



## Fall 2015 News

# 2015 Annual Watershed Tour

Each year the Clackamas River Water Providers host a tour of the Clackamas River watershed for elected officials from CRWP member agencies, interested citizens, and the citizens in CPO's and Neighborhood Associations in the CRWP service area.

The purpose of the tour is to connect our citizens and policy makers with a direct experience in the Clackamas River watershed (our source of drinking water), and to introduce them to some of the CRWP partners and stakeholders.

This year's tour was held on Saturday October 3rd, 2015 and focused on the upper portion of

the Clackamas Watershed. The tour included presentations by PGE and USFS, who highlighted their watershed and water quality efforts. The day included stops with the USFS to talk about last year's 36 Pit fire, and at mile post 41 to talk about a fish restoration project. Stops with PGE included the North Fork Dam to see their new juvenile fish surface collector, and their adult fish sorting facility.

If you are interested in joining us in next year's Clackamas River watershed tour please contact the Water Resource Manger at **(503) 723-3510**.



## What's Inside:

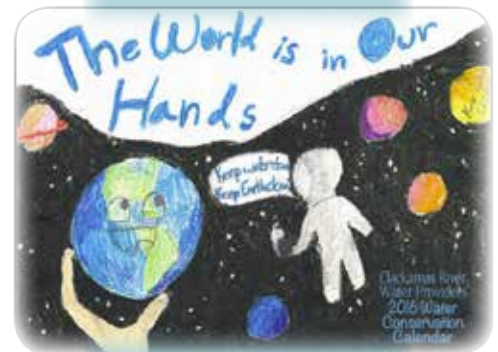
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# 2016 Water Calendars are available!

Each year the Clackamas River Water Providers hold a coloring contest with local elementary schools in our service areas to create an annual Water Conservation Calendar. This year we had 13 classes from 11 different schools participate in the contest with close to 540 entries for the 2016 Calendar.

Thirteen pictures were chosen from all the entries submitted and were used to create the calendar. Students were encouraged to create pictures depicting what they had learned about water. The theme for the 2016 calendar was "Our 1%".

Each school that participated in the contest received a box of calendars to give away to students and families or to use as school fundraisers.



Calendars are available at CRWP member offices, libraries, and city halls, or by calling us at **(503) 723-3511**.

# Public Water Conservation Programs

Water Management and Conservation Plans provide a process for municipal water suppliers to develop plans to meet future water needs. All Clackamas River Water Provider members are required to develop these Plans as part of their water right permits.

These Plans are used to demonstrate our communities' needs for increased diversions of water under their water permits as our communities and water demands grow. The Plans explain how we will manage and conserve water supplies and are intended to represent a pro-active evaluation of conservation measures that we can undertake as part of these plans. All water providers must implement the following conservation programs:

- Conduct annual water system audits
- Full metering of water systems
- Meter testing & maintenance programs
- A rate structure based, at least in part, on the quantity of water metered
- Leak detection programs



*Magnetic Flow Meter that measures source water*

• **Public education programs on efficient water use**

In addition many water providers are required to implement technical and financial assistance programs such as rebate programs, where the cost of replacing old water using fixtures, devices and appliances with newer water-efficient equipment are partially offset.

Water conservation is an important tool in meeting the water supply needs of our communities and can help us reduce the cost of developing new water supplies. It also allows us to leave more water in the rivers for fish and recreation.

The CRWP implements a Public Outreach and Education Program on behalf of its members to encourage efficient water use and help meet these plan requirements.

To learn more about how you can save water year round, to receive free conservation devices, or information about the Clackamas River Water Providers Conservation Rebate Program, contact the Public Outreach and Education Coordinator: (503)-723-3511 or visit our website at [www.clackamasproviders.org](http://www.clackamasproviders.org)

## Fall Quiz:

**1. A ten minute shower can use how many gallons of water?**

- A. 10
- B. 17
- C. 29
- D. 45

**2. The standard toilet uses how many gallons of water per flush?**

- A. 1.6
- B. 3.5
- C. 5
- D. 7

*Answers - Can be found on page 5.*

**3. A standard bathtub takes about how many gallons of water to fill?**

- A. 30
- B. 70
- C. 100

**4. Turning off the tap when brushing teeth can save up to \_\_\_\_ gallon(s) a minute.**

- A. 1
- B. 4
- C. 10



# Faces of Drinking Water

An Interview with  
Suzanne DeLorenzo

The CRWP members work hard every day to bring their customers clean, safe, and reliable drinking water. Many different people holding various positions, coming from all walks of life work together to make this happen.

