



OREGON
HEALTH
AUTHORITY

Oregon Drinking Water Services Regulatory and Program Update

Spring partner training

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Presentation Overview

- Regulatory update
 - Federal status
 - Lead and copper rules
 - CCR
 - PFAS
 - CCL6
- Program update
 - Funding outlook
 - Rule adoption schedule
 - Miscellaneous program updates



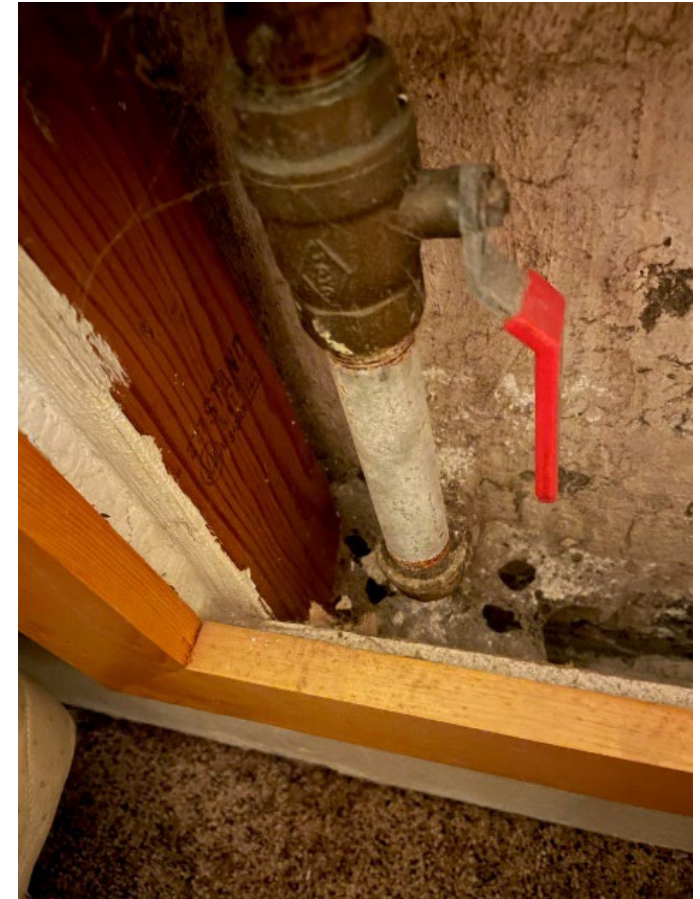
Federal Regulatory Landscape

- CCR: finalized
- LCRI: finalized
- PFAS – waiting on second proposed rule
- Draft CCL6: April 2026
- Perchlorate: proposal Jan 2026, final May 2027
- Water system restructuring assessment rule – proposed May 2024
- Disinfection by-products: 6-year review, proposed rule by July 2027, final by Sept 2028
- Chromium final determination: August 2027



Lead and Copper Rule Revisions (LCRR) – Service lines

- Oregon adopted service line inventory requirements. EPA to do formal enforcement if not submitted
- 98% of systems submitted their service line inventory (all but 31)
- 98% of all service lines in Oregon are non-lead
- Zero lead service lines!
- 94 systems have unknowns
- One has GRRs due to unknowns upstream of galvanized



Lead and Copper Rule Improvements (LCRI) – Service Line inventories

- “Baseline” inventories due November 1, 2027
 - Add addresses for all service lines
 - Include materials of connectors (up to 3 feet) if known
- Validation of non-lead lines:
 - Oregon only allowed evidence-based methods
 - Oregon’s statistical method is equivalent to the LCRI validation method
 - Systems can receive a waiver for the LCRI validation with documentation of appropriate methods
- Replacement plans due November 1, 2027 (with process of determining unknowns)



LCRI – Action Level and Corrosion control

- New Action Level = 10 ppb
 - 43 systems in OR were over 10 ppb in latest round
- Effective with first round of testing after November 2027
- If exceed new AL, must “re-optimize” previously determined Optimized corrosion control treatment (OCCT).
- If an individual tap > 10 ppb, a Distribution system and site assessment is required.
 - Sample WQPs nearby, follow up sample, evaluate, submit recommendation to DWS



