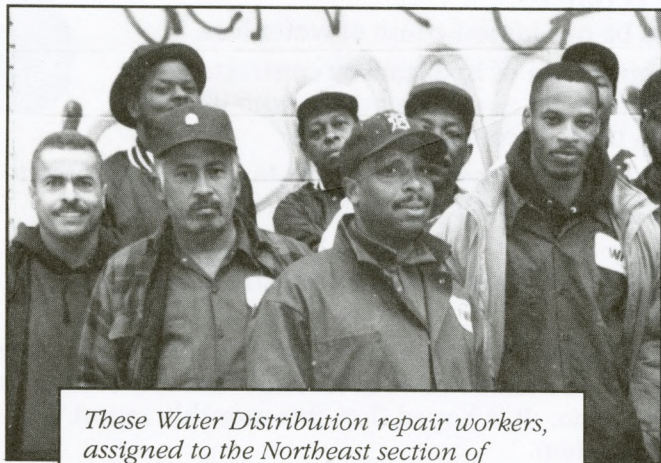




Pipeline

Produced by the Public Affairs staff of the Philadelphia Water Department. For more information, please contact Editor Joan Anne Przybylowicz at 685-4900.

Photo: Bernie Rosenberg



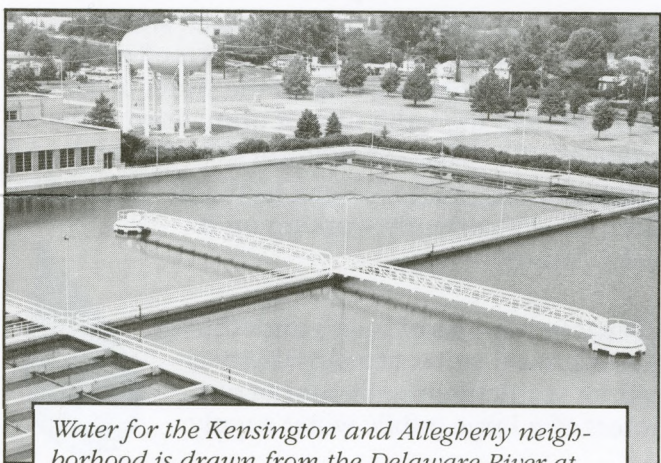
These Water Distribution repair workers, assigned to the Northeast section of Philadelphia, will be installing the new 30" line valve and 30" line connection at Kensington and Allegheny.

Kensington Repairs

In the spring of 1995, our distribution crews will install a 30 inch valve connection that will join a transmission main in Allegheny Avenue to a transmission main in Kensington Avenue. The transmission main in Allegheny Avenue is 30 inches in diameter and was installed in 1900. The transmission main in Kensington Avenue is 48 inches in diameter and was installed in 1907.

With the addition of this new valve connection, our Load Control Unit will optimize water main transmission routes, transport water more efficiently and improve water quality in this neighborhood. Load Control operators will be able to transport water between the two mains as needed, especially during peak usage hours and during the summer when our customers use more water. With the additional capability of transporting water between the two mains, Load Control operators can keep the

(continued on back page)



Water for the Kensington and Allegheny neighborhood is drawn from the Delaware River at the intakes of the Baxter Water Treatment Plant, 9001 State Road, in the Torresdale section of the city. Employees at the Baxter Plant treat an average of 200 million gallons of water a day, enough water to fill almost one-third of the Spectrum.

Where's the Water?

When water rate increases were proposed in 1992, a major question discussed during the public hearings was the Philadelphia Water Department's efficiency. Although our most important job is to provide safe, healthy water for all our customers whenever they want it, we are committed to being productive with as little waste as possible.



One measure of efficiency is water accountability. Because efficiency is a secondary goal, water accountability has not been well defined by water utilities or by water professional organizations. "Lost" water is, however, a highly visible and financial concern to us. So much, in fact, that Water Commissioner Kumar Kishinchand leads a task force of employees who are looking at ways to reduce the amount of "lost" water. This Water Accountability Committee includes George Kunkel, chairman; Thomas Fenner; Michael Hogan; Clifford Lahann; J. Eugene Mudry; George O'Connor; Ernest Poaches and Roy Romano.