*We recently spent a little time with Suzanne DeLorenzo, Water Quality and Conservation Manager of Clackamas River Water.*

**Where do you work, and for whom?**

**Suzanne:** Clackamas River Water.

**How long have you been working for Clackamas River Water?**

**Suzanne:** 4 years.

**What is your position?**

**Suzanne:** Water Quality Manager and Conservation Manager.

**What is your background prior to public water?**

**Suzanne:** I have a BA in marine/ environmental science, a MA in biomedical science and a PhD in environmental science and environmental engineering.

**What is your favorite/least favorite part of your job?**

**Suzanne:** The freedom to do research and projects as well as flexibility are the favorite parts of my job. Meetings and spiders under bridges are some of my least favorites.

**Do you plan to retire with Clackamas River Water?**

**Suzanne:** Retirement for me is a long way off, we'll see what happens in the next 30 years!

**What accomplishments are you most proud of in your career?**

**Suzanne:** I'm very proud of completing my PhD in 2013 while working full time.

**What advice would you give to someone starting out in the field of drinking water?**

**Suzanne:** I would advise them to be diverse and to try not to limit themselves. Making yourself integral to the organization is also a good thing.



**How has the water industry changed since you started?**

**Suzanne:** I haven't been in the industry long enough to see many changes. However, in the short time I've been here I have noticed more awareness and concern about the water quality.

**What do you feel is most important about your job?**

**Suzanne:** Providing clean and safe drinking water is the most important part of my job. Watershed protection and watershed management are also very important. Relaying complex information to our customers in an understandable way is also a key aspect of my position.

**What can the public do to help make your job easier?**

**Suzanne:** I would like the public to know and understand the water we provide is WAY better and safer than bottled water!

**What's the one thing you can't live without at work?**

**Suzanne:** An internet connection!

**What are the top priorities for your agency over the next few years, the next decade?**

**Suzanne:** Maintaining and upgrading the infrastructure of our system is the top priority and will be for some time.

**What is the biggest challenge facing your organization in the next couple of years? What are the opportunities?**

**Suzanne:** Managing an aging treatment plant and aging infrastructure will continue to be a challenge. Implementing advanced water treatment and technology is an opportunity in which I hope to take part.

**What do you see as your agency's greatest accomplishments in the time you've been there?**

**Suzanne:** I'm proud of the 319 grant our water providers group (CRWP) secured. The grant is for identifying non point source pollution and evaluating possible issues such as old and leaking septic systems.

**If you could change one thing about state or federal regulatory programs, what would it be?**

**Suzanne:** I would like to see greater funding for grant programs especially those relating to water quality and research.

**What's something people might be surprised to know about your agency?**

**Suzanne:** We have some very impressive people! There is a family atmosphere at Clackamas River Water, many of our staff have been here for a very long time.

**What's the most significant project you've been involved with in your career?**

**Suzanne:** In securing the 319 Grant, I was able to set up a quantitative polymerase chain reaction (QPCR) lab at Clackamas Community College. This is a great resource for the college and its students. The lab will also allow me to continue my research focusing on water quality issues.

**What would you say H2O is to you?**

**Suzanne:** LIFE!

**What do you do for fun when you're not working?**

**Suzanne:** I like to snowboard, surf, paddleboard and ride my sport bike.

**What's on your to-do list?**

**Suzanne:** I have some plans to update and I am continuing to work on the 319 Grant. As for today, I'm going to go to yoga and walk my dog.

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CRW was created in July 1995 by the consolidation of the Clackamas Water District and the Clairmont Water District. Clackamas Water District was originally formed in 1926. It absorbed the former Stanley Water District in 1979 and merged with Barwell Park Water District in 1991. Clairmont was originally formed in 1959 and was merged with the Redland and Holcomb-Outlook Water Districts in 1983.

