

America's Water Challenges

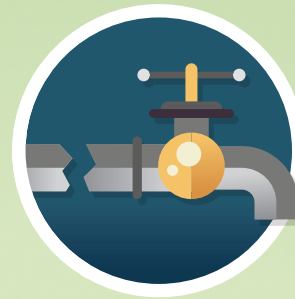


Water Quality is a Serious Challenge for Millions of Americans

- 45 million Americans drink water that violates health standards
- Water quality violations disproportionately impact communities of color and rural Americans
- Source water faces new threats from emerging contaminants like PFAS

HOW WATER COMPANIES CAN HELP

Systems run by water companies are significantly less likely to violate federal drinking water standards compared to systems run by local governments.



America's Water Infrastructure is in Crisis

- 240,000 water mains breaks/year in U.S. = 6 billion gallons of water lost/day
- American Society of Civil Engineers' (ASCE) Report Card: C- grade for nation's drinking water systems

Water companies provide access to capital for urgent infrastructure needs. The 15 largest U.S. water companies collectively invested more than \$5 billion in community water systems in 2022.

HOW WATER COMPANIES CAN HELP



Many Americans Struggle to Afford Their Water Bills

- Water rates have increased 6-8% each year to fund critical infrastructure investments
- Deferring necessary investments to keep rates low can jeopardize water quality and public health

HOW WATER COMPANIES CAN HELP

From flexible payment plans and deferred payment options to discounts on various charges and fees, water companies have been leaders in addressing water affordability challenges.



America's Water Grid is Highly Fragmented

- U.S. has 3,300 electric utilities compared to 52,000 community water systems with more than half serving just a few hundred customers
- Leads to cost inefficiencies, limited investment capacity, and a lack of operational expertise

Larger systems have fewer water quality violations and lower water rates. Water companies help consolidate small systems across the country.

HOW WATER COMPANIES CAN HELP