



ePipeline

OHA-Drinking Water Services

July 8, 2025

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Complete the Asset Management Survey

The 2025 Asset Management Survey is still open. Please complete this brief four-question survey here. When you do so, your system will be referred to free technical assistance providers that provide support for developing an asset management program. DWS also provides funding and free technical assistance.

Wildfire and Emergency Resources Available

Summer is underway here in Oregon, putting public water systems at an increased risk for wildfires, drought and water supply issues, and harmful algal blooms. Water systems can actively monitor wildfire and weather conditions, including fire perimeter proximity to critical infrastructure, on the <u>Oregon Public Water System and Wildfires Public Facing Map</u> and the <u>Oregon Wildfires Dashboard</u>.

For more information on wildfire resources, emergency response, the Oregon Emergency Response System, DWS contact information, and after-hours county emergency response contacts, see the Emergency Planning and Response web page.

Who's Your Operator in Direct Responsible Charge?

Do you know whether your water system's *direct responsible charge* (DRC) data are current?

Oregon Administrative Rule 333-061-0225 states that Community and Non-Transient Non-Community water systems must employ, either directly or by contract, an operator to be in *direct responsible charge* (DRC) of every distribution system and water treatment plant. In addition, water systems must report the names of their DRCs to DWS within 30 days of all DRC changes.

Water systems should review their DRC data regularly through <u>Data Online</u>, and when necessary, submit corrections to DWS. Corrections can be made by submitting the <u>DRC Designation Form</u> to <u>dws.opcert@odhsoha.oregon.gov</u>.

State Revolving Fund Programs

Oregon's <u>Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF)</u> provides low-cost loans to community and nonprofit non-community public water systems for planning, design, and construction of drinking water infrastructure improvements. All projects receive part of the loan as principal forgiveness.

Program Updates:

- Application deadline for the <u>Small System Equipment Assistance</u> funding program is August 15, 2025. This program funds small scale additions or replacement of equipment and instrumentation needed by small water systems to ensure continued operation and protection of public health. Eligible systems include Community or Non-Profit Non-Community water systems that serve ≤ 300 connections.
- Application deadline for the <u>Sustainable Infrastructure Planning</u>
 <u>Projects</u> funding program is August 15, 2025. Updated guidelines, including a new funding category for Community Engagement Plans, are available.
- Technical Assistance Resources: OHA's <u>Circuit Rider Program</u>
 provides up to 10 hours of free on-site technical assistance,
 including assistance with funding applications. Also, EPA's <u>Water</u>
 <u>Technical Assistance (WaterTA)</u> program provides hands-on support
 to local municipalities, Tribes, and communities.

How to Apply – Visit <u>Drinking Water State Revolving Fund</u> to view available funding programs. Business Oregon's <u>Regional Development</u> <u>Officers</u> can assist eligible water systems with the best funding options in their area. Questions? Reach out to DWS at dws.srf@odhsoha.oregon.gov.

Congratulations to 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 water systems that have met the established criteria for outstanding performance during the period of February 1 through July 2, 2025. (Some survey results from that period may still be in the data entry process, so the list may be incomplete.) DWS congratulates the operators of these systems for jobs well done!

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

PWS Name	County Served
ADAMS WATER DEPT, CITY OF	Umatilla
AVION WC - CINDER BUTTE ESTS	Deschutes
AVION WC - DESERT SPRINGS	Deschutes
AVION WC - DRID	Deschutes
AVION WC - ODIN FALLS RANCH	Deschutes
AVION WC - TETHEROW CROSSING	Deschutes
HAFEZ WATER SYSTEM	Linn
KENO WATER CO INC	Klamath
KLAMATH CO PROJECT HOMEFRONT	Klamath
MILL MAR ESTATES IRRIGATION ASSOC	Jackson
NEHALEM, CITY OF	Tillamook
PALATINE HILL WATER DISTRICT	Multnomah

Training Opportunities

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

You have received this message because you are signed up for the Pipeline Newsletter group of the Drinking Water Services email list.

Access past issues of the newsletter on the DWS Pipeline web page:

https://www.oregon.gov/oha/PH/HEALTHYENVIRONMENTS/DRINKINGWATER/OPERATIONS/Pages/pipeline.aspx

Contact Drinking Water Services

info.drinkingwater@odhsoha.oregon.gov or 971-673-0405

See the <u>Drinking Water Contacts web page</u> for updated phone numbers and email addresses

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Everyone has a right to know about and use Oregon Health Authority programs and services. Some examples of the free help we can provide include sign language and spoken language interpreters, written materials in other languages, Braille, large print, audio, and other formats. If you need help or have questions, please <u>contact us.</u>