

August 2022 Newsletter

www.rivergrovewater.com Ph: 503-635-6041



Rate Increases

The Budget Committee and Board of Commissioners approved a rate increase of 3.75% for fiscal year 2022/2023. This increase is needed due to rising operating costs and improvements to our aging infrastructure. The Rivergrove Water District is funded exclusively by these charges; we do not receive property taxes, bonds, or levies. Visit our website for a complete list of charges for outside users & fire protection service.

Water Service Charges Class *1 & **2

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Meter Size	Service Charge (Bi-monthly)	Usage Charge (Per ccf = one hundred cubic feet of water or 748 gallons)
5/8" or 3/4"	\$ 44.11	\$ 3.55
1"	\$ 94.98	\$ 3.55
1 ½"	\$ 179.64	\$ 3.55
2"	\$ 281.21	\$ 3.55
3"	\$ 552.08	\$ 3.55
4"	\$ 746.62	\$ 3.55
6"	\$1,703.50	\$ 3.55
8"	\$2,719.40	\$ 3.55

^{*}Class 1: Single-residential homes, duplexes, & triplexes **Class 2: All other services not included in Class 1

Capital Improvement Projects

We are excited to announce two capital improvement projects taking place in the upcoming weeks:

- Deemar Way will have 336 LF of 4" asbestos cement pipe replaced with 8" ductile iron pipe.
- Tamara Ave will have 386 LF of 6" asbestos cement pipe replaced with 8" ductile iron pipe.

These projects were approved as part of the District's 2014 Water System Master Plan and are designed to improve water main distribution piping and fire flow. An Invitation to Bid was published in April 2022 and Icon Construction submitted the winning proposal at a cost of \$330K.

As early as the 1930s and into the 1980s, the use of asbestos cement (AC) pipe in drinking water distribution systems was very popular due to its light weight and resistance to corrosion. Unfortunately, scientific studies discovered that people who consume water with high amounts of asbestos over extended periods may face increased health issues. Because of this, the EPA developed regulations to monitor the level of asbestos in drinking water.

The District's distribution system is comprised of approximately 65% of AC pipe. Future replacement projects have been identified and testing is conducted to ensure the safety of our water.

Backflow Testing – An Annual Requirement

To ensure clean, safe, potable water, the District maintains a Cross Connection Program required by the Oregon Health Authority (OAR 333-061-0070). Customers with inground irrigation, sprinkler systems, and/or certain water features such as fountains and pools are required by law to have their backflow tested annually by a state certified tester. Annual reports are due **September 30, 2022**.

Contact your tester or find a list of certified testers on our website under the section *Keeping up with the District* and schedule your annual test. The average price will range between \$35-50. When hiring a tester, ask these three important questions:

- 1 How much do you charge for the test?
- 2 If my backflow fails, do you make the repair or do I hire another contractor?
- 3 Do you send my test report to the District or is it my responsibility?

Water Conservation....Make every drop count

We have all read about parched water systems across the nation. Several nearby states are facing extreme drought emergencies and severe water restrictions. Water conservation includes all the policies, strategies, and activities to sustainably manage the natural resource of *fresh water*. Do your part to ensure this precious resource is available to meet future demand and avoid water scarcity. Conserving water is everyone's responsibility. Visit our website to learn easy ways to conserve water.