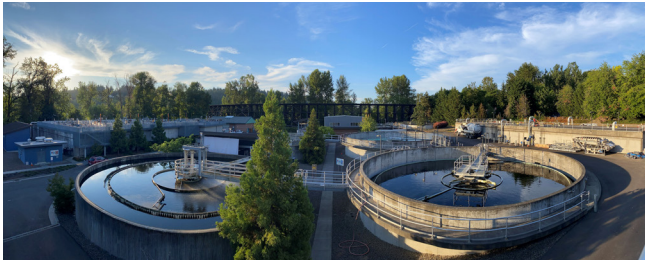


Board Byline

By Susan Keil, Board Chair

Saving water now can mean saving money later. OLWS uses your winter water consumption to gauge the amount of wastewater your household sends down the drain to the Wastewater Treatment Plant. A portion of your wastewater bill is based on winter water consumption (December - March) which is reviewed and recalculated each July. Now is the time to fix those leaks, set your shower timers, and work together as a family to conserve your precious water resources – all while saving you money. Do you have questions about your bill? Call (503) 654-7765



Your Wastewater Treatment Plant in Oak Grove, OR

As an OLWS customer you qualify for conservation rebates from the Clackamas River Water Providers (CRWP). CRWP offers seven water use rebates up to \$485 in value. Learn more: clackamasproviders.org/conservation-rebates

National Latte Day

You can't have coffee without water! National Latte Day is February 11. Get a FREE latte on us at Awakening Coffee (2144 SE Oak Grove Blvd, Oak Grove, OR 97267) from 7:30 am - 2:00 pm on February 11.



2023 Water Calendars Now Available

Each year the Clackamas River Water Providers invite teachers and their students to participate in their annual Kids Water Calendar coloring contest. The theme for the 2023 Calendar is "Our Healthy Watershed". The 2023 calendars are FREE and available to customers at 14496 SE River Road, Oak Grove, OR 97267 and upon request by email at christine@clackamasproviders.org.

Winter Weather Tips

Every winter, many homeowners face the expense and inconvenience of frozen water pipes. Here are some prevention tips to keep in mind all winter long:

- Disconnect and drain outdoor hoses. Detaching a hose allows water to drain from the faucet. Otherwise, a single, hard overnight freeze can burst either the faucet or the pipe it's connected to.
- Insulate pipes or faucets in unheated areas. If you have pipes in the attic, an unheated garage or cold crawl space under the house, wrap the water pipes before temperatures plummet. Hardware or building supply stores will have good pipe wrapping materials available.
- Seal off access doors, air vents and cracks. Winter winds whistling through overlooked openings can quickly freeze exposed water pipes.
- Find the master shutoff valve. If a pipe bursts anywhere in the house - kitchen, bath, basement, or crawl space - this valve turns the water off to the house. So, find it now. Be sure everyone in the family knows where it is and what it does.

Community Participation

You're invited to attend Board meetings. The public may attend through Zoom video conference or in-person (14496 SE River Road). The upcoming regular meetings will be held at 6:00 p.m. on:

- January 17, February 21 & March 21

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



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

Deicing Tips for Home

- Assemble a bucket of sand, gravel and a shovel.
- Avoid using table or rock salt – use sand and sparingly mix in deicing products containing magnesium, potassium, or calcium.
- Consider traction cleats for your shoes.
- Sweep up all products after the storm and dispose in the trash.



Wildlife & Water Friendly Gardens Series

OLWS is proud to support the Clackamas Community College Environmental Learning Center's FREE online learning series. Each class will start at noon online:

- January 26 – How to Grow a Sustainable Lawn
- February 2 – Beneficial Insects in Your Garden
- February 9 – Avoiding the Thugs in Your Garden
- February 16 – Drought Tolerant Native Plants for Pollinators
- February 23 – Attracting Birds while Protecting Watershed Health
- March 2 – Ways that We Impact Watersheds in Our Backyard Decisions
- March 9 – Garden Design Considerations for Managing Stormwater and Erosion

Register at <https://bit.ly/garden-2023>

Stormwater Needs Your Help

Stormwater runoff is the most significant source of water pollution in our State. When it rains, stormwater washes over streets, roofs, lawns and parking lots. On its way, it picks up oil, sediment, bacteria, grease and chemicals that pollute our local streams and the Willamette River. In the winter season, be a water protector by taking the follow actions:

- Pile snow in locations where it can melt and soak into the ground.
- Pile snow in areas where water does not pool – uphill from rain gardens.
- Clear away any snow that may have been thrown onto the storm drains – this helps avoid flooding.
- Start shoveling early to avoid using salt or deicer.

Through watershed protection and planning, OLWS is taking a long-term approach to protecting the health of our water resources. The OLWS stormwater management program provides monitoring and enforcement of water quality protections. Through watershed planning we are taking a big picture, long-term approach to protecting the health of neighborhood streams.



Staff member taking water quality samples in Oak Grove, OR

Emergency Contact Information

We are always ready to respond to water service emergencies 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year. Call (503) 654-7765 for assistance. 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 wastewater spills or if you see someone illegally dumping into a storm drain.