



NEWSPLASH

News for Customers of the Erie Water Works

First Quarter 2022

2022 Capital Program

The Erie Water Works (EWW) has reinvested more than \$350M in the water system since its inception in 1992. We will continue our strategic and aggressive approach to keep our water system at “world-class” status for decades to come, and 2022’s capital budget will go a long way toward achieving that goal.

EWW’s annual capital budget is broken down into seven distinct categories: Treatment (36.2%), Pumping (12%), Transmission & Distribution (30.5%), Meters (2.3%), Storage (11.6%), Distribution Programs (5.5%), and General Plant (1.9%).

As indicated above the largest portion of the 2022 budget will be used for Treatment projects. This category totals \$15.6M and includes \$14.5M earmarked for the completion of the final phase of a three-phase project to renovate the Richard S. Wasielewski Water Treatment Plant (RSW). Once complete, the RSW will become the showpiece of EWW’s state-of-the-art membrane filtration process. In addition to the membrane filtration system, a new laboratory is included in this third and final

phase. The new lab will allow EWW employees to expand its “in-house” testing which will provide more timely test results used in our water treatment decisions. It will greatly improve our ability to adapt immediately to changing water conditions and continue to provide our customers with the best water possible!

Other significant projects in the 2022 capital budget include the Cherry Street Pump Station Renovation (\$2.0M), the Station Road Pump Station Improvements (\$1.3), Hampshire/Sterrettania Water Main Replacement Project (\$2.0M), and two storage projects totaling \$4.5M.

EWW is also extremely excited to be the recipient of a \$6.5M grant through the PENN-VEST Program to remove as many as 1,300 lead “goosenecks” from our water system.

EWW remains committed to meet and exceed all water quality standards for our customers. Our continued reinvestment back into the water system will help us achieve our goal!

Erie County Emergency Rental Assistance Program

If you’re having trouble paying your rent or utilities, you may be eligible for funding through Erie County Care Management. For more information on eligibility requirements visit www.eccm.org or call 814-923-5512.

Bill Pay Options

Customers of the Erie Water Works have several options to choose from when paying their quarterly water, sewer and refuse bills.

- Use Online Bill Pay services through your bank.
- Pay Online at www.eriewater.org using your credit/debit card, check or PayPal.
- Pay by phone at 1-855-907-3211 using your credit/debit card or check.
- Sign up for auto pay from your checking account or credit card at www.eriewater.org.
- Mail your payment to Erie Water Works, P.O. Box 4170, Woburn, MA 01888-4170.
- Pay in person at 340 West Bayfront Parkway using a credit/debit card, check or cash.
Please note EWW’s new business hours will be 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. starting in 2022.
- Drop your payment at one of the outside payment boxes located at 240 West 12th Street or 340 West Bayfront Parkway.



EWW's GIS Team gets published

EWW's Engineering Services Department consists of ten employees focused on the technical aspects of the water works including infrastructure projects and the data collection and asset records required to document such efforts. Members of the Geographic Information System (GIS) staff were recently published in ESRI's (Environmental Systems Research Institute) Fall 2021 issue of ArcNews for their great work advancing the GIS in the water industry and for our customers. ESRI is an industry leader of geographic information system software. Their quarterly publication of ArcNews reaches approximately 800,000 subscribers.

To read the article visit <https://www.esri.com/about/newsroom/arcnews/water-utility-brings-engineering-in-house-with-enterprise-asset-management/>

Supporting our community

Several EWW team members donate \$2.00 each Friday to wear jeans. In 2021 team members raised just over \$3,700. Contributions stayed local and went to the Second Harvest Food Bank, the American Heart Association, Meals on Wheels, the Mercy Center for Women, the Upper Room, Community Shelter Services, and Foster Erie. The annual United Way workplace giving campaign raised \$4,000. Employees also delivered blankets and coats to the Upper Room as part of their *Blizzard of Blankets* fundraiser.

Working together to raise money to help support the important work of many local charitable organizations is something our team members are very proud of.

Lead Line Replacement Project

In 2021, EWW was awarded a \$6.5M grant from the Pennsylvania Infrastructure Investment Authority (PENNVEST) to remove lead "goosenecks" from service lines in the water distribution system. Work will begin in the Spring of 2022 and will continue into 2023 for a total of about 18-months. Although no longer permitted, and not installed within EWW's distribution system since the mid-1940's, lead goosenecks are short sections of pipe (1-2 feet) that were historically used to connect wrought iron service lines to cast-iron water mains.

For more than 20 years the EWW Distribution Department has been removing these lead goosenecks from the water distribution system. EWW maintains an effective corrosion control treatment program in full compliance with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Lead and Copper Rule. This treatment has kept our lead test results extremely low or far below the maximum levels allowed. However, we believe eliminating all potential sources of lead is the best way to protect our customers.

The project will be publicly bid in early 2022. Approximately 1,300 properties in the City of Erie will be addressed, generally located in an area bounded by the Bayfront Parkway, West 11th Street and East 10th Street. Please visit the following link <https://eriewater.org/LeadLineGrantProject> to view the map of the project area. To help us effectively communicate important project details, please register, update your information, or add additional contact information at <https://eriewaterworks.onthealert.com>.