



Frequently Asked Questions

Recycled Water

What is recycled water?

Recycled water is treated municipal water or repurposed industrial water permitted by DEQ for use in beneficial purposes that are protective of human health, the environment, and provide a resource benefit.

What are the rules and regulations associated with recycled water?

- [Recycled Water Use Rules](#)
- [Land Application Laws](#)
- [Groundwater Quality Protection](#)

What is the definition of a “beneficial purpose”? What are the “beneficial purpose” categories for recycled water?

A purpose where recycled water is utilized for a resource value, such as nutrient content or moisture, to increase productivity or to conserve other sources of water.

- [Recycled Water Beneficial Purposes](#)

How do recycled water permits work?

To be considered for a recycled water permit, the applicant must apply through DEQ. DEQ and their partner agencies such as OWRD and OHA review the application materials to approve the permit or request additional information from the applicant. If approved, the applicant can use the recycled water for the use proposed in their application and must comply with the monitoring schedule and parameters within the permit to ensure the protection of public health and the environment. The applicant must also complete annual reporting. If minor or major changes are being made to the type of recycled water or application outside of the original permit, the applicant must consult with DEQ for additional review of the changed conditions.

Translation or other formats

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What is the difference between a NPDES and WPCF permit?

NPDES permitted facilities are those which discharge to waters of the state. WPCF permits are for facilities that do not discharges to surface water bodies. [Read additional information about NPDES and WPCF permits.](#)

Are there recycled water projects near me?

There are recycled water projects and recycled water facilities throughout the state of Oregon. Review the [Recycled Water website.](#)

Where can I find more information about recycled water?

If you have additional questions, please [contact](#) DEQ headquarters or your regional DEQ representative.

Is it possible to apply for funding for a recycled water project?

Yes. Funding opportunities can be found on the [Clean Water State Revolving Fund](#) webpage. Additional resources can be found on the [EPA Water Reuse Funding Programs Page.](#)

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