



## ePipeline

### *OHA–Drinking Water Services*

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January 17, 2023

## Drinking Water Source Protection Grants and Loans

Each year OHA-DWS has set-aside money available from EPA that can be directed toward grants and low interest loans to fund public water system projects that help protect existing public drinking water sources. This year Letters of Interest for these grants and loans will be accepted from mid-January through mid-March (watch [News and Hot Topics](#) for availability). Eligible public water systems can apply for grants of up to \$50,000 and loans of up to \$100,000 per water system. Eligible water systems may combine their grant/loan funding for larger “regional” projects. Example projects include mapping and risk assessment of drinking water supply areas, landowner outreach and education, land conservation and restoration, ensuring proper private well abandonment, and developing local drinking water source protection plans and ordinances.

For more information contact Tom Pattee, Groundwater Coordinator, at [Tom.pattee@dhsaha.state.or.us](mailto:Tom.pattee@dhsaha.state.or.us) or 541-684-2440.

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## Wildfire VOC Report Available

The unprecedented 2020 Labor Day wildfires impacted several public water systems. As part of the recovery effort to ensure safe drinking water after the fires, VOC sampling was required for water systems that lost system pressure and had wildfire damage. OHA required that all burned service connections be tested for VOCs prior to restarting service. A report and StoryMap summarizing the VOC analysis is now available on the DWS [Emergency Preparedness and Planning website](#).

# Optimizing Corrosion Control and Understanding LCR Requirements

Is corrosive water keeping you awake at night? Corrosion chemistry is complicated, and the impacts of corrosive water can mean higher lead and copper levels and corroded distribution system components. Understanding the Lead and Copper Rule requirements and installing/maintaining optimized corrosion control treatment will help you achieve and maintain compliance, extend the life of your distribution system, and improve public health protection. Read the [complete article](#) to learn about requirements under the Lead and Copper Rule and ways to select and optimize corrosion treatment.

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## Operator Certification Updates

Is your water system's certified operator list in [Data Online](#) up to date? Email changes and updates to [dws.opcert@odhsoha.oregon.gov](mailto:dws.opcert@odhsoha.oregon.gov). To make Direct Responsible Charge (DRC) changes and updates, please complete a [DRC Designated Operator form](#).

Renewals for operators with last names beginning with A-K are almost complete. If you submitted your renewal form but haven't received your wallet card, send an email to [dws.opcert@odhsoha.oregon.gov](mailto:dws.opcert@odhsoha.oregon.gov) or call 971-673-0321 and opcert staff will look into it.

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## 2022 Cross Connection ASR

The 2022 Cross Connection Annual Summary Report (ASR) is due by March 31, 2023. The report is required for all community water systems. Reminder postcards were mailed out during the first week of January. Go to [www.healthoregon.org/asr](http://www.healthoregon.org/asr) for detailed information and to fill out the 2022 Cross Connection ASR online or download it as a PDF.

# Funding News for Drinking Water Infrastructure

**Bipartisan Infrastructure Law** - On November 15, 2021, the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (H.R. 3684), commonly referred to as the [Bipartisan Infrastructure Law \(BIL\)](#) was signed into law. BIL is a federally funded infrastructure package covering multiple critical infrastructure sectors throughout the U.S., including drinking water. The law provides the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) with grant funds that can be appropriated to states for investments in drinking water infrastructure over the next 5 years (2022 – 2026).

BIL funding will be available to communities through the state's existing [Drinking Water State Revolving Fund \(DWSRF\)](#), implemented jointly by Business Oregon and OHA Drinking Water Services. BIL authorizes increases to Oregon's existing base DWSRF program and includes appropriations for Supplemental DWSRF funding for infrastructure improvements, funding for identifying and replacing lead service lines and gooseneck connectors, and funding to address emerging contaminants (e.g., PFAS or other unregulated contaminants).

A key priority of BIL is to ensure that disadvantaged communities benefit equitably from this historic investment in water infrastructure. Therefore, federal funding requirements stipulate that a significant portion of funds be provided in the form of loan subsidy to disadvantaged communities.

For details and how to apply, visit [Bipartisan Infrastructure Law \(BIL\)](#).

**Drinking Water State Revolving Fund** - Oregon's [DWSRF](#) provides low-cost loans to community and nonprofit non-community public water systems for planning, design, and construction of drinking water infrastructure improvements. In addition to low-cost financing and favorable repayment terms, all projects receive part of the loan as principal forgiveness.

**Notice of Change:** Infrastructure Project Letters of Interest (LOI) and Sustainable Infrastructure Planning Projects (SIPP) application submission deadlines will now operate on a semi-annual basis. The NEW deadlines for review are **March 15** and **September 15**. For details and how to apply, visit Business Oregon's [Safe Drinking Water Revolving Loan Fund LOI and SIPP application](#) webpage.

# 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 October 11, 2022, through January 9, 2023. (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!

Go [here](#) to find out how to qualify as an Outstanding Performer.

<b>Water System Name</b>	<b>County Served</b>
ALSEA COUNTY SERVICE DISTRICT	Benton
AVION WC - BRASADA RANCH	Crook
CANBY UTILITY	Clackamas
CASCADE VIEW ESTATES	Benton
CITY OF MILLERSBURG	Linn
COUNTRY SQUIRE ESTATES	Umatilla
FLORENCE, CITY OF	Lane
HECETA WATER PEOPLES UTILITY DISTRICT	Lane
JEFFERSON, CITY OF	Marion
LAMONTAI IMPROVEMENT WTR DIST	Lane
LOWELL, CITY OF	Lane
NESKOWIN REG WATER DIST	Tillamook
PALO MOBILE HOME PARK	Marion
SOUTH HILLS WATER SYSTEM	Washington
SUTHERLIN, CITY OF	Douglas
WESTON, CITY OF	Umatilla

# Training Opportunities

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

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

## **Contact Drinking Water Services**

**[info.drinkingwater@odhsoha.oregon.gov](mailto:info.drinkingwater@odhsoha.oregon.gov) or 971-673-0405**

**See the [Drinking Water web page](#) for updated staff phone numbers and email addresses**

You can view or update your subscriptions, password or email address at any time on your [User Profile Page](#). 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 [Oregon Health Authority](#) and the [Oregon Department of Human Services](#).

If you have any questions about this service, [please visit the govDelivery user support website](#).