



WATER RINGS

Graduate Scholarship Awarded

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On July 18, 2001 the Board of the North Wales Water Authority, awarded a graduate scholarship in the amount of \$4,000 to Yvette Antoni.

Ms. Antoni has demonstrated academic excellence at DeSales University, receiving her Bachelor of Science Degree in Chemistry. Ms. Antoni will begin pursuing a doctoral degree in analytical chemistry at Purdue University for the 2001 Fall semester.

The scholarship candidates had to meet certain criteria which included an application, a bachelor's degree with a

minimum GPA of 2.75, letter of acceptance from a graduate school, pursuing a degree in a field of study applicable to the water supply industry and prior work history and volunteer activities.

The North Wales Water Authority recognizes its role and obligation in being an active participant in the promotion of sound water supply and environmental stewardship. This scholarship program is designed to encourage individuals to take an interest in education and careers in the water supply industry and related fields.

For more information on our scholarship program, visit our website at www.nwwater.com.



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Pictured from Left to Right: James Miller, Chairman of the North Wales Water Authority and Yvette Antoni, scholarship recipient.

YOUR QUESTIONS ANSWERED

Question:

Is there something in the water that causes etching of my glassware in the dishwasher?

Answer:

There is nothing in the water supply that will cause glassware etching. This is caused by the strong phosphate sequesterants (trisodium phosphate) found in dishwasher detergents. It can be made even worse by a combination of extremely hot water, softened water, and too much detergent.

High water temperature can cause the detergent's phosphate compounds to break down into a more aggressive form. However, if the water contains any amount of natural hardness, it will consume the most aggressive of these sequestering chemicals and etching will not occur. Otherwise, the detergent agents can actually extract elements directly from the glassware composition.

Although most dishwashers are available with a sanitary cycle that super-heats the wash and rinse water, the solution to the etching problem is to use less detergent and water temperature less than 140 degrees. Your dishes and glassware will get cleaned just as well and you will eliminate this problem.

Protecting Your Meter in the Cold Months Ahead

Protecting your water meter from freezing during the winter months is fairly simple. We have listed a few ideas below for you to follow.

- It is always a good idea to wrap your meter with insulation when the temperature starts to drop.
- Turn off all valves leading to outside spigots to prevent hose bibs from freezing and splitting.
- If your meter is located in a drafty area or exposed to the elements, you may want to consider purchasing some heat tape to wrap around the meter.
- If you are planning on taking a vacation during the winter months, make sure that your thermostat is set around 40 degrees F.

What Do the Colors of Fire Hydrants Represent?

Have you ever noticed that fire hydrants are painted different colors? You may think we are just being savvy with our paint colors but the colors actually represent important aspects of our business. So, if you get the urge to paint a hydrant to match your home, please refrain. Truthfully, we have received such calls.

Not only do these color codes assist us in our operations, but our local fire companies as well. The firefighters are able to determine what the flow of water will be coming from the hydrant while fighting fires.

BIT OF INFO: The North Wales Water Authority has 1,946 fire hydrants throughout the system.

| Dome Color | Main Size | Gallons Per Minute |
|------------|-----------|--------------------|
| Blue | 4" - 6" | 50 - 500 |
| Orange | 8" - 10" | 500 - 1000 |
| Green | 12" - 36" | 1000 - 2000 |

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WATER RINGS IS PUBLISHED
QUARTERLY TO SERVE OUR
CUSTOMERS IN:

NORTH WALES BOROUGH AND LOWER GWYNEDD, MONTGOMERY, NEW BRITAIN,
UPPER DUBLIN, UPPER GWYNEDD, AND WHITPAIN TOWNSHIPS.