LCRI - notifications

- Public notice required within **24 hours** of AL exceedance!
 - From time DWS notifies PWS of the exceedance
- If GRR or unknown lines could be disturbed (construction), must notify affected customers
 - If lines are cut into, must provide pitcher filter or POU device
- Updated public education
 - Printed or electronic, updated language, additional verbiage if GRR or unknown lines.
- Must offer customer-requested sampling if exceed AL or served by GRR or unknown line
- Consumer notice of tap results in 3 business days
- Updated CCR language



LCRI school and childcare facility testing

- PWSs must develop list of all schools and childcare facilities by November 1, 2027
 - Includes public, private schools in buildings primarily for educational use.
 - Updated every 5 years
- Oregon's program is more stringent
- Oregon DWS is working with school and child care agencies to share location and compliance information
- State can issue written waiver for testing requirements for one or more PWSs



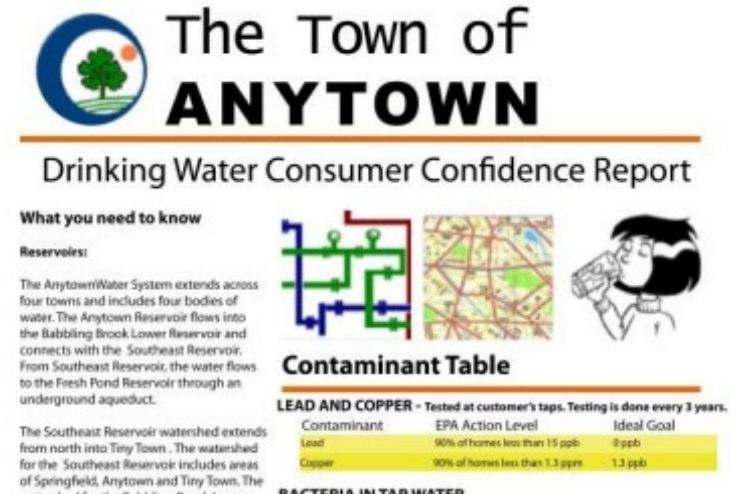
Oregon school and childcare facility testing

- Rules adopted in 2018
- All K-12 schools and childcare facilities must sample each tap used for drinking or food preparation every 6 years.
- Schools – must certify completion for funding
- Childcare facilities – must test to get license
 - Waived if certify that only bottled water is used and accessible.



CCR latest revisions

- Improve the readability, clarity, and understandability of WQ reports
- Enhance risk communication
- Encourage modern electronic delivery options
- Clarify information regarding lead levels and efforts to reduce lead in drinking water
- Provide translation for customers with limited English proficiency
- Require reports be issued twice a year (for systems that serve 10,000 or more people)



CCR Revisions, continued

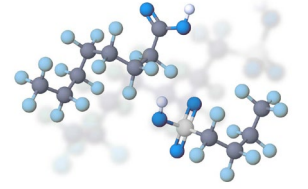
- Adds a summary to highlight key information, such as occurrence of water quality violations or an action level exceedance (ALE).
- Include appropriate contact information for consumers to request translation assistance.
- Replaces “contaminant data table(s)” with a “contaminant data section” to allow flexibility in formatting contaminant data.

2023 Sampling Results							
Substance	Year	EPA's Standards				Violation	Possible Sources
		MCL	MCLG	Min	Max		
Inorganic Contaminants							
Arsenic (ppb)	2023	10	0	ND	3.00	No	Erosion of natural deposits.
Barium (ppm)	2022	2	2	0.06	0.13	No	Discharge from drilling wastes; erosion of natural deposits.
Chromium (ppb)	2022	100	100	1.00	2.00	No	Erosion of natural deposits.
Nitrate (ppm)	2023	10	10	1.78	5.18	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits.
	(Running Annual Average = 3.69)						
Microbiological Contaminants							
Total Coliform Bacteria	2023	<5%	0%	ND	ND	Yes *	Runoff from fertilizer use, leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits.

