

How Does the Water Get to Your House?



After the water is treated, Newport News Waterworks sends it to you through our pipes, or distribution system. The pipes come in many sizes. Some of our pipes are big enough for a person to stand up inside. Others are so small that a baseball wouldn't fit inside. Sometimes these pipes are called water mains.

Waterworks has about 1,700 miles of water mains. They go up and down all the streets where our customers live and work. You can't see them because they are under the ground.

If you could take all the pipes out of the ground and connect them in a straight line, they would go all the way to Colorado!

If one of our pipes breaks or gets a leak, our workers have to dig up the pavement and dirt around the pipe before they can fix it. When they are done, they have to replace the dirt around the pipe and repair the street so people can drive on it again.



When water is carried through the pipes to your house, it passes through a meter. The meter keeps track of how much water you and your family use.

