



# WET GAZETTE

2020 SPRING EDITION

Valley Water District  
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## OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS

Board of Commissioner meetings are held at 7:00 pm on the first and third Tuesdays of the month, at the District Office. Dates are subject to change from the regular pattern. Please confirm by calling the office or checking the website for change announcements. Ratepayers are encouraged to attend open and public board meetings.

### Board of Commissioners:

**Robert Fulton**  
**Christine Johnson**  
**Ted Hardiman**



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## 2019 Water Quality Reports

Valley Water District produces an annual Water Quality Report that provides an overview of your water sources and quality. To save money and resources, the report will no longer be mailed automatically to each customer. You may access the report for each system directly, including all monitoring results, at:



- Alderwood -** <http://www.valleywaterdistrict.com/forms/000147.pdf>
- Buttes -** <http://www.valleywaterdistrict.com/forms/000148.pdf>
- Chinook -** <http://www.valleywaterdistrict.com/forms/000149.pdf>
- Country/El Dorado -** <http://www.valleywaterdistrict.com/forms/000150.pdf>
- Puyallup Highlands -** <http://www.valleywaterdistrict.com/forms/000151.pdf>
- Sierra -** <http://www.valleywaterdistrict.com/forms/000152.pdf>
- Valley -** <http://www.valleywaterdistrict.com/forms/000153.pdf>
- View Royal -** <http://www.valleywaterdistrict.com/forms/000154.pdf>
- Winchester -** <http://www.valleywaterdistrict.com/forms/000155.pdf>

If you are unable to access the report online or would like to receive a copy by mail, please call the District office at 253-841-9698 or e-mail service@valleywaterdistrict.com to request one.



## Valley Water District's Mission Statement:

*"To provide safe and reliable water to all of the District's customers."*

Valley Water District - a local government that works without taxes!

## Odd/Even Summer Watering Schedule

Even house numbers

Odd house numbers

JUNE 2020						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

JULY 2020						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

AUGUST 2020						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Aug 30	Aug 31					1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29

During the summer months, when water consumption increases, the water supply is often at its lowest. Long periods of high demand, such as what occurs during a summer drought, can endanger the supply of water. Well performance and water system reliability also decline when a water source is stressed by prolonged and excessive usage.

The District publishes an **Odd/Even Summer Watering Schedule** every year and requests that *all customers* voluntarily adhere to this proven effective conservation tool.

**An odd/even schedule** simply means if your house address ends in an odd number, you use water outdoors on odd calendar dates, and if your house number is even, you plan your outdoor watering for even numbered dates.

**A mandatory odd/even watering schedule** would be the first method put into effect if adequate water supply becomes threatened by high demand.

**Putting water conservation strategies** to work all year long is necessary prevention to protect your water system from reaching the point of water shortage.

### Tips to Improve Outdoor Water Efficiency for Irrigation Systems

- ◆ Install low-water-use plants.
- ◆ Adjust your watering schedule at least seasonally (4 times a year). Make every drop count. Water early or late in the day to reduce evaporation.
- ◆ Once a month, turn on each irrigation station or zone and look for leaks and water waste. Adjust sprinkler heads so they do not spray sidewalks, driveways, walls or buildings.
- ◆ Water deeply, but less frequently. An hour after watering, check the soil again to see if you've penetrated as deep as the roots reach. Adjust your watering time to moisten the whole root zone, but then wait until the upper few inches of soil are dry before watering again – that encourages deeper roots.
- ◆ Look for wet spots, small holes or depressions in the ground, as this may indicate an underground irrigation leak.
- ◆ Check for water in the valve box, as this may indicate a leaky valve in need of repair.
- ◆ Look for signs of overwatering such as leaves turning lighter shades of green or yellow, young shoots wilting or algae or fungi growth. Then adjust your watering time.

See more tips on the website: [www.smarthomewatertguide.org](http://www.smarthomewatertguide.org)

# 2019

## Annual Water Use Efficiency Performance Report

In 2003, the Washington State Legislature passed the Municipal Water Law (House Bill 1338), to address the increasing demand on our state's water resources. The law established that all municipal water suppliers must use water more efficiently in exchange for water right certainty and flexibility to help meet future needs. The Legislature directed the Department of Health to adopt an enforceable Water Use Efficiency program which became effective on January 22, 2007.

The WUE program requires water systems to manage water loss, and pay attention to their usage patterns by reporting annually to the State Health Department, system customers, and the public.

The District has several programs in effect to promote conservation.

- ◆ The District's water commodity rate is tiered so that the more water that is used the greater the cost.
- ◆ The voluntary *Odd/Even Outdoor Watering Schedule* is promoted in the summer months. Compliance reduces the strain on water system supply.
- ◆ *FREE* water conservation devices and water-saving documents are available at the District office.
- ◆ All of the District's water service connections are metered.

