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THE DAILY NEWS, WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2001

Water main break floods Bx. subway

A burst main sent more than a million gallons of water cascading down the stairs of a Bronx subway station, halting service on the No. 6 line for nearly 10 hours yesterday.

The 12-inch water main popped about 3 a.m. at Bruckner Blvd. and E. 141st St., not far from the E. 143rd St.-St. Mary's St. station, said Transit Authority spokeswoman Deirdre Parker.

No. 6 service was suspended in both directions from 125th St. in Harlem to Hunts Point in the Bronx until 12:43 p.m. yesterday, she said.

Once the water main was shut off at 5:40 a.m., workers had to pump more than a million gallons from the station and test the line.

Two apartment buildings in the area were left without water when the main was closed, said city Department of Environmental Protection spokesman Jeff Ryan.

As a result of the break, a southbound Bruckner Blvd. service road was closed and just one of the thoroughfare's three southbound lanes remained open. Ryan said he expected that two lanes would be open for today's morning commute, with the southbound roadway fully open later today.

He said tests will be performed on the water main to determine why it burst, but added, "We often don't find out [the cause] for several weeks."

Tom Raftery and Derek Rose

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