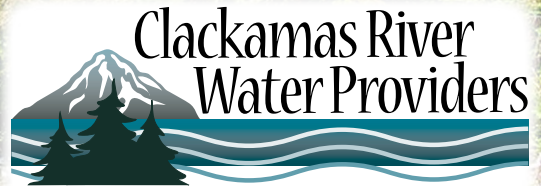




Facebook@CRWP



CRWP YouTube Channel



Working together to protect and conserve our drinking water.

Summer 2025 News

Summer Water Supply Outlook

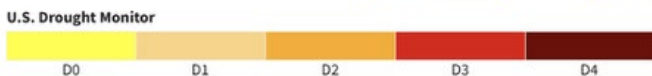
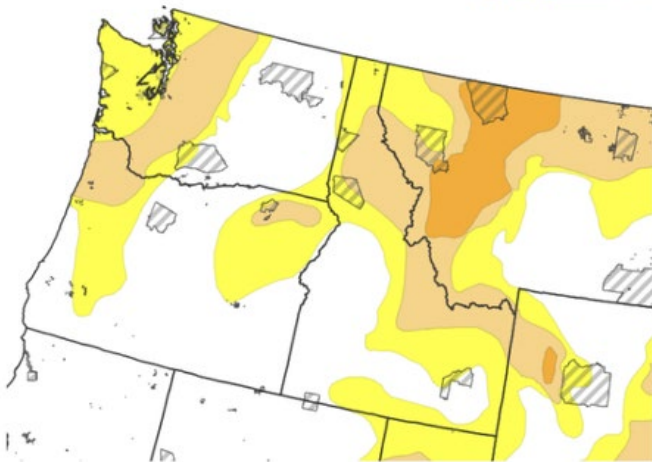
Warm and Dry Conditions Set the Stage for Increased Wildfire Activity, Diminished Water Supplies This Summer - from the NDIS newsletter

Warm and dry conditions in May have caused snowpack to **melt rapidly** and earlier than normal across much of the Pacific Northwest. This rapid snowmelt and increased **evaporative demand** caused soils and vegetation to dry out very quickly, resulting in an early start to the fire season.

Early snowmelt and the dry, warm conditions have also caused stream flows to rapidly decline, particularly west of the Cascade Range and in the Oregon Coast Range. This could negatively impact our water supply this summer.

Over the past month, drought and Abnormal Dryness (D0) developed and expanded across western and northeastern Oregon. Above-normal temperatures and below-normal precipitation are expected to cause drought to further develop and intensify this summer, and to increase wildfire potential.

U.S. Drought Monitor



Tribal Nations
Tribal Nation Boundaries

Source(s): NDMC, NOAA, USDA
Data Valid: 05/27/25

Drought.gov

Get More Drought Updates in Your Inbox

Want to receive drought status updates, webinars, and other drought news for your region? Or the bi-weekly newsletter, Dry Times? Sign up for drought emails from the National Integrated Drought Information System.

[Sign Up for Drought Updates](#)

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CHRISTINE HOLLENBECK, Public Education and Conservation Program Coordinator, (503) 723-3511 • christine@clackamasproviders.org
KIM SWAN, Water Resource Manager, (503) 723-3510 • kims@clackamasproviders.org

Changing Water Conservation Attitudes Positively

Study Finds Positivity Impacts Water Availability, by Pennsylvania State University

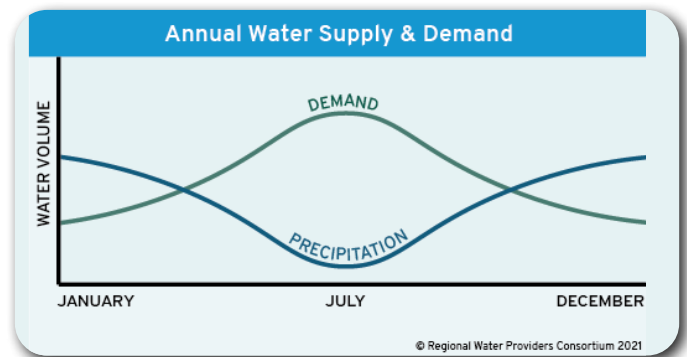
The increased demand for clean water and its limited supply have made water management one of the most pressing challenges facing society today. Changing attitudes about water conservation could significantly impact water consumption and help address this issue, according to research led by Renee Obringer, assistant professor of energy and mineral engineering at Penn State.

Many factors, including population growth, agricultural needs, and land use change, all contribute to an increased demand for water, especially in urban areas, Obringer said. Climate change and drought may also reduce the availability of water in some areas.

Water managers have primarily looked to solve increasing water needs by expanding or developing new water sources and supplies, such as enlarging reservoirs or extracting groundwater, but such solutions don't address the root of the issue.

According to Obringer, a socio-hydrology approach that accounts for how people influence water systems through their own consumption patterns is needed to understand the best way to manage stresses to the water system.

