

Surface Water Exempt Uses

Surface water uses exempt from the permitting process include (ORS 537.141, 537.142, 537.800, 537.132):

- **Natural springs:** Use of a spring that, under natural conditions, does not form a natural channel and flow off the property where it originates at any time of the year, as determined by the Department.
- **Stock watering:** Drinking water for livestock animals from a permitted reservoir to a tank or trough, and, under certain conditions, use of water piped from a surface source to an off-stream livestock watering tank or trough.
- **Fish protection:** Egg incubation projects under the Salmon and Trout Enhancement Program (STEP) and water used for fish screens, fishways, and bypass structures.
- **Fire control:** Withdrawal of water for emergency firefighting or certain non-emergency firefighting training.
- **Forest management:** Certain activities such as slash burning and mixing pesticides, in compliance with restrictions relating to the source of water that may be used.
- **Certain land management practices:** Where water use is not the primary intended activity.
- **Rainwater:** Collection and use of rainwater from an artificial impervious surface (like a building's roof).
- **Reuse of recycled water or wastewater for land application:** Recycled water or wastewater applied to land for irrigation that has been previously obtained under a permit or certificate and has not been discharged into waters to the state. Relevant permits from DEQ or ODA apply.

