

WATER DEPARTMENT

NEWS AND UPDATES

AGING WATER INFRASTRUCTURE



The United States' 1 million miles of water pipes deliver 42 billion gallons of water every day. Much of this system was laid in the early and mid-1900s, with an estimated life span of 75 - 100 years. At the current rate of water pipe replacement in the United States it will take about 200 years to replace,

twice the useful life of the pipes. As these systems reach the end of their life span, an estimated 240,000 main breaks occur every year and lose as much as 2 trillion gallons of treated water.

44 percent of America's water infrastructure is considered poor according to American Water Works.

The United States water system was graded a D by The American Society of Civil Engineers' [2017 Infrastructure Report Card](#).

It will require at least \$1 trillion to upgrade existing water systems and to meet the growing drinking water infrastructure needs according to the American Water Works Association.

EPAs Aging Water Infrastructure (AWI) research program supports these four strategies:

(1) **Better Management** – moving beyond compliance to sustainability and improved performance,

(2) **Full-cost Pricing** – helping utilities recognize the full cost of providing service over the long term,

(3) **Water Efficiency** – promoting water efficiency in the residential and commercial sectors,

(4) **Watershed Approach** – integrating watershed management principles and tools into utility planning and management practices.

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT US: water@surfsideonline.org

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