



WATERLINES

A Bangor Water Publication

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Want to know more about your tap water?



Our Water Quality Report will tell you where your water comes from and how safe it is. See the insert for Bangor Water's Report for 2016.

Work Begins on "Sustainable System"

Bangor Water has started on its way to meet a "sustainable system goal" with the renewal of 1.42 miles of pipe in 2016.

With almost 200 miles of pipe in our system and pipe life expectancy of 100 years, we should be **renewing two miles of pipe each year** to meet our sustainable goal. Currently, our water system has 60 miles of pipe that are over 100 years old and past its useful life. Replacing all of this pipe today would cost nearly \$90,000,000. Because of this enormous cost, we need to have a plan to replace lines over time and to



HAMMOND STREET hill in downtown Bangor around 1900. The water pipes also date to the early 1900's and will be replaced this year with a new 16-inch line. The work between Ohio and State streets is in conjunction with City of Bangor sewer work; the water portion is estimated at \$473,700.

and to prioritize which pipes we replace first.

This newsletter will provide a small glimpse of the work completed in 2016 and the projects planned for 2017 (most in conjunction with City of Bangor and/or State of Maine projects).

As we move forward, we will be guided by our recently finalized Capital Improvement Plan. Completed over several years with the help of a consulting engineer, the document examines our system from top to bottom—including pipes, treatment and pumping facilities, existing and projected water demands, current and potential water regulations— and provides short-, medium-, and long-term recommendations for the next 20 years. Total implementation would cost \$72,000,000 over the next two decades.

Bangor Water Celebrates Its 60th Anniversary!

Many things have changed since 1957 when Bangor Water began delivering water from Floods Pond to its customers — perhaps most importantly the quality of water. No longer (as reported in the Saturday Evening Post in 1951) does the water have "a noticeable **flavor of rotten sawdust and moose tracks!**"

Public water service for Bangor began in 1875 with the installation of 76,000 feet of lines to draw from the Penobscot River. A filter plant, completed in 1908, provided rudimentary treatment, and later chlorination facilities were installed for disinfection. By the 1940's, Penobscot River water was classified as "suitable for the transportation of sewage and industrial wastes." Water officials recognized a cleaner reliable source was important for health and safety, as well as continued business development.

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Bangor Water Celebrates Its 60th Anniversary (continued from page 1)

Efforts to change from water drawn from the Penobscot River began in the 1940's and initially included one shared source for Bangor, Brewer and other area towns. A half-dozen ponds including Cold Stream, Schoodic, and Green lakes were considered and tested.

Editorials and public forums were both for and against the cost of the project, the installation of water meters, the creation of a District separate from the City of Bangor, and the increasing need for chemicals to make the river water palatable.

More than one referendum was held on various plans, before the final proposal utilizing Floods Pond in Otis and creating the Bangor Water District was approved by voters in 1957.

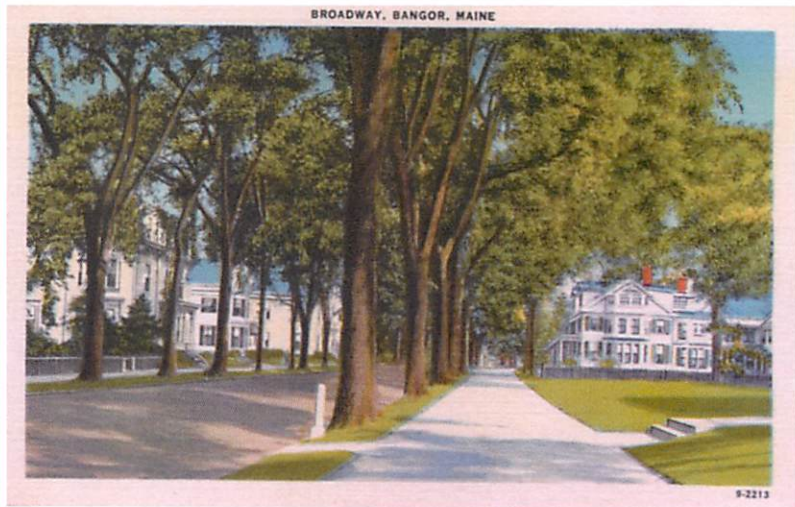
In the ensuing decades, increasingly sophisticated equipment has been added at Floods Pond and at State Street to meet new requirements.

Today, we treat and pump an average of four million gallons of water per day to customers in Eddington, Bangor, Hermon, Orrington, and to the Hampden Water District. We have 200 miles of pipe (up to 30 inches in diameter), more than 11,000 direct service connections for domestic and fire protection accounts, and 1,377 fire hydrants.

We maintain three pump stations and six

standpipes—including Thomas Hill Standpipe which is on the Register of Historic Places and a State of Maine Civil Engineering Landmark.

Our mission remains unchanged: To protect public health by providing high quality water for domestic and fire protection purposes while emphasizing cost control, innovation, and customer service.



Broadway in the early 1900's. Six-inch water pipes dating to 1910 will be replaced with new 12-inch line, in conjunction with City of Bangor road reconstruction project. The estimated cost \$695,500.

Anticipated 2017 Bangor Water Projects

WHERE	WHY	WHAT	WHEN	COST	FUNDING
Columbia Street	City of Bangor road reconstruction project with some utilities moving underground.	Move water services on old c. 1927 line to 16-inch 1980's line already in place	April through June	\$138,200	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Low-interest loans and grants through the Maine Drinking Water State Revolving Loan Fund
Broadway (State Street to Cumberland Street)	City of Bangor/Maine DOT project. Two recent water leaks.	Replace c. 1910 6-inch line with 12-inch line	After school ends	\$695,500	
Hammond Street at Maine Avenue	City of Bangor/Maine DOT project. Nine leaks in 10 years.	Replace c. 1903 and 1910 line with new 16-inch line	Spring through summer	\$751,100	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Our designated infrastructure replacement account, funded through rates as allowed by the Maine Public Utilities Commission
French Street (State Street to Somerset Street)	Work in conjunction with City sewer reconstruction project.	Replace 115-year-old pipe	Summer and Fall	\$450,000	
Hammond Street (State Street bridge to Ohio Street)	Work in conjunction with City sewer project.	Replace 125-year-old pipe that has experienced multiple leaks	March through Sept.	\$474,000	

Our current water rates are the 11th lowest among 145 Maine water utilities.