"It's important that we acknowledge the fact that humans play a role in our hydrological system," Obringer said. "Even in the



farthest corners of the planet, things are changing because of us and how we use water. We wanted to see if an individual's decisions or water conservation attitude could impact the community's water availability and see what emerges if those attitudes are changed."

Obringer notes, "That encouraging participatory, collective action can make an impact and hopefully lead to happier, healthier communities." This is something that the CRWP also recognizes and strives to provide our community with the information, tools, and resources to make a difference. For more information and how to take advantage of our conservation resources, hover over the Conservation Tab at the top of our [home page](#).

To read this article in its entirety and the results of Obringer's findings, [CLICK HERE](#).

Source Water Protection and the CRWP



Source water protection is the foundation of any drinking water utility and is one of the primary ways to reduce the risk to a source from contamination or decline in production. Source water protection not only helps the utility identify its risk, but it is also necessary to educate regulatory agencies, permitting authorities, and the community about the impacts their actions can have on drinking water source water quality or quantity.

Source Water Protection is also one of the first key steps in a multiple-barrier approach to providing clean drinking water, which involves several consecutive steps, including: high-quality source water, source water protection, optimized water treatment, distribution system maintenance, and water quality monitoring.

Source water protection efforts can:

- Reduce the need for additional treatment to meet water quality standards.

continued on page 3

Source Water Protection continued

- Help the utility be prepared and reduce the impacts and costs of an emergency when they understand the risks to source quality from contamination, or reduced quantity due to climate change.
- Help sustainability when an alternate source of water may not be available or cost-prohibitive.

Learn more about what the CRWP is doing to protect our drinking water source by exploring our website's [Watershed Protection](#) webpages, or contact Kim Swan for more information kims@clackamasproviders.org



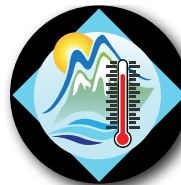
OUR SOURCE



**DRINKING WATER
PROTECTION PLAN**



**WATERSHED
PROGRAMS**



**WATERSHED
RESILIENCY**



**WATER
QUALITY**



**BASIN
PARTNERS**

Basin Partner Oregon Dept of Environmental Quality (DEQ)

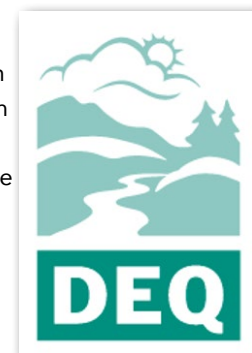
The Oregon Department of Environmental Quality's mission is to be a leader in restoring, maintaining and enhancing the quality of Oregon's air, land and water. DEQ regulates industrial air pollution, conducts vehicle emissions testing, sets and enforces water quality standards, monitors river basins, measures groundwater quality, and regulates waste discharges from city sewage treatment and industrial facilities. It also regulates hazardous waste disposal, promotes solid waste reduction, regulates underground storage tanks, and enhances environmental cleanup. Implementation of Oregon's environmental laws is intended to protect human and environmental health as well as benefit the economy.

DEQ's Water Quality Program protects and improves the state's waterways to ensure they are safe for drinking water, fish and wildlife, recreation and irrigation. This is accomplished by developing and implementing water quality standards and clean water plans, regulating sewage treatment systems and industrial dischargers, collecting and evaluating water quality data, providing grants and technical assistance to reduce nonpoint pollution sources, and providing loans to communities to build treatment facilities.

DEQ and the Clackamas River Water Providers have been working together for a number of years on various programs to help protect and improve water quality in the Clackamas River. DEQ recognizes that providing clean water to drinking water intakes helps minimize drinking water treatment costs and protects public health. Some of the DEQ programs that assist the CRWP include:

Drinking Water Protection Program:

DEQ's drinking water protection program is a joint program with the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) that has partnered with the CRWP for over 20+ years. In 2003, the state agencies partnered with the CRWP to provide a "Source Water Assessment" that identified the drinking water source area and potential risks to the water supply. Building on this information, the CRWP began developing strategies to protect your sources of drinking water. Oregon's drinking water protection program has a competitive grant program that helps water systems reduce risk to their water supply.



The CRWP have obtained several of these grants throughout the years. Grants include work to conduct a more detailed assessment of drinking water threats, collect unwanted or unused pesticides within the watershed, post interpretative signs at parks and boat ramps, develop a septic system assistance program, support a hazardous material spill prevention program and create watershed display models. DEQ also provides technical assistance and support to the CRWP when there are questions about potential sources of pollution in the watershed or emerging contaminants of concern.

On May 13-15, 2025, DEQ and OHA hosted the Western States Source Water Protection Forum bringing together over 110 participants from 14 western states and multiple agencies to share

continued on page 4

DEQ continued

strategies for safeguarding drinking water. The conference concluded with a field visit of the Clackamas River watershed hosted by the CRWP, showcasing the strong partnership between state agencies and local water providers working collaboratively to protect drinking water source areas through joint initiatives and community engagement.