Delivery

- CWSs serving 10,000 people or more would need to provide a CCR twice each year (AWIA).
 - Continue to deliver first report by July 1st 2027 summarizing information about drinking water quality for previous year.
 - Deliver a second report by December 31st identical to first report if there are no changes.
 - The second report is to include a 6-month update, if applicable, based on data collected between January 1st and June 30th of current calendar year, to accompany original report if an ALE, violation, or UCMR detection occurs.
- CWSs serving fewer than 10,000 people would continue to provide CCRs once per year.

Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS)



- A group of man-made chemicals that persist in the environment for long periods of time - often referred to as “forever chemicals”
- Used for decades in industry and consumer products such as nonstick cookware, waterproof clothing, and stain resistant furniture
- Historically a component of aqueous film-forming foam (AFFF), a highly effective firefighting product intended for fighting high-hazard flammable liquid fires



Rule Overview

- EPA released final drinking water regulation on **April 10, 2024** for 6 PFAS chemicals:
 - **Individual MCLs** for PFOA, PFOS, PFHxS, PFNA, and HFPO-DA (GenX)
 - **Hazard Index MCL for mixture** of PFHxS, PFNA, HFPO-DA (GenX), and PFBS
 - Comply by 2029
- EPA proposed revised PFAS rule May 18, 2026
- Oregon plans to adopt only the second rule



Changes in new rule (preliminary):

- **Maintain** the MCLs for PFOA and PFOS of 4.0 ppt
- **Rescind** the regulations and **reconsider** the regulatory determinations for PFHxS, PFNA, HFPO-DA (GenX), and the Hazard Index mixture of these three plus PFBS.
 - In Oregon, any system > MCL for PFAS also was > MCL for PFOA or PFOS
- Compliance date of 2029 with possible extension to 2031
- ***No change to monitoring requirements/timelines***



PFAS sampling project in Oregon

- Oregon is paying to have one PFAS (all 6) sample taken at each system serving 3,300 or less people.
- To be completed by June 2026
- Detection rate so far: 17%
- Over MCL: half of all detections, or ~8%
- Rule applies to 1200 systems → ~ 100 systems may need to treat
 - Requests for funding will likely outpace availability
 - Offset of IJA-EC funds
- Systems are responsible for the remainder of initial monitoring

Contaminant Candidate List 6 (CCL6) and HHB-Rx

- Draft published April 2026
- 75 individual chemicals
 - Pharmaceuticals
 - Microplastics
 - PFAS
 - Disinfection By-products
 - Pathogens
- Priorities research
- UCMR6
- Regulatory determination
- Human Health Benchmarks – Pharmaceuticals (HHB-RX)
 - 374 pharmaceuticals, some are controversial
 - Can be used to determine if further investigation is needed
 - Senator Wyden's letter to Lee Zeldin

Program funding outlook

- State Revolving Fund and set-asides
 - Steady decrease due to congressionally-directed spending
- Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) FY22-FY26
 - Up to 3 years to spend set-asides
 - Up to 5 years to spend for projects
- Infrastructure needs survey to include lead service lines
 - Oregon's percentage likely to decrease
- Primacy grant – close to the same
- State General Fund – slight increase
- Fees – considering future increases



Cybersecurity

- PWSs using operational technology should take steps to increase cybersecurity. At minimum:
 - Multifactor authentication
 - Update software
 - Use strong passwords
 - Phishing awareness
- Report cybersecurity breaches
- Cybersecurity is being included in Emergency Response Plan requirements

**CYBERSECURITY &
INFRASTRUCTURE
SECURITY AGENCY**



Rule revisions

- 2025: Revised list of significant deficiencies
 - Pathways to contamination and
 - Inability to verify adequate treatment.
 - Will begin issuing violations for uncorrected deficiencies soon
- 2026: none planned
- 2027: LCRI
 - Adopt September 2027
 - Apply for Primacy
 - Effective date November 1, 2027
- PFAS rule??

Legislative activity

- Water Professionals Week first week of October
 - Recognize and celebrate the often-hidden work to provide safe drinking water!



