



EASTON UTILITIES

Life. Made better.™

Easton Utilities is responsible for the operation, management and maintenance of the electric, water, wastewater, natural gas, cable television and internet utility services for the Town of Easton and portions of the surrounding area. In 1923, Easton became the first municipality in the state to own all of its utilities, an arrangement that is still unique today.

Electricity first came to Easton in 1887, but was not under town jurisdiction until 1914. The **Electric Department** now provides service to more than 10,800 customers in a 54 square-mile service territory. We are connected to the PJM Interconnection, L.L.C. (PJM) power pool and use this venue to purchase our electricity through a combination of energy contracts and on an hourly basis. Using 16 diesel and 2 combustion turbine generators, Easton Utilities generates electricity to offset costs during times of high-priced PJM energy. Easton's installed electrical generation capacity is 68 megawatts, which is adequate to meet the Town's electric load during periods of normal demand.

Established in 1914, the **Water Department** currently serves more than 7,000 customers through 122 miles of water mains and 788 fire hydrants. Easton Utilities pumps water from naturally filtered underground aquifers (water-bearing sands) through five wells that are 1,000 to 1,200 feet deep. We then treat the water as required and pump it into the distribution system. Of those wells, three are drilled 1,000 feet into the Magothy Aquifer. The final two wells are drilled 1,200 feet into the Upper Patapsco Aquifer and feed directly into the water treatment plant on Glebe Road. This plant, capable of pumping over 1,300 gallons per minute, provides over half the drinking water in Easton.

Construction began on Easton's first sewage system in 1911. In operation by 1914, it was the first separate storm and sanitary sewer system in the State of Maryland. Currently, the **Wastewater Department** serves more than 7,000 customers through 120 miles of sewer mains, twenty pumping stations and an environmentally-friendly wastewater treatment facility. Completed in 2007, Easton's Enhanced Nutrient Removal Wastewater Treatment Facility is one of Maryland's first to meet the new, more stringent, discharge requirements. The facility is sized to provide enough capacity to meet Easton's needs in the coming years. In addition, the **Easton Sustainability Campus**, a system of multiple, diverse, renewable energy sources, is located on the property.

Acquired by the Town in 1923, Easton's **Gas Department** is the only municipal gas utility in the state today. Easton's gas was originally derived by burning coal at a plant on West Street, but Easton Utilities converted to natural gas in 1966 and now purchases gas in the competitive marketplace. Gas is delivered to Easton via pipeline where it is distributed to over 4,700 customers through 100 miles of steel and plastic mains. The Gas Department distributes approximately 525,000 MCF of natural gas per year to the Easton residents living in its 8.5 square-mile service territory.

Easton Velocity offers high-speed internet with gigabit capacity, website hosting, digital voice, cable television and technical support. This division was created by combining Easton Cable with Easton Online and serves over 4,700 cable customers, 8,400 internet customers, and 1,600 digital voice customers. Created in 1984, Easton Cable is one of the few municipally owned cable systems in the United States, and its service policies and competitive rates reflect its local ownership. Operating seven satellite dishes, a broadcast reception tower and a local weather station, Easton households now receive 275 channels, including basic cable, digital cable, premium channels, high-definition (HD), pay-per-view service, and digital music. The system was fully upgraded and rebuilt into a hybrid fiber/coax (HFC) design in 2001, which allowed Easton Cable to offer more programming and entertainment to customers. In 1998, the Cable & Communications Department launched Easton Online, an internet service provider featuring high-speed internet access and technical support. Together, Easton Cable and Easton Online form Easton Velocity.

Created in 2009, **IT Professional Services** designs and deploys software, hardware and networking solutions for utilities, municipal and county governments, as well as local commercial customers. In addition to providing a high level of in-house IT support, this business unit helps clients improve their operations by providing unique, tailored software solutions.

OUR MISSION

To enhance the quality of life in our community by providing reliable, competitively priced utility and communication services through skilled, safety-oriented and customer-focused employees.

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