

Ridgewood Water Weekly

July 2, 2026

Ridgewood Water Receives Leadership Award

Yolanda McCollom of Ridgewood Water (second from left) recently attended the American Water Works Association's Annual Conference & Exposition in Washington, D.C., for the Lead Service Line Collaborative's Honoring Excellence in Lead Service Line Replacement Initiative awards ceremony. Sixteen individuals and/or groups from around the country received awards. The Jersey Water Works Lead Service Line Implementation Workgroup received the **Policy Innovation and Leadership Award**. Ridgewood Water was a founding member of the JWW LSL Implementation Workgroup, with Director Richard Calbi Jr. initially serving as co-chair. McCollom has served as co-chair since 2025, participating in monthly workgroup meetings and water industry conferences to share LSL Replacement Program strategies.



Ridgewood Water Offices Closed on July 3

In observance of Independence Day, Ridgewood Water offices will be closed on Friday, July 3. Please note that our water system operators are on duty 24 hours a day, seven days a week and remain available for water-related emergencies. If you experience a water emergency, please **call 201-670-5520, extension 8**.

Raise Your Mower Blade to 3 Inches or Higher

Raising your mower blade to at least 3 inches can significantly improve your lawn's ability to retain moisture, helping you maintain a healthy lawn while reducing outdoor water use.

Longer grass blades:

- Reduce evaporation
- Promote deeper roots
- Improve drought tolerance
- Suppress weeds
- Reduce heat stress



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July 24, 2026

Ridgewood Water Hosts NJDEP

Ridgewood Water was pleased to welcome representatives from the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection to the **Ames PFAS Treatment Facility in Wyckoff** for an educational tour led by Director Richard Calbi.

During the visit, Calbi provided an overview of the facility's granular activated carbon treatment process and Ridgewood Water's proactive efforts to reduce regulated PFAS compounds in treated drinking water to undetectable levels by the first quarter of 2027.



PFAS Treatment Partnership



NJIT's Center for Translational Research facilitated an introduction between Ridgewood Water and **PFASolve** this past year. "PFASolve is developing a testing method that delivers results in just 24 hours, compared to our current turnaround time of two weeks or more," said Richard Calbi, director of Ridgewood Water. In addition, PFASolve is exploring ways to extend the life of the granular activated carbon filters used in Ridgewood Water's PFAS Treatment Facilities. "Having access to the latest technology for PFAS remediation is critical to serving our communities' need for safe water," Calbi continued. "Collaborating with PFASolve can help us become a model for other utilities and providers."

Is Your Rain Sensor Working?

Did you know that all automatic irrigation systems are required by ordinance to have a functioning rain sensor? A properly working rain sensor automatically shuts off your sprinkler system when it rains, preventing unnecessary watering and helping to conserve our water supply. Please take a few minutes to **inspect your rain sensor** and make sure it's operating correctly.

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New Well Drilled and Online

It may look unassuming, but this is a powerful addition to Ridgewood Water's system. We're pleased to announce that **Marr Well in Wyckoff is online.**

With the addition of Marr Well, Ridgewood Water operates 53 groundwater wells. The new well is capable of producing more than **500,000 gallons of water per day**, or approximately 15 million gallons each month, helping strengthen the reliability and resilience of our water supply for the communities we serve.



PFAS Free by First Quarter of 2027



Ridgewood Water continues to make significant progress in our effort to remove PFAS from the drinking water supply. **Eleven of Ridgewood Water's 12 new PFAS treatment facilities will be fully operational by the end of 2026.**

Seven treatment facilities are already online, and four more are on track for completion by the end of this year. The final facility, delayed due to an NJDEP-required archaeological study, is expected to become operational in the first quarter of 2027.

When the system-wide project is complete, all regulated **PFAS compounds in Ridgewood Water's treated water will be reduced to undetectable levels**, surpassing the EPA's drinking water standard of 4 parts per trillion.

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Hydrant Inspections Are Underway

Hydrant inspections are underway across the Ridgewood Water service area. Every year, Ridgewood Water inspects all **1,767 fire hydrants** to ensure they are in proper working condition and ready when firefighters need them most.

Some of the items checked during the inspection include:

- Obstructions that could interfere with hydrant operation
- Cracked or missing caps
- Leaky or broken nozzles, gaskets and valves
- Main valve leaks
- Water flow



These inspections help identify maintenance needs before they become problems, ensuring our hydrants remain reliable for emergency response and protecting the long-term integrity of the water distribution system.



Sign Up for WaterSmart!

Want to better understand how your household uses water? WaterSmart gives you powerful tools to monitor your water use, detect leaks and manage your account, all at no cost.

1. Track your water use with detailed insights into when and where you're using the most water. (Many customers are surprised the first time they see their daily water use in gallons!)
2. Get personalized water-saving tips tailored to your household.
3. Set a goal to reduce your water use by 20% and track your progress.
4. Receive alerts about possible leaks so you can catch problems early.
5. View and pay your bill safely and securely through the easy-to-use online portal or mobile app.
6. It's free! **Sign up at: <https://ridgewoodnj.watersmart.com/index.php/welcome>**

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Lead Service Line Policy Innovation Award

The Jersey Water Works Lead Service Line Implementation Work Group has received an official resolution from the New Jersey Senate and General Assembly recognizing the group's pioneering policy innovation and leadership in water infrastructure safety.

The **Lead Service Line Replacement Policy Innovation Award** recognizes policy changes that help advance lead service line replacement and address critical implementation challenges, including securing funding, engaging absentee landlords and developing innovative payment options for homeowners.

Ridgewood Water Engineer Yolanda McCollom (second from left) serves as co-chair of the work group, helping to guide this important statewide effort. She is pictured with (left to right) Assemblyman Gary Schaer; Mike Furrey, Jersey Water Works; and Deandrah Cameron, New Jersey Future.



628 Lead Service Lines Replaced

From July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2026, Ridgewood Water has replaced **628 lead service lines**. Does yours need to be replaced? We are now enrolling customers in Phase 2 of our Lead Service Line Replacement Program, with approximately 300 spots currently available. Learn more about the program at leadreplacement.ridgewoodnj.net.

Upcoming Roadwork

Next week, weather permitting, milling will begin on the streets in **Midland Park** where raw water mains were recently installed. Please refer to the schedule shown and plan accordingly.

In early to mid-September, Ridgewood Water will be upgrading critical water main infrastructure along Glen Avenue in **Midland Park and Ridgewood** to improve water flow from the new pump station on East Glen Avenue. Stay tuned for more details!

 ROADS AFFECTED	 MILLING	 PAVING
Waldo Avenue • Fairhaven Drive • Highwood Avenue	8/17	8/24
Vreeland Avenue • Payne Avenue • Prospect Street	8/18	8/25
Center Street • Chestnut Street • Witte Drive • Greenwood Avenue • Birch Street	8/19	8/26
Godwin Avenue	8/20	8/27