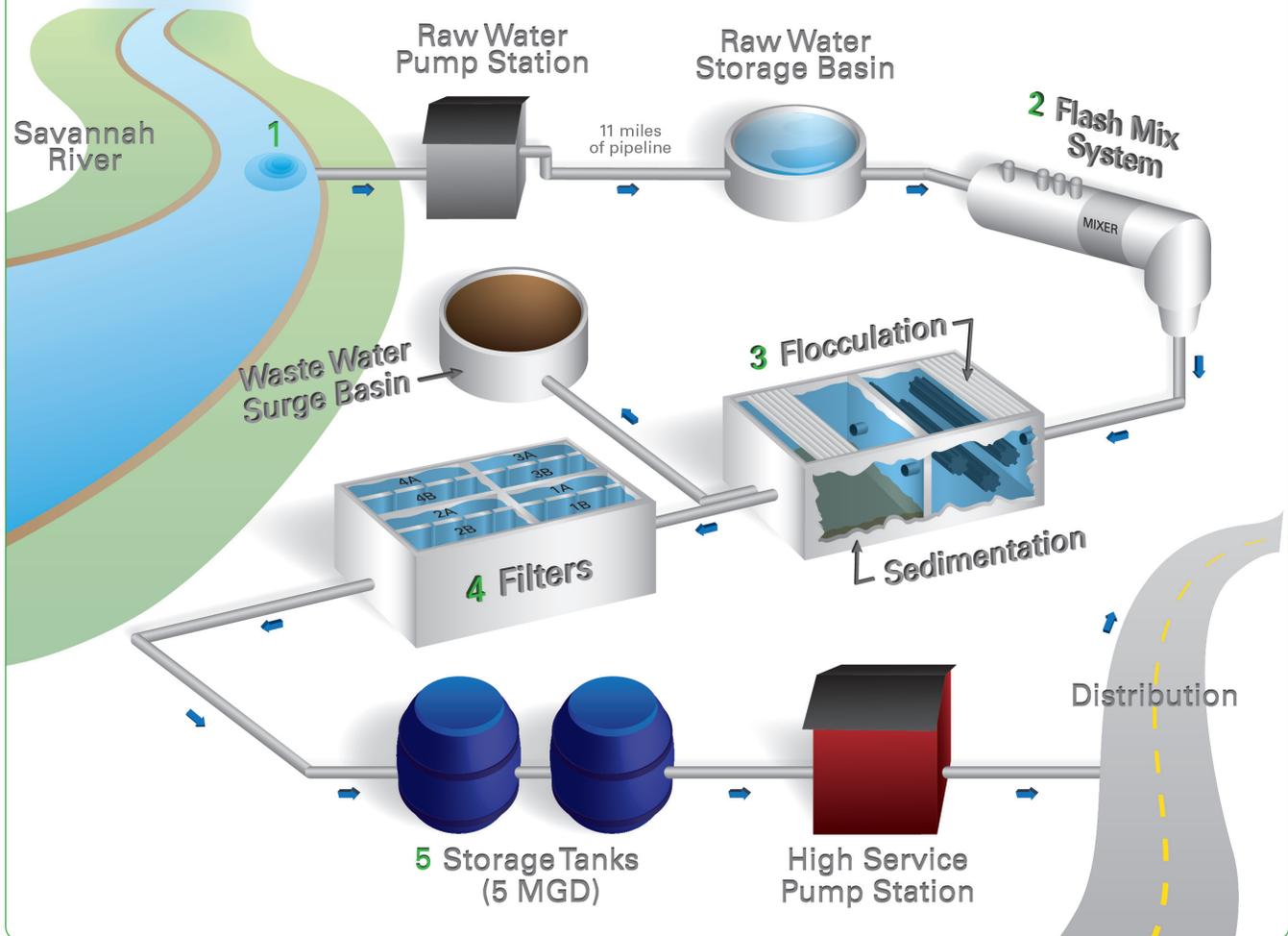


N. Max Hicks Water Treatment Plant



HOW A WATER TREATMENT PLANT WORKS

1. RAW WATER PUMPED:

Raw water is drawn from the Savannah River and stored.

2. FLASH MIX SYSTEM:

Raw water is sent to a mixing system where chlorine is added to pre-disinfect the water.

3. FLOCCULATION & SEDIMENTATION:

Aluminum sulfate and polymer are added to the mixture, causing small particles to adhere to one another (flocculation) and making them heavy enough to settle out as the water slowly moves from one end of the basin to the other (sedimentation).

4. FILTERS:

The water is filtered through layers of anthracite, gravel and silicate sand. Clear water emerges.

Small amounts of final substances are added.

- **Chlorine:** added to disinfect and maintain water quality in distribution system
- **Lime:** used to adjust the final pH and alkalinity
- **Fluoride:** added to prevent tooth decay
- **Phosphate:** used to protect distribution system pipes

5. STORAGE TANKS:

Clean water is pumped to sanitized storage tanks and distributed to customers throughout Augusta.