



THE VIRGIN ISLANDS WATER & POWER AUTHORITY CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS NEWS RELEASE

(340) 774-3552 • communications@viwapa.vi / www.viwapa.vi

WAPA Works to Resolve Water Leaks on St. Thomas

U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS (November 22, 2024) – The Virgin Islands Water and Power Authority (“WAPA” or the “Authority”) is actively addressing an increase in water leaks reported across St. Thomas, with crews working diligently to repair critical infrastructure and restore water service to affected customers.

Recent repairs include:

- **West Julian Jackson Road:** A ruptured 10-inch water main requires extensive repairs and isolated service in the area temporarily.
- **Veterans Drive:** An 18-inch main leak affected three customers directly, with some disruption to Frenchtown as isolation measures were implemented. Water service to Frenchtown was fully restored last night.
- **Long Bay Road (Yacht Haven Grande area):** Repairs are scheduled on a water line serving Yacht Haven Grande, with progress expected to continue over the next day or two.
- **Hospital Ground:** Crews are preparing to address a leak impacting approximately customers in the Hospital Ground area and nearby elevated areas, with work scheduled for tonight or tomorrow.

To ensure efficient repairs, WAPA is utilizing an excavator for multiple jobs across the island. While significant progress has been made, some work may extend into the weekend due to the complexity and volume of the issues.

"We are closely monitoring why there has been an increase in water leaks recently," said Noel Hodge, Chief Operating Officer - Water. "Our teams are not only focused on immediate repairs but also investigating underlying causes to prevent future occurrences."

WAPA appreciates the community’s patience as crews work to resolve these issues safely and efficiently. Updates will be provided as repairs progress.

About WAPA: The Virgin Islands Water and Power Authority is an autonomous agency of the Virgin Islands Government which produces and distributes electricity and drinking water to residential and commercial customers in the territory. WAPA was created by the Fifth Legislature of the Virgin Islands in 1964 through Act No. 1248. Today, WAPA generates electrical power at production plants on St. Thomas and St. Croix and distributes electrical service through smart grids to customers on St. Thomas, St. Croix, St. John, Hassel Island, and Water Island. Potable water is distributed to almost 13,000 customers through water lines and standpipes. WAPA also has the responsibility of installing and maintaining streetlights.