Watershed Management: The Clackamas River has good water quality, however, analysis of temperature and bacteria data have indicated that parts of the Clackamas River do not meet state water quality standards at all times. Additionally, sedimentation, metals, and pesticides have also been identified as parameters of concern. DEQ has developed a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) and water quality improvement plan to address these contaminants. DEQ's water quality basin coordinator works with a number of basin partners to implement strategies identified in the TMDL to reduce erosion, improve stormwater control, permit wastewater discharges, and address agricultural operations.

Pesticide Stewardship Partnership: The Clackamas Pesticide Stewardship Partnership was initiated in 2005 by DEQ and a number of partners including the Clackamas River Water Providers. The Clackamas Pesticide Stewardship Partnership is a voluntary, collaborative process to protect the river and its tributaries. Local and state organizations use water quality monitoring to drive outreach and technical assistance activities for landowners and pesticide applicators to enable more efficient and effective management practices that reduce drift and runoff of priority pesticides into water.

Wastewater Permitting: DEQ's wastewater permit program regulates pollution from point sources discharging to Oregon's surface water. The term "point source" generally refers to wastewater discharged into water or onto land through a pipe or a discernible channel. DEQ issues permits that cover a variety of dischargers including domestic wastewater, industrial wastewater, and stormwater. DEQ provides public notice so that the CRWP and other interested stakeholders can review and provide public comment. DEQ also works with permittees to enhance permit conditions to be protective of the drinking water supply and ensure notification of CRWP members of spills, overflows or contamination events that may impact water quality.

The DEQ also has a rule called the Three Basin Rule that gives extra protection to the Clackamas Basin beyond what the Clean Water Act provides. Right now, it generally bans new or expanded wastewater discharges in these areas, with some exceptions. However, the rule is being reviewed, and proposed changes could allow new discharge permits in limited cases, as long as they align with the rule's goals for drinking water protection.

Emergency Response: DEQ is one of the many partners that assist CRWP in evaluating readiness and response tactics for potential disasters or spills that may impact water quality. DEQ has provided technical assistance in developing response strategies and participated in table-top and on-river drills that help the water providers better plan for and respond to hazardous material spills. In addition, the strong partnership between DEQ and the CRWP helps ensure prompt notification of water providers in the event of a hazardous material spill.

Summer Quiz:

Answers - Can be found on page 11

1. The Oregon DEQ oversees the following:

- A. Industrial air pollution
- B. Vehicle emissions testing
- C. Groundwater quality
- D. All of the above

2. Above-normal temps and below-normal precipitation are expected to cause drought this summer.

- A. True
- B. False

3. Which of the following contribute to an increase demand for water?:

- A. Population growth
- B. Agricultural needs
- C. Land use change
- D. All of the above

4. Municipal Water Management and Conservation Plans are not required by the State of OR.

- A. True
- B. False

Faces of Drinking Water

By Christine Hollenbeck

The Clackamas River Water Provider member employees are made up of many different professionals, young and old with a variety of backgrounds and skills ensuring the treatment and delivery of safe clean drinking water.

For our summer 2025 E-newsletter we interviewed Melanie Wagner, who we interviewed in 2018 when she was the Assistant City Manager for the City of Estacada. Over the years many things have changed in the City of Estacada, among them Melanie's new and well-deserved position as City Manager.

CRWP: How long have you been working for The City of Estacada?

MELANIE: I have worked for the City for 16 years, since 2009.

CRWP: Can you tell us what your title is and explain what you do at the City?

MELANIE: Currently, I am the City Manager and my job is to oversee the City operations and support the City Council. My job duties aren't strictly related to water production, but some of the Council's priorities right now are identifying unaccounted for water (preventing water loss), promoting water conservation, building a 2nd high level water reservoir for extra storage and redundancy, and preparing to do a major upgrade to our drinking water plant so that we can produce our full 2.6 Million Gallons of water per day (MGD) as allowed by our water rights, as well as providing some redundancy for emergencies. We are also going to be looking at strategies for increasing our water allowance, potentially through water reuse.

CRWP: How did you acquire your position with the City?

MELANIE: I was the Assistant City Manager until 2022 when the City was going through a recruitment process. I applied for the City Manager position and the Council chose me for the job.

CRWP: What is your professional background?

MELANIE: Prior to working for the City, I worked in insurance marketing and administrative support, medical transcription, and took some years off when my kids were younger.

CRWP: Do you have a favorite or least favorite part of your position?

MELANIE: The best thing about my job is the people I work with. The Council has a good vision for what Estacada can be, and keeps a sense of balance when it comes to City services, community involvement, and growth. The staff at the City are amazing. They work hard and are skilled in their areas of expertise so we can do a lot of really great things for the community and provide quality service. The community members are fun to interact with and I love it when they enjoy the things the city provides like a trail at a park, or the flowers downtown, or being able to get help quickly and easily when they come into City Hall.