To determine how much water is "lost," we calculate a Metered Water Ratio. The Metered Water Ratio represents the amount of water that has been metered, and thus billable, over the amount of water we have treated and put into the system. How



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Give Blood: Help Save a Life

Barry Brait, our blood drive chairperson, urgently requests employees to donate blood, "Supplies have been absolutely devastated lately. There are so many people who can't give blood—people with certain health problems, people who participated in Desert Storm, people who have been tattooed or pierced in the last year and people who have traveled recently in certain foreign countries. We need all the donors we can get."

Although this isn't our regularly scheduled month for giving blood, Barry reports that the Red Cross offers a new service. They will send a nurse and equipment to PWD units that can guarantee 10-12 donors, plus the use of a desk to conduct interviews. The process will take about five hours and each individual can expect to spend 45 minutes being interviewed and giving blood. If your unit can schedule 10-12 donors over a five hour period, call Barry Brait in Finance (685-6182) to arrange a Red Cross visit.

In our November blood drive, 42 donors offered their blood and 165 people who needed blood received the benefits of these donations.

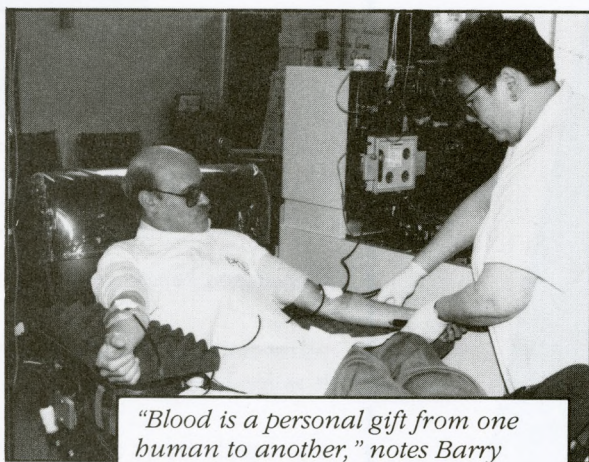


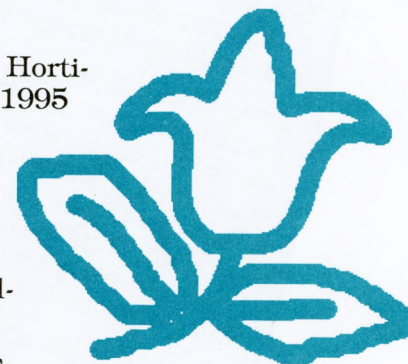
Photo: Bernie Rosenberg

"Blood is a personal gift from one human to another," notes Barry Brait. "When one person is struggling for life, you can give them a helping hand. You're giving them health."

2001—A Compost Odyssey

Visitors at the 1995 Philadelphia Flower Show were transported forward in time at the Water Department's exhibit, 2001—A Compost Odyssey, where they caught a glimpse of unfolding trends for residential gardens. The exhibit's garden embraced recycling and conservation to protect and proliferate the world's precious resources. It featured our recycled biosolids compost, EarthMate, which provides essential nutrients to soil and promotes natural soil aeration.

The Pennsylvania Horticultural Society's 1995 Flower Show—Moments in Time: A Galaxy of Gardens was held March 5 to 12 at the Philadelphia Civic Center. Maureen Sullivan, public education officer and PWD's flower show exhibit coordinator, notes that, "Philadelphia gardeners who use state-of-the-art conservation methods, dry-loving plants, and EarthMate will have colorful gardens that will flourish well beyond the 21st Century."



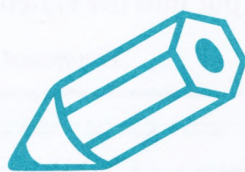
A Grass Roots Movement

More than 40 ground maintenance employees from the Water and Recreation departments, the Fairmount Park Commission and the School District of Philadelphia attended a Biosolids Workshop where they learned how to use EarthMate, our biosolids compost product, in their lawn and landscaping routines. The Water Department sponsored the workshop in February at the Horticulture Center in Fairmount Park. Featured speakers included Bill Toffey, our biosolids utilization manager, who spoke about the science of composting; Andy McNitt, a turf grass project associate with Penn State's Department of Agronomy, who talked about maintaining athletic fields; Bill Mitchell, a former professor and extension agronomist for the University of Delaware, who explained how to take care of turf; Judy McKeon, chief horticulturist at the Morris Arboretum of the University of Pennsylvania, who offered expertise on planting flower beds; and Byron Hampton, an agronomist with our Biosolids Utilization Unit, who presented information on grounds reclamation and renovation.

