

Board Byline: Conserving Water for the River We All Depend On

Low winter snowpack has reduced river flows to historic lows. That's why water conservation is more important than ever this summer.

Every gallon used outdoors is water that doesn't remain in the Clackamas River. Let's work together to protect our rivers for humans and wildlife.

Easy Ways to Conserve Water This Summer

REDUCE OUTDOOR WATERING - *most important!*

Outdoor watering is the biggest driver of summer water demand in our region — and where you can make the greatest impact. A medium-sized lawn can use roughly **8,000 gallons of water each month**. To avoid overwatering, use only what your grass needs: about **1 inch of water per week**. Or, **consider letting your lawn go dormant** for the season.

This summer, we're not watering the grass at our facilities, joining several other water providers and cities that rely on the Clackamas River. By reducing outdoor water use, we can help leave more water in the river when it's needed most.

Get watering tips



Register for an audit



Check for leaks



GET A FREE LANDSCAPE WATER AUDIT

Our partners at the Clackamas River Water Providers offer **FREE landscape water audits** to help you identify conservation opportunities. A professional will assess your yard and irrigation system and provide recommendations to help you manage your outdoor water use.

CHECK FOR LEAKS

One of the **sneakiest sources of water waste is leaks**. The best way to determine whether you have a leak is to make sure all indoor and outdoor water sources in your home are turned off, then check whether your water meter shows activity.

Reminder: New rates go into effect July 1.



More details at:
oaklodgewaterservices.org/rates

Help Us Spread the Word!



Request a free yard sign to promote conservation in your neighborhood:

oaklodgewaterservices.org/conservation



What Happens if the River Gets Too Low?

Did you know there's a **legal minimum flow of 650 cubic feet per second (cfs)** for the Clackamas River?

The minimum increases to **800 cfs** in September for the fall salmon run, before seasonal rains typically boost river flows.

If the Clackamas River dips below the legal minimums, the state limits how much water we can withdraw.

This is a real concern this year due to historically low snowpack levels. That's why we're asking our community to conserve water now and help protect our river and water supply.

Capital Projects Update: Improvements Happening in Your Community

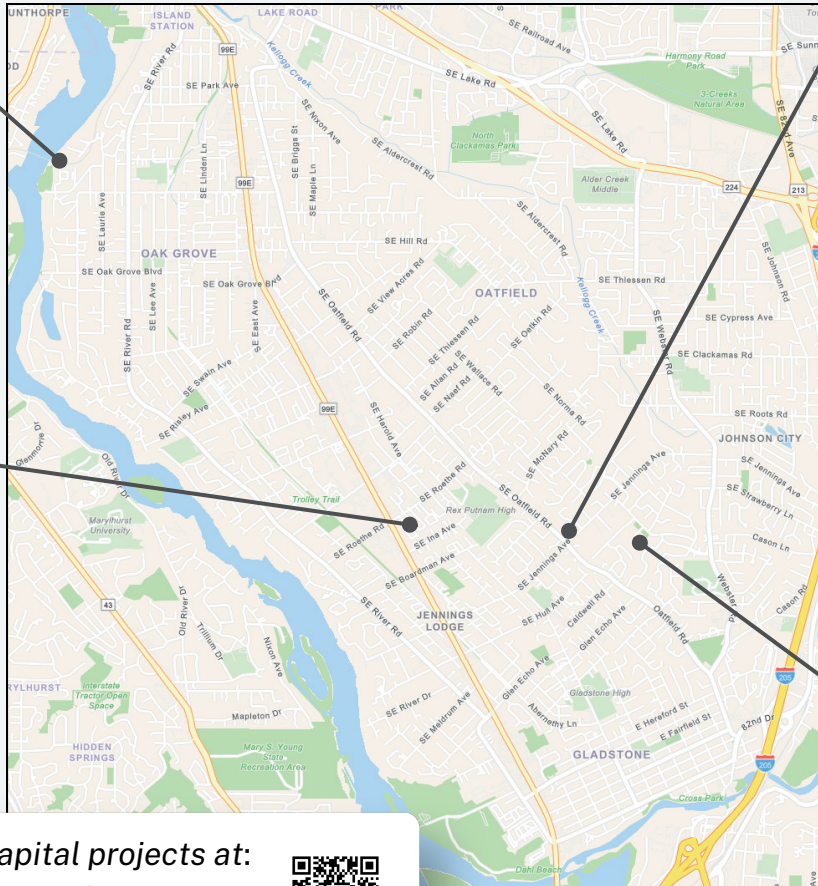


Tertiary Treatment Facility at Wastewater Treatment Plant

Construction is underway to add an additional layer of filtration at our wastewater treatment plant. This facility will allow us to meet new regulations and protect local water quality.

Northern Jennings Lodge (Lift Station 2) Sewer Improvements

We're continuing our sewer improvement work in Jennings Lodge, replacing pipes and other sewer infrastructure to keep rain from overwhelming our system.



Water System Improvements at Oatfield Rd. & Jennings Ave.

This summer, the County will be completing road improvements at the intersection of Oatfield Rd. and Jennings Ave. To reduce disruption to the community, OLWS will coordinate water system improvements at the same time.

Valley View Water Reservoir Recoating

We're performing maintenance on two of our water reservoirs to keep them in top condition. This includes cleaning and recoating.

Find the latest on our capital projects at:
oaklodgewaterservices.org/active-projects



Now Available: Annual Water Quality Report



Every year, OLWS publishes a mandated report on our drinking water, including where it comes from, how it's treated, and the regular testing we do to ensure its safety.

We're proud to report that our water continues to meet or exceed state and federal standards.

Read the full report at:
oaklodgewaterservices.org/2025-water-quality-report



Scan to read the report

Request a paper copy of the report by emailing info@olws.org or calling 971-291-7255.

Emergency Contact Information

Our team is available 24/7 at **(503) 654-7765**. Please call us if you see water gushing from the street, ground, or from a manhole, or if you notice a sewer spill or witness illegal storm drain dumping.

Board Meetings

You're invited to attend OLWS board meetings. Join via Zoom or in-person at 14496 SE River Road. Meetings are held on the second Tuesday of the month at 4:00 P.M.:

July 14 | August 11 | September 8

Find more details at oaklodgewaterservices.org or email info@olws.org for assistance.