

BOARD BYLINE – Susan Keil, Board President:

Oak Lodge Water Services is focused on providing safe and effective water distribution, wastewater collection and water quality treatment services as well as promoting activities that protect and enhance the water quality in our local streams. Each year, the District goes through a rigorous budgeting process, and our General Manager, supervisors and staff work diligently to minimize the cost of critical activities and materials. Our citizen Budget Committee closely reviews the final Budget and recommends it to your elected Board of Directors. Rates are adjusted and actual spending is reviewed monthly by management and the Board over the course of the next fiscal year.

As a product of the consolidation of the water and wastewater districts, OLWS has achieved 8% savings within the operating budget. This helps to keep future rates manageable, build capital reserves for infrastructure projects, pay for deferred maintenance, and offset future pension increases. In the next Fiscal Year 2019-2020 modest, but necessary rate increases are anticipated. There is good reason to believe that OLWS runs efficiently and effectively.

Structurally, your District operates over 200 miles of water distribution and sewer collection pipes; 2 drinking water reservoirs; 5 sewage pumping stations; and a world-class Water Reclamation Facility that turns wastewater into clean water which then is delivered into the Willamette River. There are 4 sub-watershed basins in the community and the District is responsible for maintaining a high level of water quality in the streams that are fed by storm drains. We meet government standards for stream water quality and Water Reclamation Facility produced effluent. Every year we work towards meaningful improvements to stream health, wetland functioning, and habitat enhancement. There is a lot going on at your water services district, and we are here for you!

To contact us with questions, request information or schedule tours, please call: (503) 654-7765.

Oak Lodge Water Services' Annual Water Quality Report

Each year, OLWS presents a water quality report in which we share important information and details about the water we rely on for our health and well-being. By the end of May the OLWS Annual Water Quality Report will be posted on our website at:

<https://www.oaklodgewaterservices.org/water/page/water-quality-report>.

To help people water more efficiently in the dry season, the Regional Water Providers' Consortium publishes a watering number by zip code for the amount of water that lawns and other plants need each week between April and September. Visit www.regionalh2o.org/weekly-watering-number to view the amount in inches, or sign up to receive a weekly email.



REMINDER: EVEN 'flushable' WIPES are NOT flushable

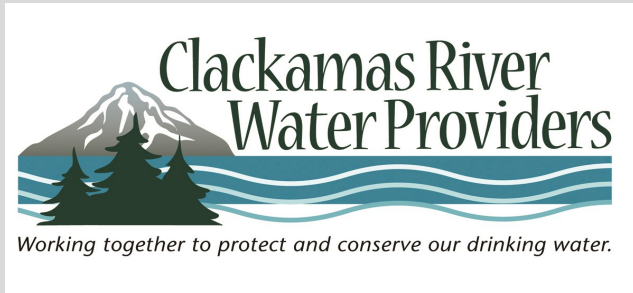
When placed in water, toilet paper will break down in less than 10 seconds but personal wipes do not break down at all. Although labelled 'flushable', personal wipes and paper towels should be thrown in the trash. Otherwise, they can damage our treatment pumps by turning into mega-wipes. Please do not flush your wipes—thank you!

Save Water This Summer by Getting a FREE Landscape Water Audit This Spring

Our partner, Clackamas River Water Providers offers free landscape water audits to Oak Lodge Water Services' customers during spring and summer months only, on a first-come-first-served basis.

Water use in our communities more than doubles during the summer months due to outdoor watering. Higher than normal outdoor water use is often the sign of inefficient water use in our yards, or an irrigation system that needs repair and scheduling adjustments. A landscape water audit is a way to get your irrigation system and landscape on track and running right.

Saving water and saving money is what a landscape water audit is all about. Our landscape auditor will assess your lawn and garden areas, irrigation system and more. Residential landscape water audits often include but are not limited to: a walk through your yard and gardens including all lawn areas; making note of existing soil types, plant material, naturally available water, and sun exposure; locating the water meter, noting any existing leaks from the meter throughout the irrigation system; locating the irrigation controller, making note of the make/model as well as the current schedule, each zone will be ran separately, recording gallons per minute used for each zone.



When the audit is complete you will receive a detailed report with recommendations such as controller schedule adjustments for better water efficiency, irrigation head adjustments/replacements if necessary, maintenance of existing plant material for more efficient watering (i.e. pruning up), soil amendments to reduce weeds and promote soil moisture, and reduce use of fertilizers—giving you the tools you need to better manage your outdoor water use. To schedule your audit contact Christine at christine@clackamasproviders.org or call 503-723-3511.

Celebrate Drinking Water Week

Drinking Water Week is observed each year in May to recognize the critical role drinking water plays in our daily lives. Have you ever stopped to think about how many times a day you use water from the tap? Americans use drinking water many times a day, every day, for many different activities such as drinking, bathing, cooking, and washing clothes, to name a few. The United States has one of the safest drinking water supplies in the world, and it is important to know how that water gets to our faucets and what makes it safe to use.



Water system challenges require us to continue to work to protect our water supply. Drinking water systems in the United States are up to 100 years old in some places. Cracked pipes, water main breaks, and other age-related issues increase the chance for germs or chemicals to get into the water and can lead to boil water advisories. The American Water Works Association has estimated that it will cost nearly \$1 trillion in the next 25 years to repair and expand the United States' drinking water systems to meet the demands. Other challenges include warming temperatures, which can affect our water supply, and contamination of water sources with chemicals and toxins. You can celebrate the importance of water by investing in our water future!

If spring rain brings flooding to your neighborhood, call Clackamas County at (503) 742-4500. They partner with Oak Lodge Water Services to alleviate flooding in our area. For more information visit <https://www.clackamas.us/dm/flooding.html>

Congratulations in 2019, Oak Lodge Water Services!

This past March, Oak Lodge Water Services once again took first place out of 11 other local public water providers in the Northwest Oregon subsection of the water division of utilities' Best Tasting Water competition.

Oak Lodge Water Services receives their water from the North Clackamas County Water Commission (NCCWC), a drinking water treatment plant co-owned by Oak Lodge Water Services, City of Gladstone and Sunrise Water Authority. The NCCWC treats its water through membrane and slow sand filtration.

Thank you, NCCWC!

OLWS BOARD MEETINGS:

All Board Meetings held at:

Oak Lodge Water Services
Administration Building
14496 SE River Rd.,
Oak Grove, OR 97267

* **MAY 21 at 6 p.m.**

* **JUNE 18 at 6 p.m.**

Please join us!