

## A MESSAGE FROM THE UNION COUNTY WATER ADMINISTRATOR

Thanks to the hard work of our dedicated team, we have made it to the finish line. The Yadkin Regional Water Supply Project (YRWSP) is complete!

You may still notice some minor activity along the Project's pipeline routes as our field personnel complete punch list items and finish restoration work, but the installation of infrastructure is complete. The intake facility and pump station are operating as intended, and the new Yadkin River Water Treatment Plant will be fully operational in the coming months. This means if you live in Union County's Yadkin River Basin, you will soon be receiving water from the new Yadkin River Water Treatment Plant!

I want to thank you for your interest in this project over the years. After nearly two decades of planning, design, consultation, outreach, and construction, we have finally secured a new long-term, sustainable water supply for our customers. I am immensely proud that Union County has become a leader in water resourcefulness for our region. The completion of the Yadkin Regional Water Supply Project is an achievement that will have positive impacts on our communities for decades to come.

This is the final YRWSP newsletter and we thank you again for your support. We here at Union County Water will continue to bring the best possible service to the people in our community.



Hyong Yi  
*Union County Water Administrator*

## CAUSE FOR CELEBRATION

Earlier this year, we celebrated the completion of the Yadkin Regional Water Supply Project with a pair of celebratory events.

On August 24, 2023, we held a ribbon-cutting ceremony at the Project's Water Intake Facility and Pump Station on the shore of Lake Tillery in Norwood. The ceremony was attended by elected officials and staff from Union County, the Town of Norwood, Stanly County and others and marked the culmination of almost two decades of dedicated regional cooperation and hard work.

Just a few weeks later on September 21, we held a celebration event to officially open the doors to the new Yadkin River Water Treatment Plant. Melissa Merrell, Vice Chair of the Union County Board of Commissioners, welcomed elected officials, guests, and staff from both Union County and the Town of Norwood as guest speakers reflected on water resiliency, regional partnership and the modern design of our new water treatment plant.



Union County Water staff stand in front of the new Yadkin River Water Treatment Plant.



Water intake facility and pump station ribbon-cutting ceremony in Norwood. (Pictured from left to right: Norwood Town Administrator Ray Allen, Norwood Commissioner Wes Hartsell, Norwood Commissioner Keith Morgan, Norwood Mayor Linda Campbell, Union County Commissioner Richard Helms, Norwood Commissioner Robbie Cohen, Norwood Commissioner James Lilly, Union County Board of Commissioners Vice Chair Melissa Merrell, Union County Commissioner David Williams, and Union County Manager Brian Matthews.)

Also, during the event, the Union County Board of Commissioners and County Manager Brian Matthews participated in an "Opening of the Taps" activity, symbolically transferring water from Lake Tillery to the Yadkin River Water Treatment Plant and ultimately to a home in Union County's Yadkin River Basin.

Guests then had a chance to tour the plant, getting a first-hand look at the impressive infrastructure.

The completion of the YRWSP is a true testament to the power of collaboration and underscores the region's commitment to ensuring clean and sustainable water access for residents and businesses in our communities.



Union County Board of Commissioners Vice Chair Melissa Merrell leads the "Opening of the Taps" activity during the Yadkin River Water Treatment Plant Celebration Event.



The consultant team's Project Manager Chris Clark (center) leads a tour of the Yadkin River Water Treatment Plant.

## PROJECT COMPLETION VIDEO

Follow the story of the Yadkin Regional Water Supply Project and the determination, collaboration and innovation that brought the project to life.



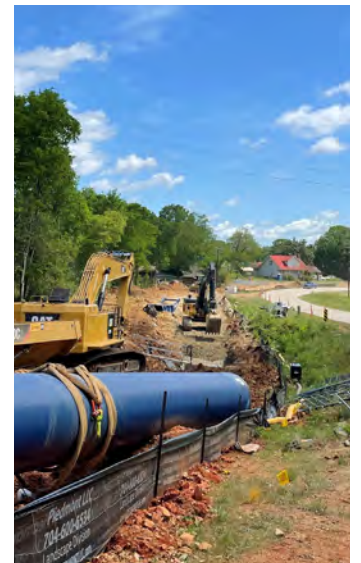
[WATCH THE VIDEO](#)

# VIRTUAL TOUR

Are you curious to learn how a water treatment plant works? In 2024, we will unveil a virtual tour of the Yadkin River Water Treatment Plant, which will take you behind the scenes to see how water from Lake Tillery is treated to become drinkable water for Union County Water customers.

