



Only Tap Water Delivers: WASA supplies millions of gallons to the nation's capital

Not everyone takes time to think about the vital role that public water systems play in our daily lives. That's why the American Water Works Association (AWWA) has launched its *Only Tap Water Delivers* campaign to raise public awareness of the value of clean, safe drinking water and the critical need to reinvest in aging infrastructure, like pumping stations and underground pipes.

As your water distributor, WASA works hard to ensure that it provides a clean, safe, high-quality product. WASA regularly collects and

analyzes hundreds of water samples at various locations in the District's 1,300-mile distribution system. WASA also conducts an aggressive water main flushing program, and responds rapidly if there are reports concerning water quality problems.

For more than a year, test results of District tap water samples have met the U.S. EPA standard for lead levels, largely due to a change in water chemistry at the Washington Aqueduct where WASA purchases treated water. Even with lead levels that meet federal regulations,



WASA continues to honor its commitment to invest more than \$400 million to remove all known lead service lines in public spaces. These lines are being replaced with copper pipe at thousands of locations throughout the

District. More than 7,500 lead lines have been replaced since the program began.

For questions about WASA drinking water quality, e-mail waterquality@dcwasa.com or call (202) 612-3440.

Only Tap Water Delivers...

■ Public Health Protection

In some parts of the world, an estimated three million people die annually from preventable waterborne disease. In America, our drinking water meets tough federal and state standards for health.

■ Fire Protection

A well-maintained water system is critical in protecting communities from the ever-present threat of fire.

■ Support For the Economy

Water service is vital to housing and business development, and critical to day-to-day operations.

■ Quality of Life

We take it for granted that clean, safe water is always available to drink, wash our clothes, water our lawns, and for many other purposes. When water service is interrupted, we're all reminded of the value of public water systems, like WASA, in our lives.

WASA can help reduce the cost of watering your lawn

Did you know that WASA offers its customers a great, money-saving program that lowers the cost of watering the lawn and garden?



District residents can sub-meter water for gardening, landscaping, or any other use that is not returned to the sewer system. The monthly charge for residential sub-meters is as low as \$2.01 for a 5/8" meter and \$3.92 for a

2" meter. To take advantage of this program, a licensed plumber will need to install a service line and make sure your installation is meter-ready; then WASA will install a sub-meter. Once the installation is complete, you will not have

to pay sewer charges for the water registering through the sub-meter. If you'd like more information, please contact WASA customer service at (202) 354-3600.

Take precautions during storm season

Wet weather season is here again! WASA wants you to take the following precautions before, during, and after a storm:

- Keep and listen to a battery-powered radio for the latest storm information.
- Maintain an emergency supply of non-perishable food and bottled water for your family and pets.
- If local authorities instruct you to do so, turn off all utilities at the main power switch and close the main gas valve. Deadly electric currents pass easily through water, and



gas leaks can cause an explosion.

- If local officials order you to evacuate, do so immediately.
- If the water starts to rise inside your house and you can't evacuate safely, retreat to the second floor, the attic and, if necessary, the roof. Always keep a route open to reach the highest point in your house, such as an attic window or skylight.

Health benefits of drinking water

We all know that drinking water is crucial for good health, but do we know the reasons why? Water makes up 60% of our body weight and helps to maintain healthy skin, protect joints and trim the size of your waistline. If we don't get enough water, our bodies won't function at an optimal level, and we may not look or even feel our best. Top reasons for drinking a minimum of eight



glasses of eight ounces of water per day include:

- Healthy skin
- Weight loss
- Protection for joints and muscles
- Protection from disease and infection
- Good digestion

Discover your payment options

Did you know that WASA provides customers several options to pay their bills? Customers can pay by cash, check, or money order. Payments can be made by telephone, Internet, auto-pay debit-credit services, via

mail, or in-person! For more information please contact customer service at (202) 354-3600.



Danger zone: Do not open fire hydrants to cool off summer heat

As the summer gets hotter, people are tempted to open fire hydrants and often open them improperly. WASA wants to remind everyone that unauthorized and improper opening of fire hydrants can cause:



- A water main to break
- The hydrant to break
- Harm to the individual opening it
- A public hazard when children are running in the streets
- Water pressure problems that make fire fighting more difficult
- Water pressure problems that make everyday household

activities such as showering and flushing toilets more difficult

Fire hydrants should only be opened and closed by authorized individuals. If you see an unauthorized individual opening a fire hydrant in your community, report it to the WASA 24-hour emergency hotline at (202) 612-3400.

For more information, visit WASA's website at www.dcwasa.com.

Para informar emergencias del agua residuales, llame (202) 612-3400.

Report Emergencies 24 Hours a day!

To report improper use of hydrants, clogged catch basins, water main leaks, or suspected sewer backups, call (202) 612-3400.

To reach WASA's Lead Services Hotline, call (202) 787-2732.



District of Columbia
Water and Sewer
Authority

Customer Service
Department
810 First Street, NE
Washington, DC 20002
(202) 354-3600
www.dcwasa.com