# The Clackamas River, Our Drinking Water Source

The Clackamas River begins on the slopes of Olallie Butte, a High Cascade volcano. The river flows 82.7 miles from its headwaters (elevation 6,000 ft) to its confluence with the Willamette River at Clackamette Park in Oregon City (elevation 12 ft) and is made up of 16 sub-watersheds.

The watershed drains more than 940 sq miles, or 600,700 acres, half of the river runs through forested areas over rugged terrain and the lower reaches flow through agricultural and densely populated areas. The watershed crosses two counties and includes federal land administered by the US Forest Service and BLM, state land, and private land.

Unlike the Bull Run Watershed, which is federally owned and managed by the City of Portland, 72% of the Clackamas watershed is publicly owned, 3% is tribally owned, and 25% is privately owned. The watershed can roughly be divided in half, with nearly the entire upper watershed in the Mt. Hood National Forest and managed by the USFS, and most of the lower watershed privately owned.

The area in between the national forest and the lower watershed include parcels of land owned by private timber companies and the BLM.

PGE operates three hydroelectric dams on the Clackamas River main-stem: Faraday (just east of Estacada), River Mill (west of Estacada) and North Fork (upstream from Faraday). These dams have adult fish passage facilities; Faraday and River Mill also have juvenile fish bypass facilities. The Oak Grove Fork of the Clackamas River has two dams, at Lake Harriet (23 miles east of Estacada) and Timothy Lake.

In 1988 Congress incorporated approximately 50 miles of the Clackamas River into the Federal Wild and Scenic River System. Four sections of the River are also designated as State Scenic Waterways. The purpose of these designations is to manage designated segments by protecting their outstandingly remarkable values and maintaining and enhancing the natural integrity of river related values.

The watershed supports naturally spawning anadromous fish including Steelhead,



Chinook & Coho Salmon, as well as Lamprey and sea-run Cutthroat Trout. It also provides important habitat for many wildlife species, both game and non game, and offers a wealth of recreational activities such as fishing, hiking, camping, white water rafting, kayaking, and hunting.

The Clackamas River also supplies high-quality drinking water for nearly 300,000 people in Clackamas County and is targeted in the Regional Water Supply Plan as a source to meet future demands.



# Indoor and Outdoor Conservation Tips

## **INDOOR** Conservation Tips

- Don't let the water run while hand washing dishes. Fill one sink with wash water and the other with rinse water.
- Run your washing machine and dishwasher only when they are full.
- Keep a pitcher of water in the refrigerator instead of running the tap for cold drinks.
- Wash your produce in the sink or a pan that is partially filled with water instead of running water from the tap.
- Keep your shower under 5 minutes; you could save up to 1,000 gallons a month.
- Replace your old water wasting toilet with a new low-volume, EPA High Efficiency Toilet (HET).
- Repair dripping faucets by replacing washers. One drop per second wastes 2,700 gallons of water per year!
- Kitchen sink disposals require lots of water to operate properly. Start a compost pile as an alternate method of disposing of food waste.
- Drop that tissue in the trash instead of flushing it down the toilet and save gallons every time.



## **OUTDOOR** Conservation Tips

- In the fall, plants require less water. Adjust your irrigation system accordingly.
- Disconnect, drain, coil and store garden hoses to reduce wear in the winter.
- Spread mulch in the fall to prevent weed growth and to maintain soil moisture.
- Fall is a perfect time to plant trees and shrubs. The soil is warm and you don't have to water as much.
- Shut down and drain your irrigation system by October 31 to prevent freezing during the winter months.
- Check your water usage history for unusual changes that may signal leaks or other wasteful problems.
- Shut off and cover outdoor faucets to prevent freezing.
- Install a rain sensor switch on your irrigation system to prevent it from turning-on when it rains.

To help our customers use their water more efficiently the CRWP is offering five water use rebates up to \$285 in value. These rebates are available on a 'first-come, first-serve' basis until the program funds are depleted.

