

Board Byline

By Susan Keil, Board President

We want to let you know about big things happening at the District, including the latest on the Authority process and two upcoming compliance-driven projects.

Reorganizing as a Joint Water & Sanitary Authority – The Clackamas County Board of Commissioners held their first Public Hearing on this topic on April 14. All customers were mailed information on how to attend the second Public Hearing scheduled for May 5. Visit the District website for more information.

Upcoming Wastewater Treatment Improvements – The District has two large compliance-driven projects for our wastewater system that require immediate action. The **Trunk Main Capacity Project** will reduce the risk of wastewater escaping into our local waterways following winter storms. The **Tertiary Treatment Project** at our Water Reclamation Facility will help meet new, more stringent permit requirements for treated water that is returned to the Willamette River.

Five Things to Know about Tertiary Treatment

1. The Department of Environmental Quality recently issued a new National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Waste Discharge Permit for our Water Reclamation Facility. Beginning May 1, the District has to **meet new, stricter permit requirements** when treating wastewater.
2. To comply with the permit year-round, the District needs to **install tertiary treatment at the Wastewater Reclamation Facility**.
3. Tertiary treatment is a third level of treatment that **makes the wastewater cleaning process even more effective** at removing inorganic materials before cleaned water is released to the environment.
4. Nearly all similar facilities in the lower Willamette River Basin already use tertiary treatment.
5. The District will **keep customers informed** as we look at funding options over the coming months and work to identify the type of tertiary treatment best-suited to help our system perform up to these environmental standards.

Learn more at the District's upcoming Community Conversation on Wastewater Treatment Improvements via Zoom on Thursday, June 9 at 6:00 pm. Registration is required to receive a link and password to attend the session. Register now: <https://bit.ly/cc-june9>

The Community Conversation will also be recorded and shared on our website. If you are unable to attend and would like to receive a link to watch the recording, email the word "WASTEWATER" to alexa@olwsd.org.

If you have trouble accessing any of the links or do not have access to the internet, please contact Alexa Morris at (503) 353-4219 or alexa@olwsd.org.

Community Participation

You're invited to attend District Board meetings. At this time, Board meetings are being held online. The upcoming meetings will be held at 6:00 p.m. on:

- May 17, June 21 & July 19

Learn how to attend at OakLodgeWaterServices.org or email info@olwsd.org for assistance.



Annual Water Quality Report

The District is committed to providing you with safe and reliable drinking water. The Water Quality Report shows the work that goes into maintaining and delivering high quality water from the Clackamas River to your tap.

The 2021 Water Quality Report is now available online at oaklodgewaterservices.org/WQR. Request a paper copy of the report at info@olwsd.org or call (503) 654-7765.

Do you have outdoor plans for your home?

Don't forget to look at your Meter Box before you start planning your driveway (gravel), fence, or landscaping needs this spring/summer. The District can raise or lower your meter box to accommodate some of your outdoor plans for your home. Based on your needs the District may recommend an alternative box, which we can provide at no cost to the homeowner.

For questions and more information please call District Field Supervisor, Brad Lyon at (503) 353-4231.

Tour the Water Reclamation Facility (WRF)

You're invited to take a tour of the WRF to see how the District protects public health as well as our rivers and streams. The WRF is located at 13750 SE Renton Ave, Milwaukie, OR 97222 next to Rivervilla Park. The tour is for all ages and those under 18 must be accompanied by an adult. For safety, sturdy shoes are required. No sandals or flip-flops. To schedule a tour email alexa@olwsd.org.

Fire Hydrant Replacement Program

The District's Fire Hydrant Replacement Program aims to systematically maintain, repair and replace a portion of fire hydrants every year. There are about 800 fire hydrants in the District and we are responsible for inspecting and testing each of them. As part of the program this spring staff has been flushing, painting and repairing hydrants. While examining a hydrant staff also check the surrounding area to make sure the hydrant is accessible and easy for fire crews to open. Our goal is to ensure hydrants are in peak condition when the fire department needs them.



Emergency Contact Information

Our team is available 24 hours a day at (503) 654-7765. If you see water gushing up out of either the street, ground, or from a manhole, please call us. Use the same number if you notice sewer spills or if you see someone illegally dumping into a storm drain.



Follow us on Facebook and Twitter @OakLodgeWater for news and updates.