

water rings

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Buried No More!

Let's face it...the majority of us don't give much thought to water, even when we're using it. In fact, you might be starting to tune out right now! But we think water should command more attention and respect considering the vital role it plays in every aspect of our lives.

Because almost everything that's involved in collecting, treating, storing and delivering water is out of sight and unfamiliar to most people, we are beginning a campaign to raise awareness and make sure that water is no longer buried in our thoughts and priorities!

It's fair to say that water is life. Up to 60% of the human body is water, the brain is 70% water, and the lungs are nearly 90% water. We are made of water and we can't survive without it.

Water is essential for all of the food that we eat and is the primary component in most beverages we drink. If you're a fan of that morning cup of Joe, keep in mind that no water means no coffee!

From the clothes we wear to the cars we drive to even our homes and the furnishings in them, water is a key ingredient in the manufacturing of almost every product we use.

A healthy economy depends on water. Companies choose to locate where water supplies are abundant. There are thousands of jobs in our service area that might not be here today if weren't for the plentiful supply of water we provide.

We all have something at stake when it comes to water. We all use water and we are all responsible for it. Our voice, our thoughts, and our actions are crucial to sustaining the quality of life that water provides.

Like us on Facebook to become involved with us. Stay tuned for future editions of Water Rings to learn more about the issues and how you may get involved.

NWWA - Always on Tap!

Winterizing Tips

During the cold weather months, there are simple things you can do to help prevent frozen pipes and leaks in your home.

- Fit exposed pipes with insulation sleeves or wrapping to slow heat loss.
- Seal cracks and holes in outside walls and foundations near water pipes with caulking.
- Keep a slow trickle of water flowing through faucets connected to pipes that run through an unheated or unprotected space.



- Remove all hoses from outside faucets and shut them off from the inside. Leave the fixtures open to drain.
- Secure and drain all underground lawn sprinkler systems.
- If you plan to be away for an extended time during the winter months, it is very important to maintain minimum temperatures in your home to prevent freezing of the interior plumbing fixtures.

Remember, your indoor plumbing is your responsibility. Protecting your pipes saves water and money!



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This is Our Passion!

Did you know that there are more than 100,000 highly trained water professionals, more than 153,000 public drinking water systems, and more than 16,500 publicly owned treatment facilities in the United States?

Together, they provide water and sewer services to more than 300 million Americans and work tirelessly to protect public health and more than three million miles of rivers and streams, more than 40 million acres of lakes, more than 87,000 square miles of estuaries, 95,000 miles of coastal waters and marine waters.

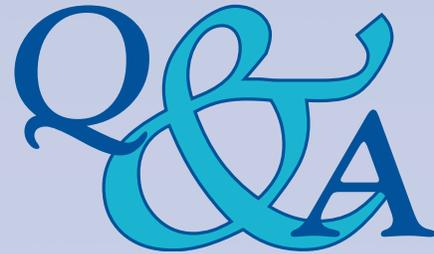
There is a vast infrastructure—800,000 miles of water pipe and 600,000 miles of sewer line—right beneath your feet! These systems have worked silently for years, in some cases more than a century, to deliver and remove your water and wastewater.

At NWWA we have 20 state-certified water operators who are responsible for maintaining and repairing the over 400 miles of water pipe in our 50-square mile service area. In order to become licensed, all new operators must meet educational and experience requirements and pass an exam that demonstrates the skills, knowledge and abilities necessary to operate a specific water system. Experienced operator license renewal requires continuing education credits to keep pace with advances in health, science and technology along with understanding the impact of increased regulatory requirements

There are also 10 certified operators at our state-of-the-art water treatment plant, Forest Park Water. These highly trained, experienced operators hold the highest level of license classification and because of their responsibilities, each has a special blend of technical expertise and mechanical aptitude. In addition, the mechanical and electrical controls staff provide specialized skills necessary for the maintenance and repair of the diverse equipment in the plant.

Clean water doesn't take holidays! Our team is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year to protect public health and the environment.

**Water is our passion.
We'd like it to be yours, too.**



Q: *How much water does an average person use each day?*

A: Total per capita water usage varies depending on location, season of the year and what types of water consuming appliances are used in the home. The US average is nearly 70 gallons per person used each day. Of this, the amount people actually consume is less than 2%, and can vary widely among individuals.

Because of other uses in the community, water suppliers pump much more water than is used in households. A recent national study of water suppliers showed that to supply water needed for all uses, the average amount of water pumped daily was 180 gallons per person.

In the home, toilet flushing is by far the largest single use of water. Toilets can use anywhere from 1.6 to 6 gallons of water for each flush. On the other hand, a dishwasher uses about 50% less water than the amount used when you wash and rinse dishes by hand.

Without counting lawn watering, typical percentages of household water use are as follows:

- Toilet flushing – 26.7%
- Laundry – 20.2%
- Showers and baths – 18.5%
- Running faucets – 11.7%
- Leaks – 9.7%
- Dishwashing – 6%
- Cooking and drinking – 5%
- Other domestic uses – 2.2%

By installing more efficient fixtures, regularly checking for leaks and turning off water when brushing teeth or shaving, etc., households can reduce daily per-capita water use by approximately 30%.

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