Melanie Wagner
City Manager
The City of Estacada



My least favorite part of the job is when people don't understand the processes or rules that we follow, or they worry about the change that has happened in Estacada because it's hard to stay involved and in tune with how the City is working to meet the new needs that we are facing.

CRWP: Do you plan to retire from the City of Estacada?

MELANIE: At this point, yes, but I'm open to other options too. I hope to be able to see our large infrastructure projects be completed in the next 3 to 5 years, and then we'll see what happens. We are building a brand-new wastewater facility that will produce very high-quality effluent water that will go back into the Clackamas River. We will upgrade our water treatment plant, and we also have a major transportation project to construct. I would like to be part of all of those projects. We are also applying for grants to improve the Lake Shore Trail and build a gangway to a floating dock on the Clackamas River (aka Estacada Lake) and I'd like to get that project underway as well.

CRWP: What accomplishment/s are you most proud of in your career?

MELANIE: A couple of things I'm most proud of is how the downtown has transformed with the help of the Urban Renewal program we have been running since 2009. It will be sunseting in 2027 and it has really helped the downtown to be a place that attracts businesses and the community. I'm also very proud that I got to be part of returning the pond by the library to a stream and finish out that portion of Wade Creek Park with the community room and amphitheater. Our former City Manager, Denise Carey, really pushed that project forward and it was a lot of work, the community really enjoys it and the habitat for the wildlife is great.

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

MELANIE: I would recommend stepping up to take on responsibility and keep learning so you can have a positive influence on your organization.

CRWP: How have things changed since you started working for the City?

MELANIE: When I started working at the City, we were about half the size we are now. There has been a lot of work to do as the City has grown and more services have been needed. The workload has increased in the past few years due to the growth, but with the great team that we have in Estacada we keep moving forward.

continued on page 9

How Water Systems Work

Water Conservation Programs

Water Management and Conservation Plans can be found in the *Guidebook for Oregon Municipal Water Suppliers*, to visit, [CLICK HERE](#).

Municipal Water Management and Conservation Plans are required by the State of Oregon to provide a process for municipal water supplies to develop plans to meet future water needs. The purpose of a Water Management and Conservation Plan (WMCP) is to be a guide to the development and implementation of proactive water management and conservation programs and policies that suppliers can undertake to ensure sustainable use of water resources for municipal water users.

Effective water management requires an evaluation of the adequacy of water supplies to meet current and future needs, identification of planned modifications in water systems, and development of new water supplies. WMCPs provide information important in water resources planning and management. The plans may also provide support for applications for new water use permits, water right transfers and permit amendments, requests for permit extensions of time, and approvals of water exchanges and reservations of water.

All water providers must implement the following conservation measures:

- Water use measurement and reporting
- Annual water audit



- Full metering of the system
- Meter testing and maintenance program
- Rate structure based on the quantity of water metered
- Leak detection program
- Public education program

In addition, many water providers are required to implement technical and financial assistance programs and/or retrofit/replacement of inefficient fixtures - typically implemented through rebate programs.

All CRWP members are required to develop these Plans as part of their water right permit conditions. 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 CRWP implements a *Public Outreach & Education Program as well as a Conservation Rebate Program on behalf of its members to encourage efficient water use, which helps meet some of the WMCP requirements listed above.

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.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

To learn more about how you can save water year-round, to receive free conservation devices and information about the Clackamas River Water Providers Conservation Rebate Program, visit our website at www.clackamasproviders.org.

*The Cities of Tigard and Lake Oswego implement their own Water Conservation programs.

Save Water This Summer!

As the summer heats up, the Clackamas River Water Providers encourage water conservation to promote wise water use because everyone depends on water. Water must be used efficiently, or there may not be enough for drinking, irrigation, commercial uses, fish, and emergencies such as fire-fighting. We are committed to helping our customers do whatever they can to use their water more efficiently. Read more on how we can help you.

REBATES

Leak Detection - Water Monitoring Devices

Receive a \$100 rebate for leak detection or water monitoring devices. Thanks to smart leak detectors, you can now prevent or mitigate water damage at your home using a leak detector that sends information to your computer and your smartphone. Many of these devices also allow you to create water budgets to understand your water use indoors and out. Some devices require tapping into the existing plumbing system and may require a licensed plumber for installation, while others simply attach to your water meter. Limit: 1 rebate per account, one time only.

Outdoor Watering

Over-watering is the #1 cause of wasted water in the summer and the leading cause of plant disease and insect problems. Choose the items that will work best for you. Apply for up to a maximum combination landscape rebate of \$235 when you purchase a manual hose bib timer, hose end water meter, multi-stream rotating irrigation nozzles, a rain sensor/switch, and/or a WaterSense Weather-based Irrigation Controller.

