

Milwaukee is a Midwestern metropolitan business magnet that is the perfect location for water-intensive and water technology business, industry and research. Six Fortune 500 companies, several leading food and beverage companies, major international manufacturers and 200 water technology businesses agree, and call this region home and headquarters. They perform competitively and profitably thanks to an abundant, reliable, [high quality supply](#) of water.

The Milwaukee Water Works is a national, award-winning leader in providing high-quality water. We provide water at a low price that includes a rate discount for large commercial users. The utility has plenty of available capacity and there are no water allocation limits.

A key advantage is the Declining Block Rate which provides a lower cost per unit of water as water usage increases. On the wastewater side of the water cycle, the Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District ([MMSD](#)) charges only for wastewater discharged to the sewer, not for water used in the product or that is evaporated.

Ultra-Competitive Rates

- Rates for high volume users are the lowest among the nation's 50 largest urban areas.
- Rates for high volume users are the lowest in southeastern Wisconsin.
- A declining block rate structure in which cost per unit volume declines with increased use applies to customers using more than 34 Ccf of water per month (25,000 gal/mo.)
- The Milwaukee Water Works is owned by the City of Milwaukee and is governed separately from the Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District (MMSD), but the water utility bills for MMSD service because sewer charges are tied to water use.



Abundant Treatment Capacity

- Lake Michigan is the sixth largest freshwater lake on earth. Unlike communities that depend on finite sources of groundwater, Milwaukee has excess capacity in its water supply. Water treated and used is returned to the lake.
- System pumpage maxes at 130 million gallons per day (mgd) but our daily system practical capacity is 360 mgd.
- Without treatment plant expansion, the Milwaukee Water Works can reliably provide an additional 100 mgd while maintaining an adequate safety margin for fire suppression.

Regional System is Reliable for Commercial Use

- Reliable pressure and fire flow pressures exceed state standards.
- Consistently cool temperature decreases the amount of energy used for cooling. Median value: 48.2 degrees F.
- Our 196-square mile service area in Milwaukee, Ozaukee and Waukesha Counties, with extensive physical connections and capacity to expand.

We provide water to 865,000 people in 16 communities in Milwaukee, Ozaukee and Waukesha Counties:

- Milwaukee
- Brown Deer
- Butler
- Franklin
- Greendale
- Greenfield
- Hales Corners
- Menomonee Falls
- Mequon
- New Berlin
- Shorewood
- St. Francis
- Thiensville
- Wauwatosa
- West Milwaukee
- The Milwaukee County Grounds

We collaborate with the Department of City Development, the M7, the M7 (FaB) Food and Beverage Milwaukee Network, and the Milwaukee Water Council to retain and recruit commercial customers.

High Quality Water

- The Milwaukee Water Works is nationally recognized for a comprehensive [water quality](#) monitoring program, which goes above and beyond requirements of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.
- Water treatment includes ozone disinfection and biologically active filtration.
- The water is moderately hard, has low total dissolved solids, has a consistent low temperature and is provided at reliable pressure.

Redundancy, Security and Reliability

- Two water treatment plants with independent intakes provide a redundant water supply.
- Ongoing efforts improve the physical, cyber and procedural security of the water treatment plants, pumping stations and other infrastructure.
- The backup electrical power system was designed to meet 94% of daily water demand throughout the service area, including our 15 suburban customers, in the event of a local or regional power outage.
- Rapid response to main breaks with average time out of service less than 4.5 hours.

Since 1993, the Milwaukee Water Works has [invested](#) \$508 million in its infrastructure to ensure a reliable supply of pure, safe drinking water.