# Burst water main in Matson floods streets and disrupts Gloucester homes



On a challenging Wednesday in Matson, Gloucester, a burst water main created a dramatic scene, as a jet of water shot high into the air, reaching approximately 100ft. The incident occurred in Sneedhams Green, where the powerful surge of water inundated nearby properties, leading to significant disruptions for local residents. At the peak of the chaos, Sneedhams Road was flooded, impacting accessibility and creating immediate concerns for those living in the area.

Utility company Severn Trent responded swiftly, distributing bottled water to affected households and dispatching engineers to manage the crisis. As the water main was finally turned off shortly before 2pm, local residents expressed their relief and gratitude by applauding the efforts of the utility workers.

The situation in Matson has echoes of past incidents in Gloucester, where similar bursts of water mains have presented serious challenges. Just last December, a major rupture on Barnwood Road caused substantial flooding that prompted road closures and water supply interruptions. Severn Trent Water worked overnight to make repairs, which were complicated by freezing temperatures that had put stress on the ageing infrastructure.

The previous incident had made an impact on crucial services; Gloucestershire Royal Hospital faced water supply issues, compelling officials to request that patients conserve water until the situation stabilised. Tankers were employed to pump water directly to the hospital to ensure that medical care would not be disrupted, highlighting the potential ripple effects that such infrastructure failures can have on community health services.

Repair efforts are frequently complicated by the conditions of the pipes and the surrounding area. Residents along Barnwood Road had reported that the utility company faced difficulties while mending the burst main, and Severn Trent acknowledged the complexities of quick repairs in response to escalating issues over time.

Concerns over the ageing infrastructure of water mains have become increasingly prevalent throughout the region. Residents living in areas prone to flooding, particularly Brian Barber from Gloucester, have emphasised their frustration over a sewerage system that has been inadequate for decades, leading to repeated events of flooding in their homes. The issues extend beyond water mains, with ongoing anxiety over inadequate drain management and hydraulic overloads due to heavy rainfall manifesing as sewage overflows.

Petition efforts among residents demonstrate the urgency of addressing these infrastructure vulnerabilities, as over 260 signatures were collected by petitioners in various neighbourhoods, urging local councils to enhance drain clearance and implement long-term flood alleviation measures. With weather patterns becoming increasingly unpredictable, the need for proactive infrastructure improvements is at the forefront of community discussions.

As Gloucester continues to grapple with such challenges, the incidents serve as a sobering reminder of the importance of maintaining and investing in public utility infrastructure to safeguard residents against the disruptions caused by water main failures and their cascading effects on daily life.

### Reference Map

1. Paragraph 1: [[1]](https://www.independent.co.uk/tv/news/sneedhams-green-gloucester-flooding-burst-water-b2750897.html)
2. Paragraph 2: [[1]](https://www.independent.co.uk/tv/news/sneedhams-green-gloucester-flooding-burst-water-b2750897.html), [[2]](https://www.itv.com/news/westcountry/2022-12-20/burst-main-sparks-major-flooding-in-gloucester)
3. Paragraph 3: [[2]](https://www.itv.com/news/westcountry/2022-12-20/burst-main-sparks-major-flooding-in-gloucester), [[3]](https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-gloucestershire-64036418)
4. Paragraph 4: [[4]](https://www.gloucestershirelive.co.uk/news/gloucester-news/severn-trent-tackling-tricky-barnwood-7947562)
5. Paragraph 5: [[6]](https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-gloucestershire-63283214)
6. Paragraph 6: [[7]](https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/cp81g5vd3evo.amp)

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)

## Bibliography

1. <https://www.independent.co.uk/tv/news/sneedhams-green-gloucester-flooding-burst-water-b2750897.html> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
2. <https://www.itv.com/news/westcountry/2022-12-20/burst-main-sparks-major-flooding-in-gloucester> - A burst water main on Barnwood Road in Gloucester caused significant flooding, leading to road closures and water supply disruptions. Severn Trent Water worked overnight to repair the main, and Gloucestershire Royal Hospital experienced water supply issues, urging patients to use water conservatively. The incident was likely caused by recent freezing temperatures affecting the pipes.
3. <https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-gloucestershire-64036418> - Following a burst water main on Barnwood Road in Gloucester, tankers were used to pump water directly to Gloucestershire Royal Hospital to maintain supplies. The road remained closed for complex repairs, and Severn Trent Water apologized for the inconvenience, attributing the issue to recent freezing temperatures affecting the pipes.
4. <https://www.gloucestershirelive.co.uk/news/gloucester-news/severn-trent-tackling-tricky-barnwood-7947562> - Severn Trent Water faced challenges repairing a burst water main on Barnwood Road in Gloucester, which led to flooding and road closures. Residents experienced water supply interruptions, and the company aimed to resolve the issue by 10 pm, acknowledging complications in the repair process.
5. <https://www.gloucestershirelive.co.uk/news/gloucester-news/live-updates-burst-pipe-near-8952116.amp> - A burst pipe near the M5 in Gloucestershire left homes without water, affecting multiple postcodes. Severn Trent Water located the burst pipe and worked to restore supplies, advising residents of potential low pressure and discolored water upon restoration. All supplies were restored by 2:30 pm.
6. <https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-gloucestershire-63283214> - Brian Barber, a resident in Gloucester, has faced flooding in his home for 40 years due to an outdated sewerage system. The issue is exacerbated by heavy rainfall, leading to sewage overflows in his garden. Severn Trent Water attributes the flooding to sewer misuse and hydraulic overload.
7. <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/cp81g5vd3evo.amp> - Residents in Baneberry Road, Gloucester, express 'constant anxiety' over potential flooding due to concerns about inadequate road sweeping and clogged drains. Over 260 people signed a petition urging the council to address the issue, with the council working on clearing drains and long-term flood alleviation schemes.