

The Distribution System: Getting the Water to You

Waterworks usually produces between 45 and 50 million gallons of water each day. That's more than 16 billion gallons per year!

After we treat all that water, we pump it to our customers through a series of pipes, storage tanks and pumps. This is called our distribution system.



Waterworks' distribution system has 12 storage tanks, more than 1,700 miles of pipeline, 9,100 fire hydrants and 35,000 valves. Our pipes come in many sizes. Some of them are big enough for a person to stand up in. Our smallest pipes are only 1 inch across. Like many water utilities, Waterworks uses computers to pump water through the distribution system. The operators use the computers to turn pumps on and off from far away.



As more people move to the area, the distribution system must grow. Waterworks has a whole division of employees who plan and install the new parts of the distribution system. These workers also fix and replace old pipes to keep the distribution system working at its best.