Growing with EarthMate: MARCH

Think spring! It's just around the corner.

Sow indoor seeds of warm season flowers. To produce a quality growing medium, mix one part of EarthMate, one part of peat moss, and one part of coarse sand (all measurements by volume). Water thoroughly until excess water drains out the bottom of containers. Then, follow the regular watering practices required for the plants you are growing.



Charles Zitomer, Chief
Water Conveyance Headquarters
Philadelphia Water Department

Dear Mr. Zitomer:

Tuesday, December 6th, 1994 at approximately 2:00 P.M. a sink hole was discovered on 7th Street between Walnut and Sansom Streets.

As the Building Manager of The Curtis Center which has 2,000 employees working for various companies, I was concerned about the impact of this problem to our building operations.

After many attempts to find out the status of the situation, I reached Norma Lewis. She attempted to get me in touch with the appropriate foreman but he was leaving the office. She did call me back to confirm that it was a sprinkler line and advised me that the Night Supervisor would give me a call. Larry Robinson did give me a call and we were kept informed about the status of the repair.

Norma stayed after her normal business day and made an extra effort to ensure that we had a contact to work with throughout the evening.

We appreciate her assistance. Thank you.

Sincerely,
Marita O., Building Manager
The Curtis Center

(Where's the Water? continued from front page)

ever, task force member George Kunkel, chief of load control, notes that, "While this is a useful measure to us, it is also somewhat misleading. Not all unmetered water is the result of negligence or theft. There are several valid uses of treated water that are not metered and, therefore, not billable."

Valid unmetered uses of treated water include:

- Water used to fight fires. The Fire Department hooks its hoses up to the hydrants which, of course, do not have meters on them. While we can estimate how much water gets used fighting fires, there is no way to come up with a truly accurate number.
- Water used for system maintenance. We may flush a system to maintain water quality, we may drain a tank and clean it, we may use treated water to disinfect water mains being repaired or added to the system. Current indications are that we have been underestimating the amount of water used for these processes.
- Water used by permit. Contractors and community gardeners may apply for a permit to use water directly from the hydrant.

Water loss and water theft is due to:

- Leakage, which we estimate to be our largest cause of water loss.
- Theft, which includes unauthorized use of hydrants by contractors, car washers and children seeking heat relief as well as people who illegally reconnect water service that has been discontinued.
- Inaccurate meter reading. Meter readers may not be able to get into a home to read the meter and we have to estimate water use at that location.



PWD is taking a number of steps towards reducing lost water. These include:

- A monthly report on the Metered Water Ratio which will be distributed to department managers. This report will also include news of leakage and any significant steps we take to improve the situation. It is hoped that this monthly report will raise people's awareness of the problem.
- Automatic Meter Reading. We are currently helping a meter company test a prototype automatic meter reader. This meter allows a reader to drive down the street collecting the readings from each house as he or she goes by. If the prototype meters work well, we hope to install them throughout the city.
- Improved information management. Our benchmarking project, which seeks to improve response time to nonemergency leaks, is one aspect of our effort to improve information management. We are also looking at the water delivery budget, trying to estimate more accurately the valid uses of unmetered water so that we can come up with a number that reflects the amount of water truly lost.
- As the decline in City customers continues, we have been trying to expand our base outside the City. We are currently working on a project to sell more water to Bucks County.

Although any perceived inefficiency in our operations is undesirable, it is important to remember that improved water accountability is not an issue or an end unto itself. It is strictly an indicator of our progress and efficiency as operators of a large public water supply system.



This Water Distribution repair crew will be involved in the major repair work scheduled to begin in mid-April.

(Kensington Repair continued from front page)

water flowing between the two mains in a continuous stream, keeping it as fresh as possible.

Our repair crews are already working in the vicinity of Kensington and Allegheny. They are checking the integrity of the water mains and existing valves, repairing them if needed, to ensure that the water main system is intact before they install the large valve and line that will connect the two transmission mains. This past November, these crews replaced a defective 36 inch valve on Allegheny Avenue. With the valve now operating properly, our water transport operators at Load Control will temporarily reroute water during the work scheduled for this spring, enabling them to limit the areas of water shutoffs.

William Cook, water distribution superintendent, says that the valve connection work will start in mid-April and estimates that it will take approximately two months to complete.