LANDSCAPE WATER AUDITS

Want to know how much water your lawn and garden are using? We offer Free Residential Landscape Water Audits. Our

Landscape Auditor will assess your lawn and garden areas, irrigation system, and more. Upon completion of the audit, you will be provided with written recommendations to help you manage your outdoor water use for a more water-efficient landscape and irrigation system. Audits begin in May and are performed throughout the summer season.

TOOLS

Sign up for your Weekly Watering Number

Everyone wants a beautiful Lawn and Garden – however, we also need to think about conserving water. The good news is that landscapes can be maintained with far less water than you think. Want to know exactly how much you should be watering each week? By using the weekly watering number, you can do just that.

This number is available each year from April – mid-October. Go [HERE](#) to sign up for the Weekly Watering Number and start receiving your zip code-specific watering number on Thursday of every week, and start watering smart today!

Water-Efficient Plants for the Willamette Valley

The [Water Efficient Plants for the Willamette Valley guide](#) was created by horticulture and conservation experts as a tool to assist the general gardener in making decisions about how to use water more efficiently in their landscapes. In this guide, you will discover trees, shrubs, bulbs, perennials, ground covers, and ornamental grasses that are suited to the Mediterranean-type climate of Western Oregon. In addition to the water savings, you will see that there are a number of other benefits that come with water-efficient landscaping. They include reduced fertilizer and chemical use, less weed growth, less energy use, less water runoff, and reduced maintenance.

Water Miser Garden Hose Nozzle

Six-position garden hose nozzles save water through peak efficiency settings. Instant On/off control, spray adjustment knob, rust resistant with high-efficiency design.

For more details about these programs, visit our [Conservation Rebate](#) page our [Landscape Water Audit](#) page, or email Christine Hollenbeck at christine@clackamasproviders.org

These programs are available to the following CRWP members: the City of Estacada, the City of Gladstone, Clackamas River Water, Oak Lodge Water Services, South Fork Water Board (Oregon City & West Linn), and Sunrise Water Authority (Damascus and City of Happy Valley).



How Grant Funds Support the CRWP Mission

One of the primary goals of the CRWP is to identify, minimize, and mitigate activities that have known or potentially harmful impacts on water quality so that the Clackamas River can be preserved as a high-quality drinking water source for generations to come.

Applying for grant funding over the years has helped support these goals and has allowed us to develop a wide range of programs to address the variety of land uses in the watershed and the potential contaminants up river from our drinking water treatment plant intakes. Below are a few examples of how grant funding has helped us expand our programs.

Oregon Health Authority Drinking Water Source Protection Project Grants

The Drinking Water Source Protection (DWSP) grants and loans fund is designed to finance drinking water source protection projects with grants and low-interest loans that lead to contaminant source risk reduction within a delineated drinking water source area.

Since the early 2010's the CRWP has received a variety of DWSP grants, which have helped us develop our Pesticide Reduction, Hazardous Material Spill Response, Septic System, and Low Impact Recreation programs. These grants have been instrumental in helping us build these programs, develop outreach materials, and the partnerships needed to implement these programs. The CRWP is currently waiting to hear if its DWSP grant application for 2025 to enhance our Hazmat Response Program will be funded.

OHA DWSP & Clackamas County Tourism Strategic Investment Program Grants

In 2021, the CRWP received an OHA Drinking Water Source Protection grant to enhance our existing source water protection connection to river recreation efforts through two activities. The first included working with our local partner, We Love Clean Rivers, to provide Clackamas River visitors and recreationists with stewardship and safety information to better enjoy their time on the Clackamas River.

The second was the creation of the [Clackamas Water Trail](https://www.clackamaswatertrail.org) (CWT) website and the installation of CWT signage in the lower river. The website highlights access points along the lower river, local amenities, and known river conditions and hazards. To differentiate between private and public property, and sensitive fish habitat areas that are not to be disturbed, as well as include information on the importance of protecting our drinking water source.



In 2024, the CRWP received a grant from Mt. Hood Tourism to expand the original work on the Clackamas Water Trail (CWT) to include both the upper and lower watersheds, covering most of the mainstem of the Clackamas River. This has included updating the existing Clackamas Water Trail website with information and itineraries for the upper watershed, as well as the installation of CWT maps/signs in the upper watershed at a number of boater access locations.

Oregon Biz - Aquifer Recharge Due Diligence Grant Program

Recently, the CRWP received notice that we are successful recipients of an Oregon Biz Aquifer Recharge Due Diligence Grant Program. The purpose of this grant funding will be to evaluate the feasibility of using Aquifer Storage and Recovery (ASR) to develop a regional supplemental emergency drinking water source that would be jointly managed and operated by CRWP members.