The summary results for the 2019 reporting period for each of the District's water systems are presented in the table below. The District adopted new WUE Goals in 2019 to reduce DSL to less than ten percent in all systems over the next twenty years and to reduce residential consumption by two percent over the next six years. The District's progress on the adopted goals is reported to the Department of Health annually. If you have any questions about the Water Use Efficiency law, or would like additional information on each system's progress towards the goals, please contact Sean Vance, District Manager at 253-841-9698 or email [sean@valleywaterdistrict.com](mailto:sean@valleywaterdistrict.com).

System Name	12-month WUE Reporting Period	Total Water Produced and Purchased (TP) – Annual Volume	Authorized Consumption (AC) – Annual Volume	Distribution System Leakage – Annual Volume <b>TP - AC</b>	Distribution System Leakage – Percent <b>DSL = [(TP - AC) / TP] x 100 %</b>
Alderwood	1/7/19 - 1/7/20	21,586,280 gallons	17,463,556 gallons	4,122,724 gallons	19.10 %
Buttes	1/3/19 - 1/8/20	34,454,408 gallons	33,188,103 gallons	1,266,305 gallons	3.68%
Chinook	2/6/19 - 2/5/20	11,588,200 gallons	9,596,892 gallons	1,991,308 gallons	17.18 %
Country/Eldorado	2/19/19-2/6/20	29,962,000 gallons	27,142,132 gallons	2,819,868 gallons	9.41 %
Puyallup Highlands	1/3/19 - 1/8/20	19,559,585 gallons	18,895,228 gallons	664,357 gallons	3.40 %
Sierra	2/5/19—2/3/20	10,154,908 gallons	9,756,164 gallons	398,744 gallons	3.93%
Valley	1/3/19—1/7/20	68,196,222 gallons	59,017,536 gallons	9,178,686 gallons	13.46 %
View Royal	2/7/19—2/4/20	41,568,444 gallons	36,239,676 gallons	5,328,768 gallons	12.82 %
Winchester	2/5/19—2/4/20	2,061,419 gallons	2,126,564 gallons	-65,145 gallons*	-3.16 %

\*The Winchester system experienced a failure in the source water metering process resulting in an inaccurate "Total Water Produced" quantity, which in turn incorrectly showed negative distribution leakage.



## How much water is wasted when there is a leak?

Hole size:	Gallons/ day	Gallons/ month	Cubic Ft/mo
1/4"	15,226	456,800	61,070
1/8"	3,806	114,200	15,267
1/16"	943	28,300	3,783
1/32"	264	7,920	1,058
Dripping faucet	15	450	60

### Helpful links on usgs.gov water website:

Use this Drip Calculator link to see how much water is wasted from a dripping faucet.

<https://water.usgs.gov/edu/activity-drip.html>

Per-capita Water Use Calculator:

<https://water.usgs.gov/edu/activity-percapita.html>

See how much water you use at home based on this Calculator.



Visit [www.savingwater.org](http://www.savingwater.org) for tips for using water wisely and videos on fixing leaks.

## How can I save on my water bill?

Let's all do our part to fix leaks, save water and money.

- Leaks waste thousands of gallons of water and cost hundreds of dollars per year.
- Fixing leaks is an easy way to save money on water bills.

### Fix That Leak!

Fixing a toilet leak is a great way to reduce household water use and boost water conservation. If your toilet has a leak, you could be wasting about 200 gallons of water every day.

That would be like flushing your toilet more than 50 times for no reason!

### Try this to check for a leaky toilet:

- Place several drops of food coloring in the toilet tank.
- Wait a half hour or more (without flushing).
- Check to see if the water in the toilet bowl has any of the food coloring in it.
- If it does, you may need to replace the flapper gasket, which can be purchased at your local hardware store.

See more ideas for saving money on

<https://www.epa.gov/watersense>

### BILLING POLICY

- Office Hours** are Monday through Friday, 8am to 4:30pm.
- Due date** = 10th of the month.
- 10% penalty** if payment is not received by the **25th day of the month** it is due.
- \$20.00 Termination Notice Fee** if payment is not received 30 days after the due date.
- \$50.00 Shutoff Fee** and the water meter is locked when payment is not received **within one week** of the date of the Termination Notice. Payment in full required to restore service.

### PAYMENT OPTIONS

- Cash, check & money order** can be received in the office. Credit/debit transactions can now be made in the office.
- Payment Drop Box** at the District Office is accessible 24/7.
- Debit/credit and e-Check** payments can be made **online on the website at <https://www.valleywaterdistrict.com/>**
- Auto-Pay** (recurring withdrawals): Property owners can use the ACH Bank Draft Sign-up Form found on the website. You must include a voided check (this option is not available to tenants).
- We now offer paperless billing:** Sign up form is available on the Valley Water District website.
- Bill Payer** checks mailed from your bank may take 5-7 business days to arrive.

