



### ePipeline

OHA-Drinking Water Services Newsletter

July 15, 2021

#### **DWS updates phone system**

Drinking Water Services (DWS) has changed some aspects of its phone system. For general questions about drinking water, call DWS at 971-673-0405. For questions specific to Eastern Oregon, call 541-276-8006. The Springfield office will no longer receive general calls. Messages are monitored every business day until 4:30 p.m., and callers leaving messages after 4:30 will receive a return call the next business day.

For after-hours emergencies, call 503-704-1174.

Most DWS staff now have mobile phones, and their desk phones have been or will soon be disconnected. See the <u>Drinking Water web page</u> for updated staff phone numbers and email addresses.

# **Outstanding Performers**

Public water systems achieve Outstanding Performer status when they have no significant deficiencies identified and no unresolved violations, as evaluated during their routine water system surveys. Those that meet the Outstanding Performer criteria have their survey frequency reduced from every three years to every five years.

Below is a list of the water systems that have met the established criteria for outstanding performance during the period of April 1, 2021, through June 14, 2021. (Some survey results from that period may still be in the data entry process, so the list may be incomplete.) Drinking Water Services congratulates the operators of these systems for jobs well done!

Water System Name	County Served
AGATE WATER SYSTEM	DESCHUTES
BENTWOOD ESTATES WATER SYSTEM	DESCHUTES
DEPOE BAY, CITY OF	LINCOLN
OAKVILLA MOBILE HOME PARK	LINN
RAINBOW WATER DISTRICT	LANE
WEST SLOPE WATER DISTRICT	WASHINGTON

Go here to find out how to qualify as an Outstanding Performer.

## **Prepare for wildfire**

As Oregon's climate and weather patterns continue to change, bringing increasing temperatures, snowpack decline, earlier runoff, and other effects, the likelihood of wildfire and drought increases. Wildfires can lead to public health emergencies, including emergencies that affect drinking water facilities. Drinking Water Services has developed <u>this guidance</u> to help water systems prepare for wildfire season.

#### **Guard against cyberattacks**

Cyberattacks on businesses, industry, and even public water systems have been in the news recently. Given the potential for cyberattacks on water systems across the United States, Oregon drinking water providers are encouraged to actively monitor their computers and automated control systems for unusual and suspicious activity. See <u>this guidance</u> for information about how to assess and reduce the potential risk of cyberattacks on your water system.

### Low-cost funding available

The Drinking Water State Revolving fund (DWSRF) provides low-cost loans to community and nonprofit non-community public water systems for planning, design, and construction of drinking water infrastructure improvements. Repayment terms are favorable and all projects receive part of the loan as principal forgiveness. Many different kinds of projects are eligible, including (among others) treatment, seismic and security improvements and service line replacements. Go here for more information.

# **Training opportunities**

Find information about free trainings, webinars and CEUs on the Operator Certification Training Opportunities web page at <u>www.healthoregon.org/dwtraining</u>.

Contact Drinking Water Services info.drinkingwater@dhsoha.state.or.us or 971-673-0405

You can view or update your subscriptions, password or email address at any time on your <u>User Profile Page</u>. All you will need are your email address and your password (if you have selected one).

This service is provided to you at no charge by the <u>Oregon Health Authority</u> and the <u>Oregon</u> <u>Department of Human Services</u>.

If you have any questions about this service, <u>please visit the GovDelivery user support</u> <u>website</u>.