The ASR Feasibility Study will identify potential locations for a regional ASR system, assess hydrogeologic feasibility, land use compatibility, potential impacts to the environment and existing groundwater users, develop preliminary designs and planning level costs for a new ASR system, outline permitting requirements and timelines, and provide recommended next steps for implementation.

A regional aquifer storage and recovery (ASR) program could help us address the shared vulnerability of having only one drinking water source (the Clackamas River) and become more resilient to the vulnerabilities of our surface water sources. This work should be underway later this summer or early fall.

Tips for Outdoor Water Conservation

1. Take 15 minutes to measure your sprinkler's water use.

Many people overwater because they don't know how much water their sprinkler (or your soaker hose, drip irrigation system, or garden hose) uses every time it runs.

2. Water plants deeply twice a week rather than daily.

This will encourage strong root growth and reduce evaporation and runoff. Bonus tip: water early in the morning or later in the evening when temperatures are cooler, and evaporation is minimized.

3. Become a leak detective. Inspect your irrigation system for leaks, broken lines, perpetual damp spots, and puddling water. A well-maintained system will save you water, money, and time.

4. Take your car to a commercial car wash that recycles and filters its wastewater. If you prefer washing your car by hand, use phosphate-free soap and a shut-off nozzle for your hose. Make sure the soapy water doesn't run into storm drains – instead, divert it into your lawn with some old towels.

5. Adjust your lawnmower to a higher setting and mow less often. A taller lawn provides shade to the grass roots and helps retain soil moisture. This means that your lawn will require less water to be healthy.

6. Choose native, waterwise plants. Once established, these plants are low maintenance, require little to no pesticides or fertilizers, and survive well on minimal water.

Faces of Drinking Water continued

CRWP: What do you feel is most important about your position?

MELANIE: I think the most important thing is working to communicate clearly and frequently, and keep the trust of the community. Having a positive culture for our employees is really important, too. Sometimes the negative feedback we get can be really hard to deal with, and keeping a good vibe internally for the staff helps a lot.

CRWP: What would you like the public to know about their drinking water and what your role does to deliver that water?

MELANIE: I would like them to know that we are very fortunate to have such a great water source and such competent operators that run the water plant producing the drinking water. Recently, our drinking water treatment plant has received an Oregon Health Authority Award for Excellence, and the crew can always be counted on night and day, 365 days a year ensuring we have quality water. I would like them to know that conservation is important, because we want everyone to be able to use all the water they need. In order for this to happen, we do need to be careful not to be wasteful with our water.

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

MELANIE: The public can make our job easier by taking advantage of the great programs the CRWP has for water conservation. The one we have been promoting the most is the free residential outdoor water audit. People have really been benefitting from that program by reducing the amount of water they use on their landscape. This helps by conserving water and saving money on their water utility bill in the summer!

CRWP: What are the top priorities for your agency over the next few years? Next decade?

MELANIE: Our top priorities are doing a major upgrade to our

drinking water treatment plant so that we can produce our full allotment of water, (2.6 MGD) with some redundancy built in and room for increasing our allotment by at least 0.5 MGD so we would have a total production capacity of 3.5 MGD. We also have a priority of reducing our unaccounted-for water to 15%. Encouraging and educating our residents about water conservation is also a priority.

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

MELANIE: Estacada is experiencing a lot of growth and our biggest challenges in the next couple of years are managing our daily operations while also doing major project work on the same sites.

CRWP: Many utilities are struggling with the need to increase rates for their services. How are you approaching this? What were the keys to your success?

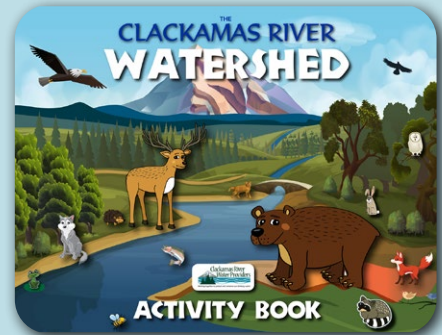
MELANIE: Our water rates will definitely increase with the much-needed and major upgrade to the drinking water treatment plant. The growth in our community is really helping because the burden is spread over a larger number of utility customers. We are working hard to get grants and very low interest loans when needed. We are also building up a good reserve that can be used to fund part of the project. Raising rates gradually over time is helping us to do this rather than waiting and then raising them drastically all at once.

The CRWP members have been watching the City of Estacada grow and appreciate all they are doing to help protect and conserve the Clackamas River which is near and dear to all of the CRWP community members, especially in Estacada as the River runs right through their city providing a majestic background and beloved recreation spot. Thank you, Melanie for your time, and making our jobs at the CRWP much easier.

The CRWP offers an [Activity Book](#) that teachers can use to help inform students about the importance and value of clean water, and how to protect this precious resource. It includes many cool games, puzzles, and activities to become more familiar with the Clackamas River Watershed where we get our high quality drinking water.

