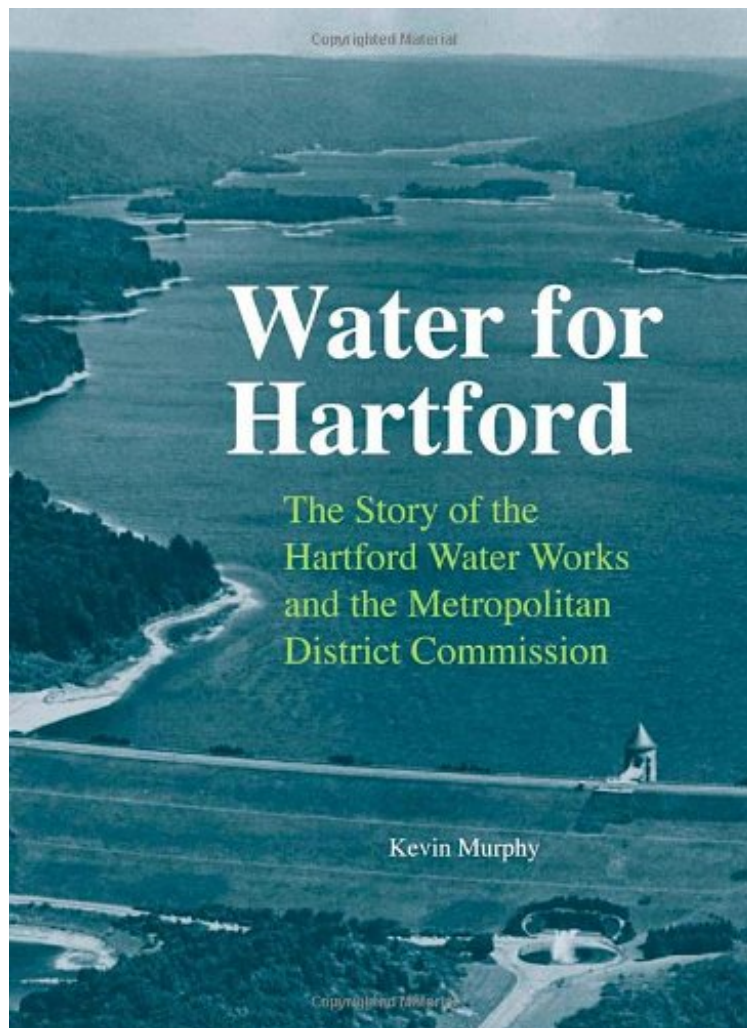


[Download free pdf] Water for Hartford: The Story of the Hartford Water Works and the Metropolitan District Commission (Garnet Books)

## Water for Hartford: The Story of the Hartford Water Works and the Metropolitan District Commission (Garnet Books)

*Kevin Murphy*

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#File Name: 081957080X352 pagesWater for Hartford The Story of the Hartford Water Works and the  
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**Kevin Murphy : Water for Hartford: The Story of the Hartford Water Works and the Metropolitan District Commission (Garnet Books)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Water for Hartford: The Story of the Hartford Water Works and the Metropolitan District Commission (Garnet Books):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Great storyBy Frederick J. GentMy interest in this book centered

around my unanswered questions about the history of the region where the reservoirs were built. I must say all my questions were answered, and I learned much about the history of the region and the times in which this all took place. I gave it five stars due to the immense amount of research it must have taken to write it. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Interesting and nostalgic read. By J. Leblanc An amazing story about men of incomparable determination who brought about the most mundane of utilities to the Hartford region. A good read if you want to know more about a public utility done the right way. 0 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Good history of Hartford Water System. By DTG I've always been interested in Hartford's water supply system, having grown up in the Farmington Valley, lived in Hartford, and camped, hiked and done day trips on MDC land in West Hartford and Barkhamsted through my youth in the 70's. I remember a class trip to the sand filters during high school. As an engineer, I bought this book hoping for a technical description of the engineering and construction of a remarkable system. This book is not that. At first I was disappointed, but then I realized that I can get much of that online... though not as much as I had hoped. I would have liked more photos of the construction of the system through the years, and more discussion of the technical aspects of building the reservoirs and tunneling through Talcott Mountain. But this book did reawaken my interest in Hartford's water system. And... it provides a history of the people and the politics that made it all possible. At the end of the day, nothing like this ever got built without politics and a few people who can move it forward. And as one comment in the book notes, nothing like this can ever get built in the U.S. again. Once I readjusted my expectations, I realized that this is a good book. It's a great history of Hartford. I hope the author decides to do a companion book of the electric company during the same period!!

As good health is inextricably wedded to pure drinking water and this particular concern looms larger every day, understanding delivery systems is almost as important as the water itself. *Water for Hartford* chronicles the century-long effort, beginning in the 1850s, to construct a viable, efficient water system. The story of Hartford's water works is a fascinating one, for it recalls the hard work, great sacrifice, and extraordinary engineering feats necessary to deliver wholesome drinking water to a growing urban center. It also illuminates the ever-changing social, political, and economic milieu in which it was built. The story of its construction is also the story of three men: Hiram Bissell, Ezra Clark, and Caleb Saville. Readers are transported back in time and given a firsthand glimpse of what these champions of a water system faced on a daily basis: unforgiving geography, venal politicians, and an often-indifferent public. The book culminates in the exhilaration of having built a water works from scratch to deliver clean, safe drinking water to the masses. *Water for Hartford* is a human story, peopled by men of vision and achievement, who understood that their decisions and actions would affect millions of people for decades to come.

**About the Author** KEVIN MURPHY is a writer whose interest in water systems dates back to fly-fishing trips in the West Branch Valley of the Farmington River below the Metropolitan District Commission's Hogback Reservoir. A 1971 graduate of Villanova University, he worked at the Hartford Courant through the 1970s and then ran a successful building business until 2000. Today, he writes full time, but still manages to spend summer afternoons fly-fishing on the Farmington River in and around the tiny village of Riverton. He is also the author of *The Crowbar Governor* (2010).