



# NEWSPLASH

News for Customers of the Erie Water Works

Third Quarter 2019

## What is a Cost of Service Study?

The Erie Water Works (EWW) is fortunate to operate two water treatment plants and pumping stations. Both plants are directly connected to a complex network of transmission and distribution lines that provide water service to more than 220,000 people in Northwest Pennsylvania. EWW treats an average of 24 million gallons of water per day and maintains 774 miles of pipe ranging in size from 1-inch to 54-inches! Since EWW's formation in 1992, more than \$350 million has been invested in Erie's water system. Great strides have been taken to rebuild a water system that had been, like so many other systems in the Northeast region of the United States, neglected for decades.

Reliable infrastructure is essential to keep our water safe, clean and delivered to our cus-

tomers on a daily basis. This has been accomplished through strategic capital programs, increased efficiencies, and reasonable water rates.

From time to time water utilities must evaluate their rates to ensure they can maintain this largely unseen network of treatment facilities, pipes, valves, fire hydrants, and storage tanks to ensure safe reliable water service for years to come. Systems as old as Erie's require constant attention and investment.

The current rate schedule was implemented in 2015 and is set to expire at the end of this year. As required by the lease agreement with the City of Erie, rates must be developed using "Cost of Service" principles outlined in the American Water Works Association (AWWA) M-1 Manual for establishing water rates, fees and

charges.

At their May 2019 meeting, the EWW Board of Directors entered into a contract with Raftelis Financial Consultants, Inc. to perform a cost of service analysis to set rates for the years 2020 - 2024.

The cost of service study will determine the total cost to provide water service to EWW customers as well as the rates needed to cover those costs. They'll look at EWW's consumption history and future expenses to determine an appropriate 5-year schedule of rates.

This method of rate setting assures that all customers pay for the service they receive. Rest assured EWW will continue to provide our customers with "World-Class Water, First-Class Service".

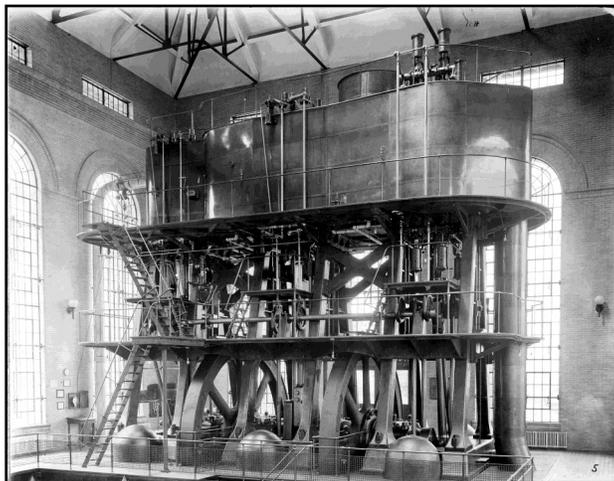
## 2019 Water Line Projects

Construction season is underway for EWW. Below is a list of upcoming water line projects. Residents and businesses in these areas will receive correspondence in advance of any work that will include important details about the project, frequently asked questions and contact information for the project manager. As you're out and about this construction season please use extreme caution when approaching a work zone to keep everyone safe.

<u>Water Main Projects</u>	<u>Intersections</u>	<u>Municipality</u>	<u>When in 2019</u>
East Lake Road Replacement	Irvine Dr. - Bartlett Rd.	Harborcreek	Apr. - Oct.
Peach Street Replacement	West Gate Dr. - Walker Blvd.	City of Erie	June - July
East Booster Extension	Dinicola Dr. - Mindi Ct. - Station Rd.	Wesleyville / Harborcreek	July - Aug.
East 11th Street Replacement	Hess Ave. - Payne Ave.	City of Erie	July - Aug.
West Ridge Road Extension	Swanville Rd. - Millfair Rd.	Millcreek	Aug. - Sept.
Millfair Road Extension	West Ridge Rd. - Swanville Rd.	Millcreek	Aug. - Sept.
West 20th Street Replacement	Berst St. - Haybarger Ave.	City of Erie	Aug. - Sept.
Bacon Street Replacement	East 11th St. - East 10th Street	City of Erie	Aug. - Nov.
Glendale Avenue Replacement	Cameron Rd. - June St.	City of Erie	Aug. - Nov.
June Street Replacement	Glendale Ave. - Fairmount Pkwy.	City of Erie	Aug. - Nov.

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Erie Water Works  
 Open House  
 Chestnut Street Pump Station  
 359 West Bayfront Parkway  
 Saturday, August 17, 2019  
 9:00 - 11:00 a.m.  
*Visit the Historic  
 "Big Bertha"*



**Before You Dig...**



Know what's below.

Call before you dig.

Call 811 at least three days before you start any digging project. Whether you are planning to do it yourself or hire a professional, smart and safe digging means calling 811 before each job. This allows for underground utilities to be physically located so as to avoid damage to life and property.

The Erie Water Works 2018 Water Quality Report is available on our website.  
 Visit "[www.eriewater.org/wqr/2018wqr.erie.pdf](http://www.eriewater.org/wqr/2018wqr.erie.pdf)"  
 To have a paper copy mailed to your home please call 814-870-8000 ext. 299.

**National Drinking Water Week**

Water professionals from across North America joined with the American Water Works Association to encourage consumers to get to know their local water source. The theme was "Protect the Source." At his weekly press conference, Mayor Schember proclaimed May 6-11 Drinking Water Week and explained the vital role that water plays in our daily lives. Only tap water delivers public health protection, fire protection, and support for our local economy.

Area students celebrated National Drinking Water Week with tours of EWW's Richard S. Wasielewski Water Treatment Plant. Over 400 fifth grade students from Erie's Public Schools got a behind the scenes tour of the water treatment process.



**"World-Class Water, First-Class Service"**