Milwaukee
Water Works
Safe, Abundant Drinking Water.

2018 Utility General Information

- Date of original organization of the Water Works - April 18, 1871
- Pumping engines at the North Point Pumping Station first sent Lake Michigan water into the system on September 14, 1874

The Milwaukee Water Works is a public utility owned by the City of Milwaukee. It serves as an enterprise fund, providing water service to the public for a fee that makes the entity self-supporting.

- Daily system capability – 360 million gallons
- Over 29 billion gallons of water were treated and distributed in 2018
- The area served, including wholesale and retail customers, is 196 square miles
- The population served, including wholesale and retail customers, is 866,993

We provide water to 11 wholesale customers which operate their own water utilities, bill their customers and maintain their distribution system (pipes, pumps, storage tanks, meters, valves):

Brown Deer	Mequon	Thiensville
Butler	Milwaukee County Grounds	Wauwatosa
Greendale	New Berlin	West Allis
Menomonee Falls	Shorewood	

Our four retail customers receive complete utility service including water, distribution system maintenance, billing and customer service:

Greenfield
Hales Corners
St. Francis
Franklin (a portion)

West Milwaukee receives water, billing and customer service, but maintains its own distribution system.

- Miles of Water Main - 1,961
- Number of Fire Hydrants - 19,865
- Number of Valves – 50,208
- Number of Metered Accounts - 160,890
- Number of Service Connections - 165,729
- Average Daily Pumpage - 97.2 Million Gallons
- Main Breaks - 519

- Number of Employees - 331
- Operating Revenues - $95 million
- Net utility plant in service of $645 million
- Operating Expenses - $84,073,268
- Operating Income - $11,424,509
- Rate of Return on Rate Base - 3.04%
- Payment in Lieu of Taxes to the City of Milwaukee (PILOT) - $13,090,014

This report is updated each June when the annual report for the previous year is published.