

TVWD's Portland Water Supply



Pictured: Bull Run Watershed

Water from Bull Run reservoirs, located east of Portland (outside of Sandy), is purchased from the Portland Water Bureau. Rainwater runoff makes up this supply, which has a storage capacity of 19-21 billion gallons. Bull Run water is brought from the watershed to a 50-million gallon storage reservoir on Powell Butte, located on the east side of Portland.

Because of the watershed protection measures for this source, it is one of only a handful of systems that are unfiltered. Currently, chlorine and ammonia are added to the water to disinfect it to meet federal drinking water standards. It is also adjusted for pH to make the water less corrosive to pipes. However, due to the implementation of more stringent federal water quality requirements, treatment of the water supply will need to be in place by 2011.

The Portland Water Bureau also uses the Columbia South Shore Well field, which is used to augment the Bull Run supply. It is capable of producing close to 100 million gallons per day (MGD) and is the second largest water source in the State of Oregon, with about half the capacity of Portland's Bull Run source.

TVWD's Portland Water Supply At A Glance

GENERAL

- o Owned by the Portland Water Bureau
- o Rainwater is the primary source of water for the Bull Run portion
- o Currently is one of a few systems that is unfiltered and only a disinfection of chlorine and ammonia are added to water to make it drinkable

WATER TRANSMISSION

- o Water from Portland is transmitted through a conduit from the source by gravity to the District
- o Water is provided to the District through the Washington County Supply Line. TVWD owns 42.3 MGD capacity.

BULL RUN

LOCATION

- o East of Portland, outside of Sandy
- o The Bull Run Watershed covers 102 square miles

HISTORY

- o First used in Portland in 1895
- o First used by TVWD in 1938 (first used by the Metzger portion of our district 1924)

STORAGE

- o Capacity of 19-21 billion gallons
- o Maximum capacity during the spring

COLUMBIA SOUTH SHORE WELLFIELD

LOCATION

- o Water is drawn from 25 wells in four aquifers
- o Covers 5 square miles, with land in three cities

HISTORY

- o First used in Portland in 1985
- o Used for emergency situations and to augment Bull Run supply during the summer season

STORAGE

- o Can supply almost 100 million gallons/day
- o Approximately half the capacity of the Bull Run System (9-11 billion gallons)