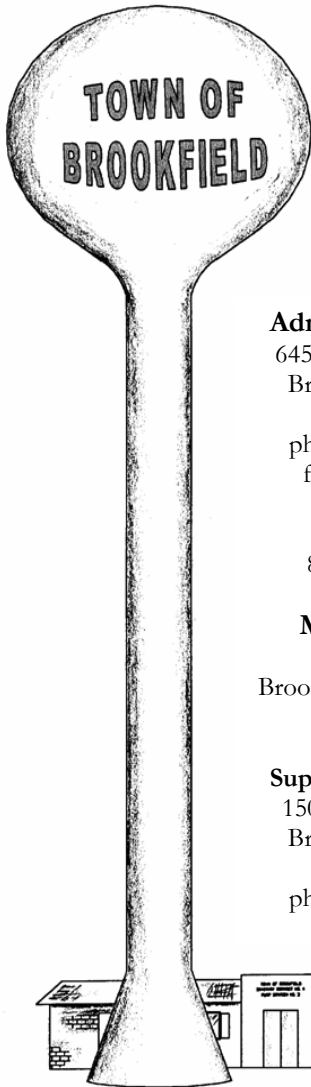


# WATER TOWER NEWS

## SANITARY DISTRICT NO. 4



### Administrative office:

645 North Janacek Road  
Brookfield, Wisconsin

phone: 262.798.8631  
fax: 262.796.0339

Monday - Friday  
8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

### Mailing address:

P.O. Box 1296  
Brookfield, WI 53008-1296

### Superintendent's office:

150 South Barker Road  
Brookfield, Wisconsin

phone: 262.798.8629

### *Farewell & Special Thanks to Past President Al Atkinson*



On November 14, 2007, retired President Elvin "Al" Atkinson passed away. Not only did he serve the Sanitary District for 12 years, he also held the position of Chairman of the Town of Brookfield Architectural Control Board for over 17 years from 1990 to April 2007 and Chairman of the Plan Commission from 1990 to 1995.

Under his leadership from 1990 to 2002, the water utility customer base grew by 600% from approximately 315 customers to almost 2000 customers. The water plant grew almost 3 times the size it was in 1990—from a \$5.6 million plant to an almost \$16 million plant. The District's entire water system was upgraded and enhanced. In 1990 only two wells produced filtered water, and by the time he retired in 2002, all six wells produced filtered water.

Sanitary District No. 4 received national recognition in 1998 by reaching finalist status in the engineering Excellence Awards Competition for a Water Filtration System and Pump State Project for our pump house and filtration plant located on Birdseye Lane.

Mr. Atkinson was on the Technical Advisory Committee for the over \$40 million plant expansion and upgrade project for the Fox River Water Pollution Control Center.

The Sanitary District obtained very favorable bond ratings by Moody's and Standard & Poor's as "AAA". With his leadership, the district was able to pay off two of its bond issues before their maturity dates, resulting in \$974,000 savings in interest payments, and ultimately translating into savings benefits for the rate payers.

We all enjoyed working with Mr. Atkinson, and he truly will be missed for his wisdom, friendship, and the home grown vegetables he shared with us.

### HYDRANT FLUSHING

This spring's fire hydrant flushing will be:

**April 14th thru May 2nd.**

The flushing accomplishes several tasks from exercising the valves to check operational status, and removing some trace minerals that can deposit in the distribution system.



"When you drink  
the water,  
remember the spring."  
Chinese Proverb

### WATER SOFTENER SETTINGS

Setting up your water softener requires you to know the grains of hardness of the water. The water provided by the Sanitary District from our six wells ranges from 27 to 28 grains of hardness. A reminder; switching to a demand softener, you will be using less water which will lower your water and sewer bills, and the number of bags of salt you will need to purchase.

**Don't forget ....  
CALL Digger's Hotline  
Before You Start to Dig!**

As plans for this year's projects are beginning to emerge, residents are reminded that they should call Digger's Hotline toll free at 1-800-242-8511 before they plan to dig to have buried services located, not only for water and sewer utilities, but also gas, electric, telephone, cable, etc. The one-call clearing house will notify all utilities with buried services.

Digger's requires a three day notice, so residents should take this into consideration before planning to do construction work or landscaping.



Be aware that Sanitary District No. 4 will only mark from the main, in the street, to the shut off valve in the right of way. All plumbing in the yard and into the home was installed by a private contractor and we do not have information as to the location of the private side of the laterals. Also, water and sewer laterals are generally buried five to six feet deep to avoid winter freezing.

**Office Closed — March 21, 2008**

## WATER METER REPLACEMENTS

Just a reminder that if you receive one of our blue postcards, you need to call our office to set up an appointment to have your water meter replaced. Residential, 3/4" meters, are replaced every 10 years, tested for accuracy and rebuilt before being put back into service. This is done at no charge to you. We just ask for a few minutes of your time. All of our employees carry ID and travel in white vehicles with our blue logo. If you should be concerned, please call our office.

## RENEWAL OF WELL PERMITS for 2008

Sanitary District will be sending notices in April, along with the necessary information, to 56 property owners with well permits dated 2003, telling them that it is time to either renew their private well permit or to abandon their well in 2008. Although the renewal requires you to have another inspection of your well, you will have to submit certification of only one safe water sample rather than the two safe water samples that were required with your initial permit.

We are again sending this information early so you can make an attempt to work on this in early spring, as it has been suggested that the spring is the best time to collect a safe water sample. As the summer heats up, so does the ground water, providing a greater chance of having an unsafe sample. In winter weather, unsafe samples also are prevalent.

If you have any questions regarding the renewal of your private well permit, please do not hesitate to call the Sanitary District office at 262-798-8631 or you can check the town's website at [www.townofbrookfield.com](http://www.townofbrookfield.com) under Departments for the Sanitary District's information. We also have all of the forms available online and a list of the properties that are affected this year.



## SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Welcome to a New Year. I know that as you watched the Governor and the President give their state of the union messages, you were thinking, I wonder when we will move far enough down the food chain to get a state of the system message from Terry. Well, wait no more. The system is in pretty good shape to weather the economic storm. Our pumping has been down. I can't believe you read my **conserve** rants; and that relates to our revenues, which are also down. But on the bright side, our water, if you are keeping track of the world situation lately, is worth more each day. Maybe we should go public, as they say, and sell stock. Boy, if I could get in on the ground floor of that.

Enough of my dreams; the system is running fine. We have completed our tower and tank inspections, and the wells appear to be making the right numbers, so maybe we can sneak through a year with no major expenses. We will be doing some major water testing, per this year's DNR regulations, but we shouldn't have any bad news from those results. We are still working on plans for a few system upgrades, from looping a few mains and adding an extra freeway crossing, to hopefully an additional water tower on the north side of town.

Our big project this year, if spring ever comes, is to have all of our sewer and water system placed on GPS, Global Positioning System. This will give us faster and more exact locations of all mains, valves, hydrants, services and manholes. It will allow us to better track our maintenance, as we can tag any of the mentioned with size, depth, repair information, etc. It will also give us an opportunity to update our own maps and with time, add meter serial numbers and meter change maps. The amount of information it will hold and access is staggering. The most staggering thing is that we are all looking forward to the change, and the initial extra work, because the more information we have, the smarter we can work. Now I have to tell you what your part of this project will be. When we start, we will be locating every part of the system. If you see us trying to find your curb stop, then painting and putting a flag on it, please leave it there for awhile so we can come back with the GPS locating equipment and find it again. Your help with this project would be appreciated. Thank you.

As always, I wish you well in the New Year, and keep drinking water, it's good for you!

**Terry Heidmann – Superintendent**