

# Aquifer protection agency to safeguard water supply

## NORWALK

By JARED NEWMAN  
Hour Staff Writer

The Norwalk Aquifer Protection Agency, which will watch over the city's public water supply wells, meets for the first time tonight at 6 in City Hall.

Future development in areas that contribute groundwater to these wells will be regulated. Existing businesses that handle toxic chemicals must register their management practices with the city.

"What's there is here, and that is allowed as long as they register," said Alexis Cherichetti, senior environmental officer for the city's conservation commission, "so if they do not properly register than those uses become prohib-

ited."

There are 127 active well fields in Connecticut. In 1989, state legislature instituted the Aquifer Protection Act, which required water companies whose wells serve over 1,000 to map the areas that contribute water.

The state Department of Environmental Protection defined land use regulations for the act in 2004 and began requiring zoning departments to add aquifer zones to their maps and then gave six months for towns and cities to form protection agencies. Norwalk's zoning department will fill the role.

Norwalk has two aquifer protection zones, the Kellogg-Deering well field in the north part of the city, and a small portion of the Coleytown well field in the northeast corner,

spilling into Westport and Wilton.

Gas stations, auto shops, dry cleaners and most manufacturing industries are included in the state's list of regulated activities. There are 53 businesses in the Kellogg-Deering field that may need to register with the city.

Businesses would have to submit management plans of practices such as double-walled containers for hazardous materials.

"Many best management plans are often referred to as common sense, and they aren't too technical," Cherichetti said.

The agency is working on a registration form, and it also plans to conduct initial and yearly inspections.

"They have to illustrate to us that they are managing the

high risk elements of that facility in the best way possible, so as to minimize contamination of the ground and groundwater," Cherichetti said.

The First Taxing District, which owns the Kellogg-Deering well field, will be involved with the agency, but their role hasn't been fully defined yet.

"We have no negative concerns, and we're actually

pleased that it's finally taking effect," said Franko Chieffalo, the district's general manager.

Norwalk's League of Women Voters, which has called for a water protection agency since the 80s, wants to be involved. Diane Lauricella, president of the league, plans to hand out an Environmental Protection Agency document from 1986 explaining past contamination

of the well field.

"We hope and we feel that whoever's in the agency, whoever it ends up being — currently the zoning commission — we want to help them understand what they're dealing with," Lauricella said.

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# Ben Malloy pleads not guilty

## STAMFORD

By STEVE KOBAK  
Hour Staff Writer

Benjamin Malloy, the son of Stamford Mayor Dannel P. Malloy, pleaded not guilty to drug charges at Stamford Superior Court Wednesday, Nov. 28.

Malloy's trial was continued until March 4, 2008, and the court asked for updates on Malloy's progress every 30 days until his court date. He has undergone treatment at an undisclosed rehabilitation facility since his Nov. 7 arrest and will stay at the facility for an undetermined amount of time.

The rehab stint postponed Malloy's court date two weeks from its original date of Nov.

14.

A search and seizure warrant was executed at the mayor's residence at 277 Ocean Drive East by Greenwich police Nov. 7. Police said a "small amount of cocaine residue and drug paraphernalia was located in the residence."

The warrant stemmed from an earlier search and seizure warrant executed on a vehicle parked in the Springdale section of Stamford.

According to the Greenwich Police Department, on Nov. 7, members of its Narcotics Section, along with the Stamford Police Department, executed a search and seizure warrant on a Ford Taurus station wagon occupied by five people, including Benjamin Malloy.

Upon execution of the war-

rant, police seized 34 individual baggies of marijuana with a street value of \$20 per bag from three of the vehicle's occupants. Police also seized \$514 from two of the occupants and paraphernalia from one of the occupants.

Benjamin Malloy was charged with possession of cocaine, possession of marijuana, conspiracy to possess marijuana, possession of marijuana with intent to sell and possession of drug paraphernalia.

With the exception of Benjamin Malloy, the suspects were minors. The charges for three of them ranges from conspiracy to possess marijuana to possession of marijuana. The charges against the female includes possession of marijuana with intent to sell.

# Lawsuit filed by state against EPA

## From A3

PBTs, EPA and facilities are delivering a cleaner, healthier environment," O'Neill said. "EPA is currently reviewing the lawsuit."

Three companies in Nor-

walk are listed in the Toxic Release Inventory. In 2005, the most recent year reported, Norwalk companies released methane, zinc, toluene, xylene, ammonia and sulfuric acid. None of those toxins are classified as PBTs.

Arizona, California, Illinois, Maine, Massachusetts, Minnesota, New Jersey, New Hampshire, New York, Pennsylvania and Vermont also sued the EPA. The suit is filed in U.S. District Court in New York City.

# Digging a field for dreams



Hour photo / ERIK TRAUTMANN

Workers with the Britain Fence Co. erect the outfield fence for the new Little League fields at Veterans Memorial Park Wednesday.

# Artists open their homes to public

## From A3

ceramics to mixed media and jewelry.

"You're not going to get studio after studio of landscapes," Schiffman said. "We really have a range from functional art to purely decorative and we're trying to offer a price range so that people who come in and want to buy holiday gifts don't have to spend \$500 to \$1,000 for a piece of art. There will be \$3 handmade bookmarks and paper and

some other really affordable gifts as well as really special and more expensive gifts."

Schiffman said she hopes that she will be able to add more artists to the roster next year.

"This area really is a an area where a lot of artists, writers, actors and other creative people come to live and raise their families, so there are plenty of people who want to be a part of something like this," Schiffman said.

If the art trail is well

received, Schiffman said it might become a yearly or a twice yearly event.

For more information about this show and for a map about the participating studios call (203) 222-9264. Maps will also be available on the day of the show at all venues.

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