The Water Hammer Hazard Mitigation Program helps reduce pressure surge in water mains. When a valve slams shut (because of a pump failure, for example), water in the main stops quickly or even changes directions, creating a pipe-splitting shockwave that can reverberate backward. This is called the water hammer effect, and it can do a lot of damage in a short period of time.

### Making Our Water System More Resilient

**Phase 1**
*Completed 2019*

- **Water Towers**
  - Build water towers that hold two million gallons of water to provide up to 40 minutes of uninterrupted water pressure in the event of a power outage.

**Phase 2**
*Completed 2022*

- **Claiborne Pumping Station**
  - Upgrade all four pumps and motors at the Claiborne Pumping Station with new controls that can adjust to fluctuations in water pressure.

**Phase 3**
*Underway*

- **Panola and High Lift Pumping Stations**
  - Install new meters and valves at the Panola and High Lift Pumping Stations so we can monitor water flow rates in addition to improvements to the pumps.

Construction projects were phased to prevent water service interruptions.

### The Proof?

Systemwide precautionary boil water advisories have plummeted since the first water tower came online in 2018. The Eastbank of New Orleans has not experienced a citywide precautionary boil water advisory since then.

### Funding

The Water Hammer Hazard Mitigation Program is funded through FEMA’s Hazard Mitigation Program. $110M Projected Cost

[Learn More](https://www.swbno.org/Projects/WHP)