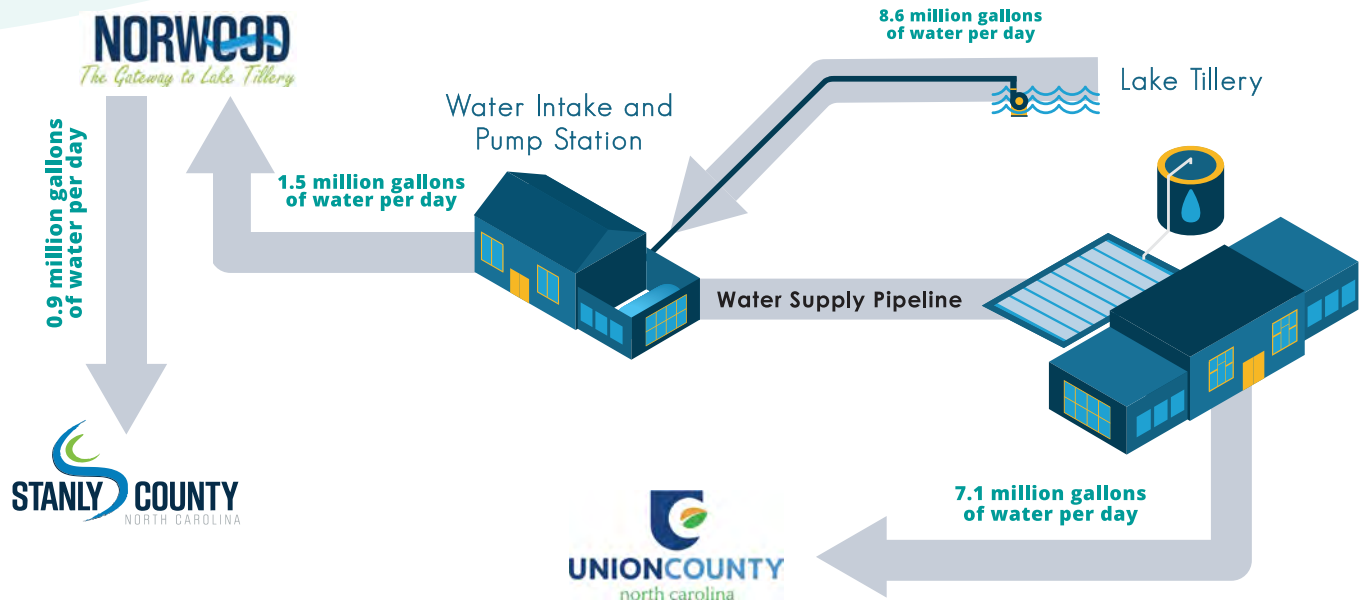


## IN FOCUS: THE PROJECT THROUGH PHOTOS



## WHAT WE BUILT

Spanning more than 40 miles, the ambitious project draws water from Lake Tillery via a new intake facility and pump station in Norwood. The raw water is then pumped 30 miles to the new Yadkin River Water Treatment Plant, where it is treated and then sent via the drinking water pipeline to Union County Water's distribution system.



## BRIDGING GAPS, INSPIRING ENGAGEMENT: OUR COMMUNICATIONS TEAM

Even in its earliest days, we understood the importance of establishing a thorough communications program on the Project. Our Communications team met regularly to identify project milestones and proactively address potential concerns from residents in both Union and Stanly counties, particularly those whose properties would be impacted by the pipelines. We set up a project hotline and email address to ensure residents had a direct channel to ask questions, and we developed a project website, social media posts, explanatory videos and newsletters like this one to provide accurate, up-to-date information about the project.

Here are just a few of the many faces behind the Project's communication efforts since 2015. Our Communications team thanks you for your patience over the years, and it has been an absolute pleasure to serve our community throughout this project.

## CONTACT US

With the project now complete, the project hotline and project email address will soon be out of service.

For inquiries, please contact the Town of Norwood or Union County via one of the methods below:

**Town of Norwood:** 704-474-3416, [townofnorwood@norwoodgov.com](mailto:townofnorwood@norwoodgov.com)

**Union County:** 704-296-4210, [water@unioncountync.gov](mailto:water@unioncountync.gov)



Pictured from left to right: Megan Hinkle, Liz Cooper, and Tita Gutierrez



Pictured from left to right: Natalia Bullock, Sabrina Colón, Amy Shahar, Chris Neil, Pierce Sprague, Lauren Roeder, and Theresa McClure