

## Only Tap Water **Delivers**

As your water provider, our goal is to make sure there's an adequate supply of safe water to meet your day-to-day needs—and an abundant supply in the event of a fire or other catastrophic event. It's part of what you pay for through your water bill.

Only tap water delivers fire protection, public health protection, support for the economy, and the overall quality of life we enjoy. Our job is to ensure that your water keeps flowing not only today, but well into the future.

community.

It's all part of our

commitment to serve you and everyone in our

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.

Each year, we inspect all 9,500 public fire hydrants in our system and replace an average of 200. We also conduct unidirectional flushing of our system to ensure valves operate properly and to improve distribution water quality.

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

Questions? Concerns? Contact us:

651-266-6350

waterinquiries@ci.stpaul.mn.us

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## Only Tap Water Delivers Fire Protection

A well-maintained water system is critical to protect our community from the ever-present threat of fire.

If only fire hydrants could talk. They might remind us that only tap water protects us against the threat of fire and that the pipes below our streets need constant attention to keep life-saving water flowing at the right pressure, 24/7, without fail.

A well-maintained water system allows firefighters to do their heroic work, extinguishing flames and preventing large-scale damage and loss of life. Our ability to suppress fire also influences a community's ability to build homes and protect businesses, and maintain reasonable insurance rates.



## Did you know?

The original reason for building many community water systems in North America wasn't to deliver safe drinking water—it was to fight fires!



Thanks to an established water distribution infrastructure, we are well equipped to control fires, saving property and lives. It's our peace of mind.

- In most communities, water flowing to fire hydrants and home faucets is transported by the same system of water mains, pumps, and storage tanks.
- Firefighters are the primary operators of fire hydrants, but your water utility is usually responsible for hydrant operation and maintenance.
- Water storage tanks are designed to provide sufficient fire flow pressure and supply with the added benefit of providing adequate pressure at the tap, even during peak demand periods.
- Maintaining, repairing, and replacing a vast network of underground pipes is an expensive proposition. Many of the water pipes running below our streets are aging and in need of replacement.