

BOARD BYLINE – Kevin Williams, Board President:
This information is created in partnership with the Clackamas River Water Providers

We all know that practicing water conservation all year is the most important thing we can do to be good stewards of our drinking water source. In addition to providing drinking water to over 300,000 people, the Clackamas River is home to migrating salmon and steelhead year-round.

- **Most of the time there is plenty of water in the river, but summertime brings low flows that can challenge Fall Chinook and Coho Salmon as they return to their home spawning grounds.**
- **Since your water comes from the Clackamas River, you are invited to be a part of our “Fish On the Run, Irrigation Done” program to help migrating fish.**
- **This fall, visit the [Clackamas River Water Providers website](#) to discover what changes you can make to your outdoor watering. These changes will ensure that you are using our drinking water in the most efficient ways possible.**
- **Take the pledge and receive a free yard sign letting neighbors know that you are doing your part to keep water in the Clackamas River for fish, wildlife and people. The more water we conserve the easier this journey will be for our salmon.**



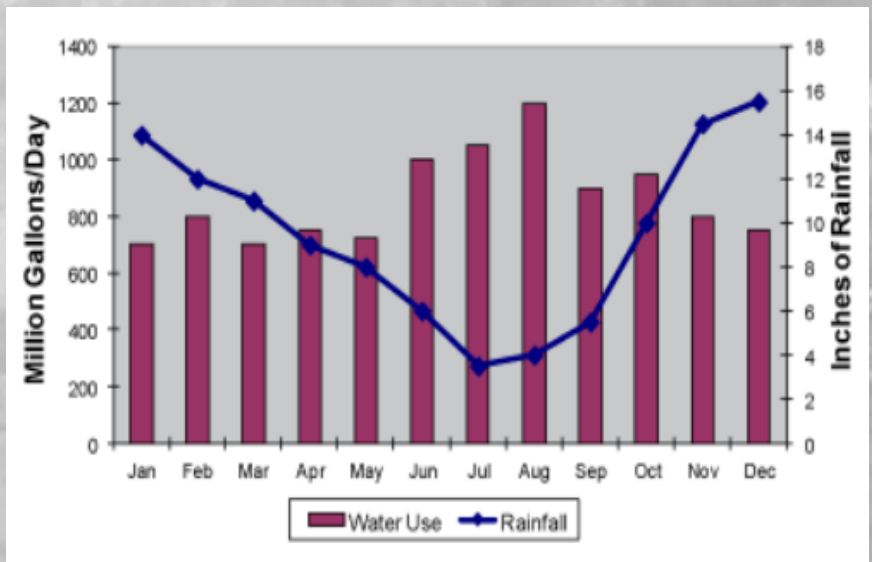
You are invited to attend:
[OLWS BOARD MEETINGS!](#)

All Board Meetings held at:

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

*** SEPTEMBER 15 at 6 p.m.**

*** OCTOBER 20 at 6 p.m.**



Graph shows the water use and rainfall in the Clackamas River

Surface Water Protection—Fertilize Once a Year, in the Fall

The time to apply fertilizer is when the grass is growing more roots than blades. You can help protect water quality and have a healthy lawn if you **fertilize just once a year**. Choose a high-quality fall fertilizer containing slow-release nitrogen and apply it according to the directions in September/October. This will promote growth in the spring and protect our waterways.

Did you know that each year homeowners apply over 90 million pounds of chemical pesticides, herbicides, and insecticides to their lawns and gardens? That’s equal to the weight of over 5000 school buses. These chemicals often end up in our waterways, affecting plants and animals that were not the intended targets. With your help, we can reduce the amount of chemicals used on our home gardens and lawns. [– visit the Clackamas SWCD website for more info](#)

Imagine A Day Without Water

This year, our country faces an enormous public health crisis from the coronavirus pandemic. The crisis demonstrates the critical role that water and wastewater systems play in our communities—and the importance of these systems to protecting public health, safeguarding the environment, and encouraging healthy economies.

Each year on October 21, we Imagine a Day Without Water. It's a day to pause and notice the way that water systems impact our lives and communities, and commit to ensuring a sustainable water future for generations to come.

- Turn on the tap, and clean water flows out. Flush the toilet, and dirty water goes away.
- With a little soap and water and two rounds of the happy birthday song, viruses are annihilated.
- When you have reliable water service, you don't have to think twice about the infrastructure that brings water to your home or business, and then safely returns water to the environment – but we all should.
- The reality is, America's water infrastructure is deteriorating as it gets older – and there are even communities around the country that have never had access to infrastructure in the first place.

On Imagine a Day Without Water, we ask everyone to consider what their day would be like if they couldn't turn on the tap and get clean drinking water, or if you flushed the toilet and wastewater didn't go away. What would that day be like?

- **A day without water is a public health and safety crisis.** A day without water means firefighters can't do their jobs, hospitals would be unsanitary, and no one could wash dirty dishes or clothes. Without water, we would be unable to take necessary precautions to limit the spread of coronavirus.
 - **Water infrastructure investment provides a path to economic recovery.** Water infrastructure is aging and in need of repair or replacement. Many systems were built over a century ago. As water systems age, pipe breaks have increased by 27% between 2012 and 2018 are expected to increase by 600% in 20 years if we don't increase investment in our systems. Water service disruptions are costly to utilities, customers, businesses, and the economy. Without investment, water and wastewater systems will continue to deteriorate, leading to serious consequences for public health and the economy.

- **Strong leadership on water is key to a secure future.** As we face the largest economic depression in a generation, investing in water provides a path to economic recovery. Investing in water now will help us out of the economic crisis we are in, and make us more resilient for the future. Imagine a Day Without Water is an opportunity to share why water is important to you, your business, your community.
- Investing in our water is investing in a future where no American will have to imagine a day without water.

What is the value of water in your daily life? Share video or images and use [#ValueWater](https://www.valuewater.org).