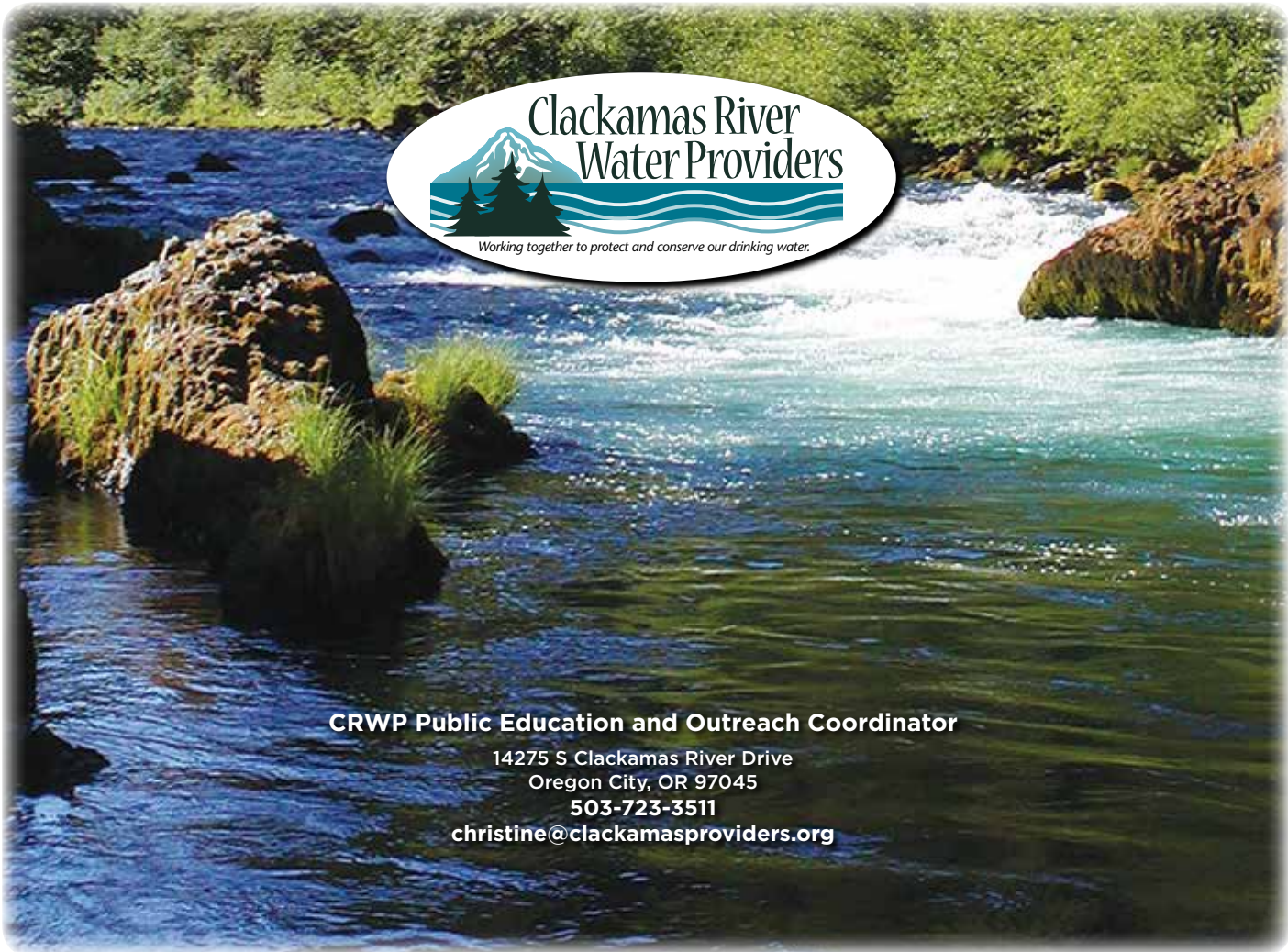
Visit our website at [www.clackamasproviders.org](http://www.clackamasproviders.org) for details about each of the rebates, the eligibility requirements, or to download a copy of the rebate brochure and application.

## Fall Quiz:

### Answers

- Question 1** - Answer is B  
**Question 2** - Answer is A

- Question 3** - Answer is A  
**Question 4** - Answer is A



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