Water Conservation

Water conservation is something that we all should practice.



The more water we save, the more water we can leave in the Clackamas River for fish!

Name five ways you use water:

- 1)
- 2)
- 3)
- 4)
- 5)

Name five ways you can save water:

- 1)
- 2)
- 3)
- 4)
- 5)

(Take a look at the words on the right, and you will see some clues. Pick the ones you think are the most important.)



Answers can be found in the box above.



CRWP Careers in Water - Highlights



Like most industries, the water industry is in need of employees and our CRWP members are no exception. It takes many different professionals in many different positions to deliver clean, safe drinking water to our communities.

A career in the field of public drinking water is rewarding, secure, well-paid, has good benefits, and a great way to contribute to your community. Right now, our members need a number of qualified people to fill a number of positions. Some of the career opportunities include working in Customer Service, Finance, Engineering, Human Resources & Payroll, Information Technology, and Communications, as well as positions in the field such as Water Quality, Distribution Maintenance, Conservation, and Water Treatment.

Click on the links below to connect with our CRWP members and learn more about careers in drinking water and positions that are currently available.

- **City of Gladstone**

Utility Worker II - Public Works

Utility Worker II – Full time

Department: Public Works

Salary Range: \$4652-\$5654 per month

Closing Date: **July 3, 2025** – 5:00 pm

[To Learn More and Apply](#)

- **City of Tigard**

Utility Billing Supervisor New

Full-time - \$76,923.64 - \$100,578.03 Annually

Department: Finance

[To Learn More and Apply](#)

- **City of West Linn**

Utility Worker I - II Water New

Full Time Represented

\$23.65 - \$37.49 Hourly

Department: Public Works

[To Learn More and Apply](#)

Some of our CRWP members may also have Internships, Summer Help, and Apprenticeship programs available, contact chrisitne@clackamasproviders.org for more information.

Interested in training, experience, and education in the water industry? Visit Clackamas Community College: [Water and Environmental Technology Certificate](#).

Scholarships Opportunities:

- [Pacific Northwest Clean Water Association Scholarship Program](#)

- [American Water Works Association Pacific Northwest Section Scholarships](#)

For more information about career opportunities in drinking water visit the following websites:

[Clackamas River Water Providers Careers in Water](#)

[Regional Water Providers Consortium Careers in Water](#)

[Water Environment Federation Careers in Water](#)

[American Water Works Association Career Center](#)

[Pacific Northwest Section American Water Work Association Careers](#)

[Work for Water](#) – Jobs in Oregon

[Government Jobs](#) – Water Treatment

Summer Quiz:

Answers

Question 1 - Answer is D

Question 2 - Answer is A

Question 3 - Answer is D

Question 4 - Answer is B

Fire-resistant plants for home landscapes

Reduce Wildfire Risk with Proper Plant Selection and Placement

The summer outlook is calling for dry and hot weather, and outdoor fire restrictions have already been issued in some Oregon counties. To help our customers be better prepared for the summer fire season, check out highlights from an article produced by the OSU Extension to find out how you can have a beautiful landscape while reducing your potential wildfire risk.

Protecting Family, Home, and Community

Fires are a natural part of the Pacific Northwest's ever-changing ecosystem. As people continue to live and build in fire-prone landscapes, they must take steps to protect their lives, homes, properties, and communities. These safeguards are needed in rural, suburban, and urban environments, which are all prone to wildfire devastation. One element of this is planting fire-resistant plants.

Fire-resistant plants are those that do not readily ignite from a flame or other ignition sources. These plants can be damaged or even killed by fire. However, they tend to produce fewer embers, the most common cause for homes burning in wildfires. Their foliage and stems do not significantly contribute to fuel and fire intensity. Several other significant factors influence the fire characteristics of plants, including plant moisture content, age, total volume, dead material, and chemical content.

Most healthy deciduous shrubs and trees are fire-resistant. But both native and ornamental plants can be highly flammable. Spreading or upright juniper is a highly flammable shrub often planted in home landscapes. Avoid landscaping with highly flammable plants directly around your home.



Designing for Small Spaces in Urban Lots

In more urban environments, houses are closer together with smaller lot sizes. Fire-wise landscape practices still apply to plant selection, spacing, and fuel reduction. But the key to protecting urban homes on smaller lots is cooperation within neighborhoods. Take an organized approach to communicating expectations for a fire-wise community. For example, fuel reduction — such as removing pine needles or plant debris from gutters and roofs — should be a goal for all homeowners.

To learn about more than 150 plants that are safe for fire-wise landscapes and how to create defensible spaces, go to the OSU Extension Service Article, [CLICK HERE](#).

