



October 2018

## Clackamas River Water Providers Host Spill Response Exercise

The Clackamas River Water Providers (CRWP), a coalition of municipal drinking water providers that get their drinking water from the Clackamas River, has been working with local first responders and Water Environment Services over the past few years to better respond to potential hazardous spills on the Clackamas River. Clackamas River Water (CRW) is a proud member of the Clackamas River Water Providers. If a hazardous spill does occur in the Clackamas River, CRW wants to be ready to protect our community's drinking water supply.

CRW was joined by members of the the CRWP, NRC, a spill response contactor, Clackamas Fire District #1, Water Environment Services, the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) and other partners to put the spill response plan to the test. Boats and booms were deployed in the river to respond to a mock hazardous material spill that required the protection of CRW's drinking water intakes.



*Exercise partners practice setting up boom to protect CRW's intakes from potential spills.*

Testing and practicing the response strategies we have developed to see how well they work while identifying areas where we might need to make changes is critical to protecting our drinking water infrastructure. It also gives us an opportunity to build stronger relationships with our local, state, and federal first responders to protect our drinking water.

For more information, contact Kim Swan at [kims@clackamasproviders.org](mailto:kims@clackamasproviders.org).

## Tips to Winterize Your Plumbing



You may have noticed it. The days have gotten shorter. The nights are longer. Yes. Winter is coming and that means that periods of freezing weather are on the way. The pipes in your home are at risk of damage from freezing conditions. By taking preventive measures before cold weather arrives, you can prevent freezing pipes and the costly damage that goes with them.

Here's a little reminder on the basics for preventing freezing pipes:

### **Pipe insulation**

Pipe insulation provides your first line of defense against cold temperatures and frozen pipes.

Insulate the pipes in all unheated areas, such as basements and crawl spaces. A hardware or plumbing supply store should have the insulation and tools you need. Wrap the pipes in insulation tubes made of polyethylene or fiberglass.

### **Keep a dripping faucet**

On nights when the temperature is expected to drop below freezing, turn on faucets along the exterior walls to create a small, steady drip. This eliminates pressure that can build between the faucet and an ice blockage, so even if a pipe freezes, it may not burst.

### **Open cabinets**

You can stop frozen pipes by introducing more heat. Open all sink-based cabinet doors along exterior walls to allow more heat to reach the pipes.

# We Our River!

The Down the River Clean Up is the largest and longest-running on-water cleanup event of its kind in Oregon, co-hosted by the Clackamas River Basin Council and We Love Clean Rivers. Hundreds of volunteers rally together in rafts, kayaks, and SCUBA gear, to scour the streambed and banks for trash, collecting an average of 1-3 tons each year. Since 2003, over 42 total tons of garbage, the approximate weight of one gray whale, has been removed from the Clackamas River. The event includes a trash sweep of a 20+ mile stretch of the Clackamas River from Estacada to the confluence with the Willamette River in Oregon City.

**On September 9th, over 20% of our staff got dirty for a great cause by joining 330 volunteers to remove 2.15 tons of trash from the Clackamas River, 33% of which was recycled!**



*CRW General Manager, Todd Heidgerken, sorts recyclable material from trash recovered from the Clackamas River at Riverside Park during the 16th Annual Down the River Clean Up.*

## Important Message Regarding Water Service Line Insurance

Some customers in the area were recently contacted by a private insurance company offering water service line insurance. CRW is not affiliated with this company and does not endorse or have any partnership with any organizations offering this service.

While CRW is responsible for maintenance of the water service line between the street and water meter, the property owner is responsible for maintenance of the service water supply line from the water meter to the home and all water pipes and fixtures inside the home. Customers are encouraged to consult their current homeowner's policy to determine if the water supply line is covered. Questions regarding the information should be directed to the company listed in the material.



*Commissioner Garrison was sworn in on August 30, 2018.*

## Welcome, Commissioner Garrison!

Commissioner Lester (Rusty) Garrison was sworn in as a Clackamas River Water Commissioner during the August 30, 2018 Special Board Meeting. Commissioner Garrison fills former Commissioner Bill Blanas' remaining term ending June 30, 2019.

Commissioner Garrison is a retired analytical chemist who has lived in the CRW district for 22 years. Commissioner Garrison is currently the Property Elder for Milwaukie Presbyterian Church where he is responsible for building and grounds for the church. Commissioner Garrison also serves as a liaison between Milwaukie Presbyterian and three Boy Scout Troops and in previous years was a CASA Advocate.

**CRW offices will be closed Monday, November 12 in observance of Veteran's Day.**

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Monday - Thursday 7:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.  
Friday 7:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.



Clackamas River Water