

Contractor crews working for Fairfax Water will be in your neighborhood soon to replace aging water mains. Here's what you can expect during construction:

- 1. Utility Marking:** As required by law and in advance of any excavation, underground utility lines are located and marked. There may also be a vacuum excavation crew onsite to physically locate the existing utilities which the new water mains will cross.



- 2. Material and Equipment Staging:** Prior to the water main installation, the contractor will deliver materials and equipment to the job site and sawcut sections of pavement that will be excavated. Job-site material and equipment storage is required throughout the project. During this time, signs will be placed along the roadway with contact information should there be any questions or concerns.



- 3. Trench Excavation:** New water mains are typically installed using an open-cut construction method by excavating a trench in a section of the pavement or ground. This may create noise and dust and is typically done on weekdays, during the day, to minimize disturbances to residents and traffic.



4. **Parking and Traffic:** There may be temporary lane closures and/or parking restrictions. Where lane closures are required, the contractor will have flaggers to guide traffic safely through the work zone. The contractor or Fairfax Water's inspector will also ensure that residents have access into and out of their driveways.
5. **Temporary Trench Restoration:** Each day, open trenches will be backfilled. In paved areas, trenches will be covered with temporary asphalt to provide a drivable surface and in certain locations, steel plates may be used to cover open trenches.



6. **Testing:** After installation of the new water main is complete, they must pass a series of tests before they can be placed in service. Testing the water can take up to a week before sample results are available.
7. **Service Reconnections:** The next step is to connect service lines to the new water mains and the new water mains to the existing water system. This may result in a few service interruptions. Fairfax Water will notify customers in advance of all service disruptions by knocking or leaving notices on front doors. For extended service disruptions lasting longer than 30 minutes door hangers will be placed on customers' front doors a minimum of 48 hours in advance. These notices note the estimated time of the service disruption and contact information should there be any concerns. After the connections, you may notice some slight discoloration of the water or entrained air (lots of bubbles). If this occurs, turn on an upstairs faucet (tub, if possible) and run the water for 5-10 minutes, which should take care of the problem.
8. **Final Restoration:** The final step is to restore disturbed areas and repave roadways in accordance with Virginia Department of Transportation or other permitting authority requirements. This work may take several weeks to begin and complete due to weather limitations and the establishment of paving limits by the permitting authorities. Fairfax Water strives to restore all areas as quickly as possible.



Fairfax Water will have an Inspector (in marked vehicle) onsite daily while the construction is underway to oversee the work by our contractor and address any questions and concerns. If you are not able to contact the inspector onsite, please contact Fairfax Water's Manager of Construction, at (703) 289-6351 or email us at construction-department@fairfaxwater.org.

Note that there may be temporary periods when no one is onsite, until final paving is complete