



# Clackamas River Water

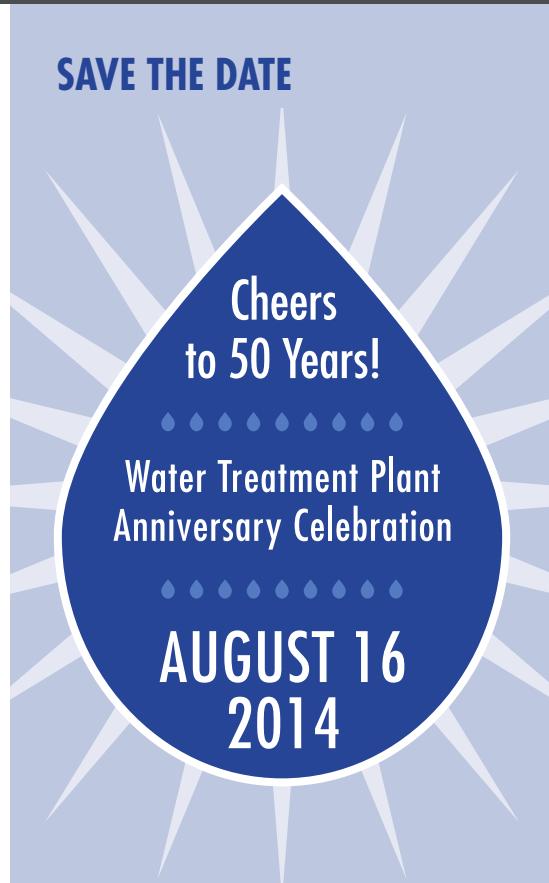
Clackamas River Water (CRW) is committed to providing our customers with high quality, safe drinking water at an affordable rate. From forming new partnerships to making infrastructure improvements, increasing our operational efficiency saves you money. Here are a number of recent initiatives that help keep your water costs low when compared to other water providers in the region:

- Emergency generator and electrical upgrades at our water treatment plant. Portland General Electric is covering the emergency generator's maintenance costs through its Dispatchable Standby Generation program, resulting in cost savings for CRW.
- In November, under an ORS 190 agreement, CRW and Sunrise Water Authority (SWA) came together to form the Clackamas Regional Water Supply Commission. This new partnership allows CRW and SWA to share resources and increase efficiencies. One key benefit is the ability for each agency to monitor the other's water distribution systems around the clock. Cross monitoring creates a back up system that eliminates overtime labor, effort duplication and the need for contracting outside assistance.
- The waterline across the county's new Carver Bridge will provide an alternate route for service to CRW's south service area customers and, in turn, the ability to use CRW water rather than purchasing water from other providers.
- Fiber optic lines were recently installed between CRW's administration offices and water treatment plant, and between CRW and SWA to increase communications speed and efficiency. Made possible by a grant through Clackamas County that equaled \$30,000 to \$40,000 in cost savings for CRW, the fiber optic lines also strengthen our resource-sharing efforts with SWA.
- CRW's OSHA compliant safety programs create a safer work environment for our employees and increase their awareness of potentially unsafe or hazardous conditions. Enhanced safety measures are in place to reduce workplace injuries, illnesses and associated costs.



*Installation of the emergency generator and electrical upgrades at CRW's water treatment plant.*

## SAVE THE DATE



AUGUST 16  
2014

The CRW water treatment plant is celebrating its 50th anniversary on August 16. With a history of exceptional operation and high quality water production, the plant has grown, through two expansions, from a 10 million to 30 million gallon per day facility and provides water to 80,000 people annually. Join us at the water treatment plant as we celebrate 50 years with demonstrations and plant tours.

**Visit [crwater.com](http://crwater.com)  
or call 503.722.9220  
for more information.**

## WATER QUALITY SPOTLIGHT

Providing a safe and reliable water supply is our top priority. Following are two initiatives that are part of our water quality team's comprehensive monitoring program that ensures customer safety.

In collaboration with the Clackamas River Water Providers and Clackamas Community College (CCC), CRW was awarded a grant from DEQ to evaluate the impact of potentially failing septic systems in the watershed. Using a technique known as "microbial source tracking," our water quality team and CCC interns are using DNA analysis to track potential sources of E. coli and fecal contamination.

CRW's water quality team is also undergoing a multi-year project to develop a large database of drinking water quality data that tracks changes in the distribution systems and watershed over time. The database will be used to develop an online tool for customers to view CRW's current and past watershed and drinking water data.



Clackamas Community College intern Rachel Sansom conducts microbial and nutrient sampling for microbial source tracking in Deep Creek.

## MAINTAINING FINANCIAL AND OPERATIONAL HEALTH

CRW financial statements are audited every year by outside auditors, and we routinely receive a "clean opinion" from these impartial auditors. This means we are complying with accepted accounting standards and have proper internal controls on our budget.

In recognition of our financial controls, transparency and accountability, the Government Finance Officers Association, an industry trade group, awarded CRW the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for the last two fiscal years and the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for the last fiscal year.

In addition, the Clackamas County District Attorney's office recently closed a legal case that was the result of past, unproven allegations by one former and one current CRW commissioner. The District Attorney also advised CRW that past cases brought against the agency were without merit. The CRW Board is hopeful this will put an end to any further litigation and allow us to move forward serving our ratepayers efficiently and effectively.

## EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE

With a high risk of landslides in Clackamas County, CRW pays close attention to emergency preparedness, including staff training, exercise drills and housing the region's emergency response equipment. In addition to collaborating with our other regional water providers to ensure an alternative water source in the event of a disaster, CRW recently received over \$200,000 in federally funded emergency preparedness equipment that will improve our ability to respond to and recover from major events. The equipment includes a portable water treatment plant, emergency lighting systems for night work and an overland pipe system that gives us the ability to set up a small, aboveground water system.



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