WATERWORDS
A newsletter from the Tualatin Valley Water District and Clean Water Services

BUDGET AND RATES

TVWD is focused on providing drinking water, and our recently adopted budget reflects TVWD’s strategic investments in providing water to the region. The top three budget priorities include: purchasing water; constructing a reliable and resilient water supply in partnership with neighboring cities; and installing, repairing and replacing infrastructure. You can learn more about the budget at tvwd.org/budget.

The next step in TVWD’s financial management process is rate setting. Visit tvwd.org/rates for opportunities to learn more about TVWD’s rate process.

ONE WATER, TWO UTILITIES QUIZ

1. How many millions of gallons of water does TVWD provide on average per day?
   a. 21.4
   b. 15.6
   c. 28.2
   d. 31.8

2. CWS currently serves over 620,000 customers in Washington County. How many more people are expected to be in the county by 2030?
   a. 14,000
   b. 34,000
   c. 54,000
   d. 74,000

3. What is the name of the partnership to bring an additional water source to Washington County in 2026?
   a. Washington County Drinking Water Coalition
   b. Westside Water Alliance
   c. Willamette Water Supply Program
   d. Partnership for a Reliable Water Supply

4. What is the commonly used nickname for the buildup of fats, oils, grease and flushed wipes that can clog and damage residential and public sewer pipes?
   a. Gunkberg
   b. Fatberg
   c. Wipeberg
   d. FogClog

5. What causes the largest increase in water use during the summer?
   a. More showers
   b. Landscape irrigation
   c. More people drinking water
   d. Manufacturing cooling cost

6. After water is treated at CWS’ four treatment facilities to some of the highest standards in the nation, it goes to:
   a. The Tualatin River
   b. The Willamette River
   c. Hagg Lake
   d. The Pacific Ocean

7. How can you use water more efficiently in the summer?
   a. Use the Regional Water Providers Consortium weekly watering number to make simple weekly adjustments to your watering schedule based on actual weather conditions in your area.
   b. Purchase WaterSense labeled irrigation controllers and high efficiency sprinkler nozzles and get a rebate from TVWD.
   c. Water your landscape in the morning or evening to reduce evaporation.
   d. All of the above.

8. Which of the following is not true about native plants?
   a. They require little to no pesticides or fertilizers.
   b. They increase erosion.
   c. They require minimal watering.
   d. They attract pollinators and other beneficial species.

Check your answers on the next page.
A WORD TO THE WATER WISE

The Tualatin River is a vital source of water for Washington County communities, crops and companies. The only source of water in our watershed is rainfall, so to keep the river flowing and healthy in dry months, CWS releases cool water from Hagg Lake and Barney Reservoir. Scientists closely monitor the river to determine when more water is needed to sustain water quality, fish and wildlife. A dry spring and forecasted warm weather prompted us to begin those releases May 3 — following a decadelong trend of releasing water earlier than normal.

We all have a part to play in conserving our One Water. If you find yourself using the hose and sprinkler a lot in the summer, follow these tips to help keep your water use and bill in check:

- Sign up for the Weekly Watering Number at regionalh2o.org/wwn to receive emails that provide a simple adjustment for your lawn and garden watering schedule each week based on real weather data in your area.
- Aerate your lawn. Aeration helps to get water and nutrients down into the root zone with less water.
- Water early in the morning or late evening, when temperatures are cooler and evaporation is minimized.
- Visit twwd.org/rebates for information on rebates for purchasing and installing water-efficient irrigation products like weather-based irrigation controllers and high-efficiency sprinkler nozzles.
- Take your car to a car wash that recycles used water.
- Add a shut-off nozzle to your garden hose and save 5-7 gallons of water each minute.
- Adjust sprinklers so you don’t water the driveway or sidewalks. Fix any leaks or broken sprinkler heads right away.
- Plant native, drought-tolerant vegetation in your yard. They’ve adapted to the area and need less water and maintenance.
- Get your kids a small pool to play in instead of a sprinkler or slip-and-slide. You can cover the pool for reuse the next day.

Get more tips for saving water and money at regionalh2o.org.

Quiz Answers: 1:a; 2:d; 3:c; 4:b; 5:b; 6:a; 7:d; 8:b

DRINKING WATER PROVIDER | WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT UTILITY

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Since 1978

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ONE TABLESPOON, UP TO SIX MONTHS

Clean Water Grow® helps reduce fertilizer leaching and protects local waterways by releasing nutrients only when plants need them. Find your favorite blend at one of over 40 area retailers. Find your blend and a local retailer at cleanwatergrow.com.

‘DO NOT FLUSH’: WIPES LABELING VICTORY!

Those packages of disposable wipes won’t be able to lie to us any longer, because in early June the Oregon governor signed a bill into law that requires “Do Not Flush” to be clearly printed on them.

This is a relief for our staff — who have to deal with the nasty, time-consuming clogs — and for those of you whose personal and neighborhood pipes have been damaged by flushed wipes, which don’t dissolve the way toilet paper does.

Wipes — as well as facial tissues, mop refills and paper towels — belong in the trash, not the toilet. Learn more about how to properly dispose of everything from wipes to kitchen grease at cleanwaterservices.org/dispose.