

### Only Tap Water **Delivers**

As your water provider, we're constantly monitoring the condition of our water distribution infrastructure. We repair what we can and replace what we must. It's a significant expense, but it's an investment worth making.

Our tap water delivers more than just safe drinking water. It delivers public health protection, fire protection, support for the economy, and the quality of life we enjoy. Our job is to ensure that your water keeps flowing not only today, but well into the future. It's all part of our commitment to serve you and everyone in our community. We take pride in providing you with reliable, quality drinking water at a reasonable cost.

Every day, SPRWS produces an average of 50 million gallons of drinking water and distributes it through a thousand miles of water main to 415,000 residents of Saint Paul and the surrounding communities.

Maintaining our infrastructure is essential to providing you with reliable, quality water.

We budget and plan for continued maintenance and improvements to our infrastructure so that the cost is spread out over time. Each year we replace or rehabilitate miles of water main to improve reliability, water quality and flow capacity of our system.

> For more information, go to www.stpaul.gov/water

Questions? Concerns? Contact us: 651-266-6350 waterinquiries@ci.stpaul.mn.us

This information brought to you by SPRWS and the American Water Works Association

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American Water Works Association

www.awwa.org

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## I'm not so easily replaced.



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# Water infrastructure at a turning point

If only the pipes and valves below our streets could talk. They might remind us that they carry the very lifeblood of our community. Tap water keeps us healthy, fights fires, supports our economy, and provides us with the high quality of life we enjoy.

We are all stewards of the water infrastructure that was handed down to us generations ago, and together we can keep that system strong and reliable.

But many of the water pipes running below our streets are rapidly deteriorating and in serious need of replacement. It's time to bring the conversation about water infrastructure above ground.



### Did you know?

Water and wastewater utilities require more than twice the capital investment per dollar of revenue than electric utilities.

#### Much of our water infrastructure was installed as long ago as the late 1800s. Other periods of system growth occurred in the 1920s and during the post-World War II baby boom. But even pipes don't last forever, and many of these pipes are expected to wear out over the next couple of decades.

In the US alone, an additional \$250 billion will be required over the next 20 years to repair and replace existing pipes, according to a study by the American Water Works Association.

The stewardship of our water pipes falls to all of us. Reinvesting in our water infrastructure today can help prevent a crisis tomorrow.

## Pipes aren't permanent.

- An extensive study by the American Water Works Association of 20 large- and mediumsize utilities suggests that by 2030, the average utility will spend about three-and-a-half times as much on pipe replacement as it does today.
- Communities that begin addressing these necessary water infrastructure needs today can help avoid customer "rate shock" in the future.