Emergency preparedness

- Identify risks and vulnerabilities most likely to impact communities
- Emergency response plan – update every 5 years
- Procedures to improve resilience
 - Physical infrastructure and cybersecurity
 - Higher risk contaminant sources in watersheds
 - Access to auxiliary power and alternate water sources
- Maintain good communication with customers
 - Multiple languages, reach vulnerable populations



Statewide initiatives

- Lower Umatilla Groundwater Management Area (LUBGWMA)
 - State is providing bottled or hauled water, or treatment
 - Possibly some PWS waterline extensions
 - Possibly some new PWSs
- Governor's initiatives: Climate change readiness and Resiliency
 - Master planning to 20 years
 - Seismic backbone
 - Resiliency questions on survey - assessment



USACE's deep drawdown operation

- Court injunction for safe passage of endangered fish species
 - Beginning in 2023
 - Middle fork of Santiam River – Green Peter reservoir
 - Middle fork Willamette River – Lookout Point reservoir
- Preparation before drawdown operation:
 - Document lessons learned
 - Complete risk matrix for halt criteria
 - Emergency Response Communication Plan
 - Close agency coordination
- Biological Opinion, Detroit reservoir
 - Phased drawdown starting 2026



Portland filtration plant

- Watershed meets exemption to filtration
- Received variance for crypto treatment 2012
- Revoked 2017
- Compliance schedule to construct filtration 2017-2027
- Extended to September 2029
- \$2.6 Billion



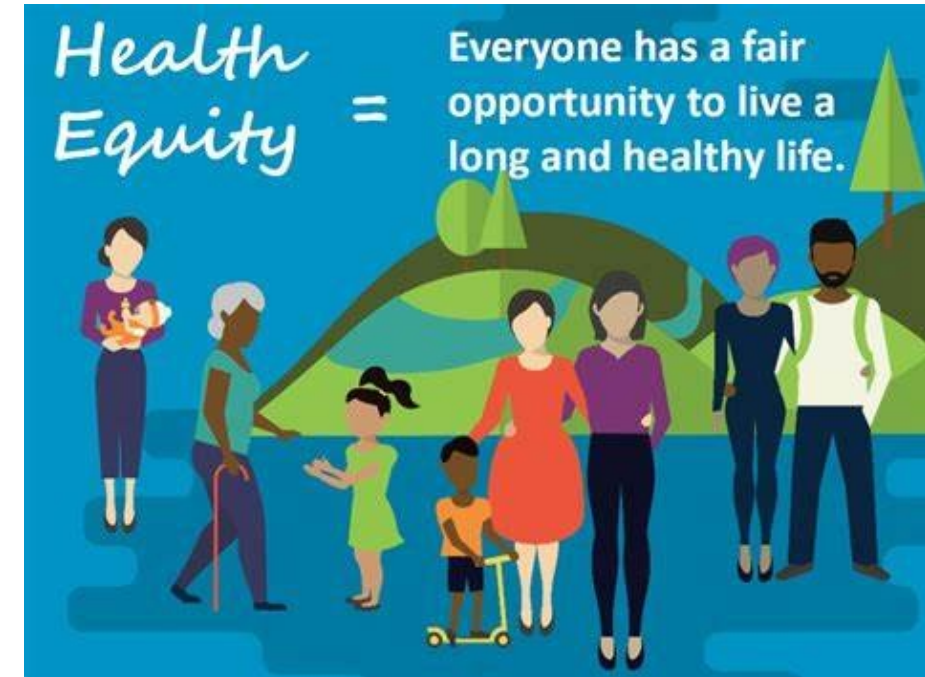
Upstream approach

- Capacity assessment
 - Identify disadvantaged PWSs (Median household income, poverty rate, unemployment rate)
 - Note other factors regarding technical, managerial, and financial capacity
 - Targeted outreach to those who need it most (circuit rider, assistance w funding applications)
- Source water protection
 - Identify potential contaminant sources in protection area
 - Target outreach to implement strategies to reduce risk
 - Incorporate high risks into Emergency response planning



Health Equity

- Drinking Water Services is contributing to OHA goal of eliminating health inequity by 2030:
 - Proactive outreach
 - Technical and financial assistance
 - Encouraging consolidation/regionalization
 - Public notice templates in different languages (in progress)
 - Collaborate with Oral Health program on fluoridation



Questions??

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