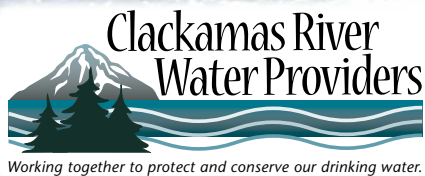
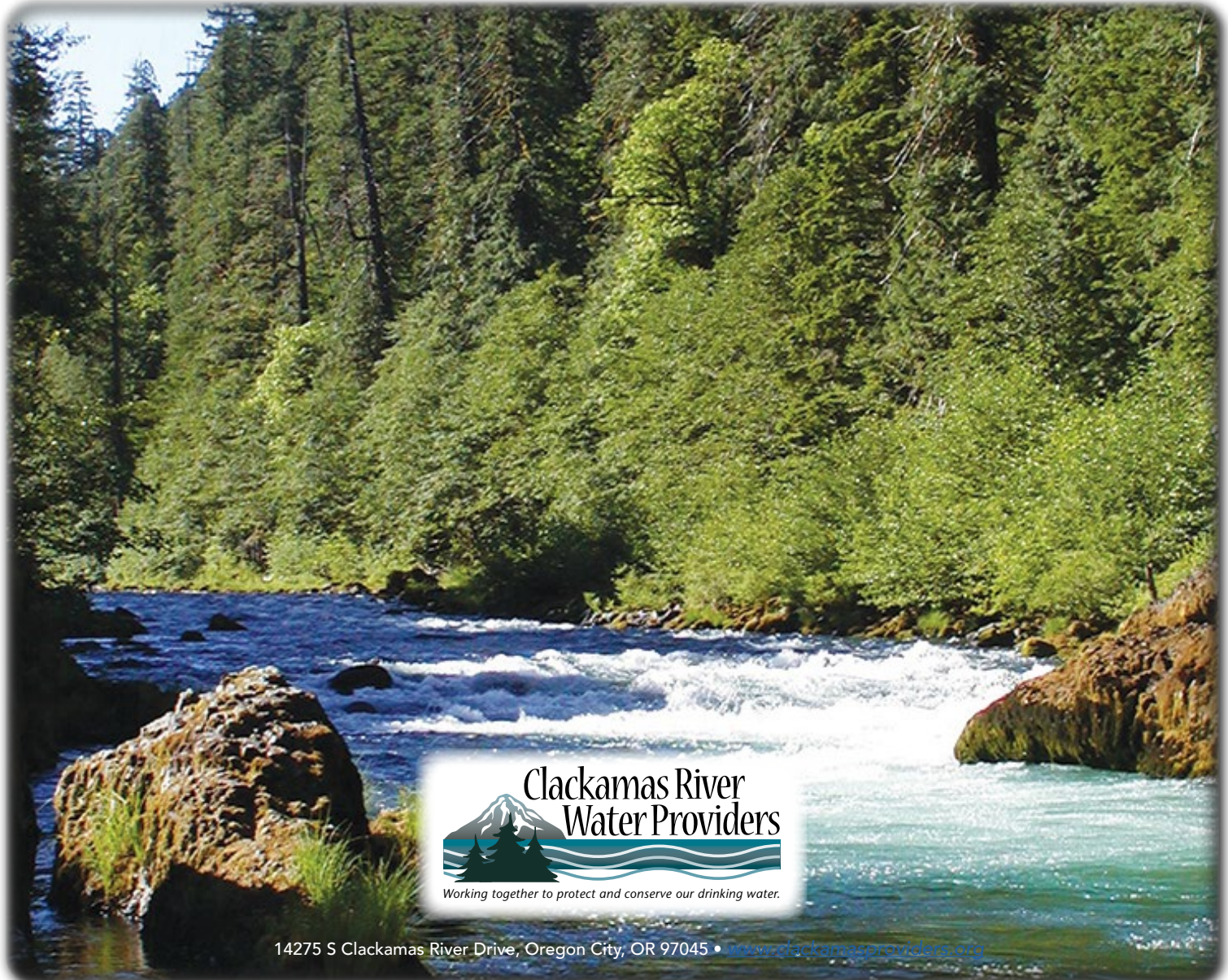
Sign Up for Clackamas County Public

By signing up, you can receive emergency notifications for your home or other address (such as a business). You will only be contacted when the associated address is affected by an emergency.

#ClackCo 
PublicAlerts

If the call is picked up by an answering machine, it will leave a message and not call back. If the number is busy or there is no answer, the system will try contacting your other contact methods. Once you have acknowledged receipt of a message on one device, the system will stop trying to contact your other devices.

By providing your contact information as a county resident, you can opt in to receive critical emergency messaging via email, phone call, and text during times of disaster. Important messages that could be relayed include notices to evacuate, shelter-in-place, shelter locations, and other extremely important information. To learn more and sign up, [CLICK HERE](#).



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CHRISTINE HOLLENBECK, Public Education and Conservation Program Coordinator, (503) 723-3511 • christine@clackamasproviders.org
KIM SWAN, Water Resource Manager, (503) 723-3510 • kims@clackamasproviders.org