

Jackson, Mississippi preparing to go without water periodically for up to 10 years

The American Society of Civil Engineers gave the US a 'C-' overall for its drinking water systems

JACKSON, Miss. – Organizations in Jackson, Mississippi, are asking for help from other states as the water crisis dries up resources.

It's been over five months since the Pearl River crested and Jackson, Mississippi's water system failed. Now, crews are working to replace the pipe system, but families and businesses are prepared to go without water periodically, for up to 10 years.

Cities across the country are replacing fragile water pipe systems. Besides Jackson, there's Flint, Michigan, Baltimore, Maryland, and Houston, Texas.

The systems are replaced section-by-section after failure. But, these years-long projects can cause water main breaks.

Kenneth Wayne Jones serves as Hinds County Administrator, which includes Jackson. He said their water crisis was decades in the making and the situation will get worse before things become better.

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