



# Between The Lines

FISHERS ISLAND UTILITY COMPANY

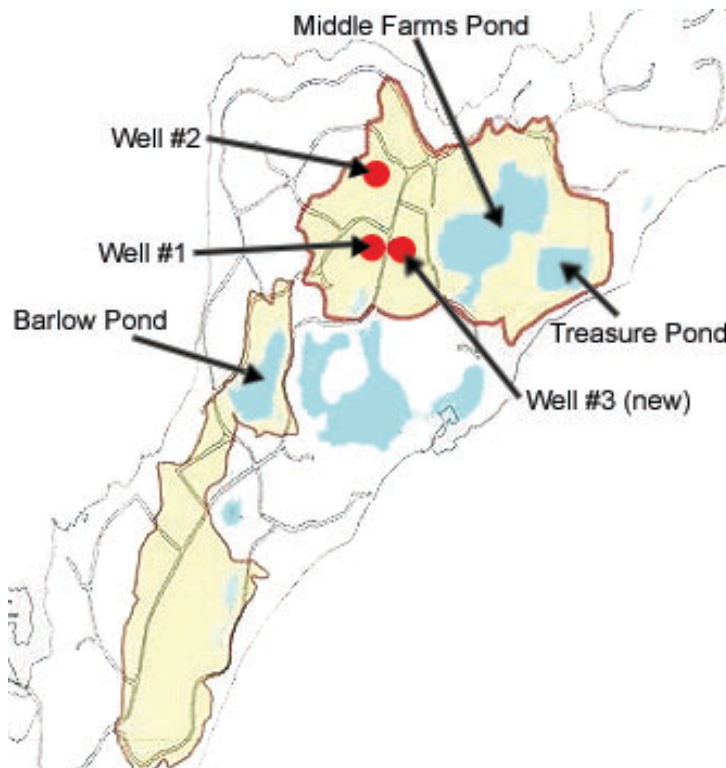
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## Preserving Our Primary Watershed

In 1997, the Suffolk County Department of Health Services (DOH) created Watershed Protection Standards for Fishers Island. These standards define the care that must be taken to protect both the quality and quantity of our water supply. They also define the island's Primary Watershed, our primary source of water, which is subject to the most stringent requirements. *(See area outlined in red on map.)*

The three wells and three ponds, which can be used for drinking water, are located in the Primary Watershed. Wells #1 and #2 are currently in use and are our primary source of water. Together their output averages 190 gpm (gallons per minute). During the off-season, these two wells are able to provide all the water needed by the island. In the summer months, however,

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## Housing For Fishers Island Utility Company Staff

The utility company has twenty approved staff members. Seventeen of those positions are filled. Three are open positions that we are actively trying to fill. Two of these open positions are for electrical linemen and one is for our water company. Because of the island's lack of housing for year-rounders, filling these three positions has been very difficult and expensive. As a result, we are struggling to fill these important positions. More on-island housing would be a huge help to get these positions filled.

The Utility Company currently owns three houses that are fully occupied by employees. We are actively searching for more. Keep your utility company in mind if you have a house that could be used for year-round housing. Please contact Chris Finan at [jcfinan@fiuc.net](mailto:jcfinan@fiuc.net).

our water needs spike to between 300 to 400 gpm. We recently hit our highest needs of the summer at 395 gpm on July 5th. Well #3, which comes online later this fall, will produce between 200 and 250 gpm and should provide enough water for our year-round needs. In addition, the output from all three wells will be greatly improved once the new filtration system comes on line this fall.

Our three ponds (Barlow, Middle Farms, and Treasure) serve as our secondary source of water, but are equally as critical to our overall water supply. Barlow Pond is in use on a daily basis. Its water is what you see being filtered when the surface water plant is operational. Middle Farms and Treasure Ponds are not currently in use, but would be called upon should our well water supply become depleted and are defined as needed as part of our 100-year drought plan. So, while these two ponds are not currently in use we must be vigilant about maintaining their water quality.

Because the Primary Watershed area is our only source of drinking water for the island, the Department of Health Services and Fishers Island Water Works have placed many restrictions on

this area. Some of the most important ones are:

- Underground heating oil storage tanks are not permitted in this area
- The commercial use of pesticides and herbicides are prohibited in this area (this is why the driving range, which is located in the Primary Watershed, cannot be fertilized or treated for weeds).
- Swimming, boating, and fishing are not allowed in Barlow Pond
- Currently boating, swimming and fishing are not permitted in Middle Farms or Treasure Ponds as we conduct water testing to determine the water condition. We hope that we might be able to make these two ponds available for recreational use in the future as we preserve them as a backup source
- The DOH requires Fishers Island Water Works to maintain and report an inventory of all private wells and their annual output.

We thank everyone who respects the Primary Watershed area and helps us provide safe clean drinking water to the island.

## Who's Who at FIUC



**JAMES CUSHING**  
*Superintendent  
Fishers Island Electric*

Jay is a lifelong resident of Fishers Island and has worked with the Electric Company for 20 years. Since taking on the position of Superintendent five years ago, he has made great strides in identifying and implementing important system upgrades to address years of deferred maintenance in the electrical system. When not working, Jay likes to spend time enjoying the serenity of Fishers Island and taking the occasional weekend trip away.



## New Filtration Machine To Filter Well Water

FI Water Works' new filtration machine arrived on July 17<sup>th</sup> and has been placed onto its permanent concrete pad near the driving range. This fall, it will filter all the island's water sourced from our three wells, thus producing incredibly clean and pure drinking water. Ultimately, a building will be built over and around it to adequately protect it. Please join us in extending a big thank you to Chad Mrowka, Kenny Ahman, Craig Mrowka, Jim Ski, Mason Horn, Todd Pezzolesi, Louie Perez, Paul Skinner and Pirate's Cove for making it happen.