



ROCKWOOD WATER LINES

THE ROCKWOOD WATER PEOPLE'S UTILITY DISTRICT 2022 **NEWSLETTER** ISSUE 2

We Need Your Help

We need to know the service material of your waterlines and if they have been replaced or not. The EPA's final Lead and Copper Rule revisions lay out new expectations for utilities across the nation. **You do not need to relay your service material if the home was built in 1986 or newer.** One of the changes to the rule is to identify and report the number of residential homes and businesses with lead service lines. Unfortunately, we have little information on the service line materials used at individual homes or if those materials were replaced. Typical service line materials include lead, copper, galvanized steel, and plastic. Please call Jay Breen at 503.665.4179 if you would like to give us an update on the waterlines at your home or business. Thank you!

New Billing System



You may have noticed that as of April 2022 our billing system has been updated. We are now utilizing Tyler Technologies. Tyler Technologies tracks and manages finances, billing and work management in a more modern way than our previous system allowed.

By changing billing systems, it meant new account numbers for customers. These are located on your bill. We have also changed our payment website to OpenEdge. You will need your new account number and last payment amount to access this website. You will have an option to make a quick payment or you can create an account which will allow you to view your bills, look at your consumption, and set up credit card auto pays. If you need your new account number, last payment or have any questions about billing please don't hesitate to reach out to us at 503.665.4179.

Payment Assistance



Rockwood Water People's Utility District wants to ensure everyone has access to the water they need to stay healthy and take care of themselves and their families; however, it is important for customers to know they are still responsible for their water bills.



We understand our customers may be working through an affordability crisis during this time, so Rockwood Water is offering flexible payment arrangements and assistance to pay your water bill. Please be proactive! If you're facing a financial hardship during this time, please call us at 503.665.4179 or email us at customerservice@rwpud.org to work out a plan **BEFORE** your bill is due or late fees accrue.

2021 Water Quality Report

Available July 1



The Water Quality Report, also called the Consumer Confidence Report, is published annually by July 1. It will be posted on the District's website, and hard copies in English or Spanish will be available upon request. The webpage version will be translatable into several languages by clicking on the "translate" button. You will receive a postcard in the mail, sometime in June, with details about how you can obtain a copy of the report.

Groundwater Development Update

WIFIA Loan Update:



The District is excited to announce that on March 21, 2022, the District closed on a **Federal Water Infrastructure Financing and Innovation Act (WIFIA) Loan** for the amount of \$30.2 Million Dollars. This low interest funding will be used to finance the Groundwater Development Program conducted in partnership with the City of Gresham, called the Cascade Groundwater Alliance.

WIFIA projects that the Project will create 422 total jobs, of which 103 will be direct jobs. Through the Project, the District and Gresham will develop an independent groundwater system which will mitigate against seasonal changes in water quality caused by alternating sources, and allow the District to consistently provide high-quality, potable water to our customers. In addition, the Project offers increased resiliency against earthquakes through the use of seismic alerts, restrained transmission mains, and seismically hardened construction techniques for all treatment and storage facilities.

The Project will remove the District's dependence on a wholesale purchase contract with the City of Portland and allow local control over the water supply decisions which will result in long-term cost benefits for residents, resulting in customer rates that are over 50% lower in the next 20 years than if the District had maintained the wholesale purchase supply. In addition to the improved affordability for residential users, the development of an independent groundwater system offers long term self-sufficiency, economic benefits for the entire service area and increased redundancy to the greater Portland area's regional water supply during times of need. You can learn more about the WIFIA loan program and see a future press release for this loan at <https://www.epa.gov/wifia>

Current Groundwater Development Projects



Cascade Reservoir #2, taken on April 7, 2022

Cascade Well 8, 311 NE 141st,

141st Pump Station Drilling is complete and aquifer testing determined additional aquifer development is required. This has begun and is scheduled to be completed this July.

Package 1 - NE 202nd Avenue, 19601 NE Halsey Street, and Surrounding Area

The contractor has poured more than half of the 21 concrete wall sections for Cascade Reservoir 2 (CR2). Tie-ins for the Capital Improvement Project (CIP) steel main replacement ST4 are complete

and the contractor is now installing the Cascade Well 7 (CW7) 18" transmission main (TM) and a portion of a 36" groundwater TM for the upcoming Package 2b.

Upcoming Projects:

Package 2a: Design for a TM to move water to and from the 141st Pump Station (PS) will begin soon.

Package 2b: Design has begun for a 36" TM from the District office location to approximately 202nd & Division, to supply finished groundwater to the District's Bella Vista reservoir and Gresham's Ground Butte reservoir. City of Gresham managed project.

Package 3: 311 NE 141st Avenue, 141st PS, design for the wellhouse (CW8), treatment facility and reservoir upgrades will begin soon.

Package 4: District office, design for a 25-30 MG treatment facility and pump station upgrades will begin soon.

Package 5: Drilling for a production well (CW6) will begin soon and be completed by the end of 2022. Design for a wellhouse and treatment facility will begin in 2023. City of Gresham managed project

Package 6: Kirk Park, the wellhouse (CW9) and TM engineering design has begun and will be completed by the end of 2022. City of Gresham managed project.