

# VALLEY WATER DISTRICT WET GAZETTE

2024 SUMMER EDITION

Have a  
Great  
Summer!

14515 Pioneer Way East \* Puyallup WA 98372 \*(253)841-9698 M-F 7am-3:30pm  
Email: [service@valleywaterdistrict.com](mailto:service@valleywaterdistrict.com) Website: [www.valleywaterdistrict.com](http://www.valleywaterdistrict.com)

## 2023 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 at:

Alderwood:	<a href="http://www.valleywaterdistrict.com/forms/000246.pdf">www.valleywaterdistrict.com/forms/000246.pdf</a>
Buttes:	<a href="http://www.valleywaterdistrict.com/forms/000247.pdf">www.valleywaterdistrict.com/forms/000247.pdf</a>
Chinook:	<a href="http://www.valleywaterdistrict.com/forms/000248.pdf">www.valleywaterdistrict.com/forms/000248.pdf</a>
Country/El Dorado:	<a href="http://www.valleywaterdistrict.com/forms/000249.pdf">www.valleywaterdistrict.com/forms/000249.pdf</a>
Puyallup Highlands:	<a href="http://www.valleywaterdistrict.com/forms/000250.pdf">www.valleywaterdistrict.com/forms/000250.pdf</a>
Sierra:	<a href="http://www.valleywaterdistrict.com/forms/000251.pdf">www.valleywaterdistrict.com/forms/000251.pdf</a>
Valley:	<a href="http://www.valleywaterdistrict.com/forms/000252.pdf">www.valleywaterdistrict.com/forms/000252.pdf</a>
View Royal:	<a href="http://www.valleywaterdistrict.com/forms/000253.pdf">www.valleywaterdistrict.com/forms/000253.pdf</a>
Winchester:	<a href="http://www.valleywaterdistrict.com/forms/000254.pdf">www.valleywaterdistrict.com/forms/000254.pdf</a>



The reports are also available on the District website (click on the Forms button & then Water Quality tab)

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 email [service@valleywaterdistrict.com](mailto:service@valleywaterdistrict.com) to request one.

## PFAS or “Forever Chemicals” Testing

Did  
you  
know?

Many of you have likely seen the news articles or television news stories about the “Forever Chemicals” that may be in the Public Water Systems. The chemicals known as PFAS or PFOA have been detected in many water systems in Washington State. The EPA and Department of Health have established rules for testing and treatment.

The District is happy to announce that we have completed testing for these contaminants in all systems and there was NO DETECTION in any of the District’s wells. We will continue to test as required by Department of Health and keep you informed of results in the future.

For additional information on PFAS and related contaminants please go to <https://doh.wa.gov/community-and-environment/contaminants/pfas>

## Board of Commissioners

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

Meetings are held at 2:00pm on the first and third Mondays of each month. Ratepayers are encouraged to attend the open and public board meetings. See details on our website. ([www.valleywaterdistrict.com](http://www.valleywaterdistrict.com))

# Water System Projects & Upgrades

## Capital Improvement Projects...

One of the primary responsibilities of a Public Water System is to plan for and fund Capital Improvement Projects (CIP). CIP's are projects that are identified by the District as required repairs and replacement of aging infrastructure, or addition of facilities to increase the safety and reliability of the Public Water System. A portion of the bi-monthly customer water billings and Connection Charges for new customers are used to fund Capital Improvement Projects.

Due to the age and condition of many of the systems the District has taken over, there are many projects identified in the Water System Plan for repair, replacement and addition of infrastructure. The District has been very active over the last few years and continues to implement CIP's to improve reliability and service to our customers. Here are some of the projects that have been completed or are under construction at this time.

*your money at work on system improvements!*

### Alderwood System Service Line Replacement

In Process

This project will replace the remaining original service lines (the pipe that connects the watermain to the water meter) and some small sections of watermain. This system has a very high system leakage and has averaged 3-5 service line leaks a year over the last several years. The District will also relocate any meters that are currently located in customers' yards outside of the Right of Way (ROW) back to the edge of ROW, closer to the road. The survey has been completed and the project is currently in design with an estimated bid advertisement date in late 2024.

### Valley System SR 162 Phase 5

In Process

The District will begin replacement of undersized watermain on SR162 south of 128th St E. This portion of watermain will include several fire hydrants and should provide adequate water pressure to residents who at times have experienced diminished pressure during summer months.

### Valley System SR 162 Far Side Crossings

In Process

The District has approximately 13 service lines on SR162 that extend from the watermain located on the east side of SR162 and run under the State Highway to meters on the west side of the highway. These service lines are galvanized pipe originally installed when the system was constructed many years ago.



***The District continues to implement Capital Improvement Projects to improve reliability and service to our customers.***

# Water System Projects & Upgrades (continued)

## Sierra System Treatment System

Completed!

Replacement of the Treatment System for the Sierra Water System has been completed and is online and operating effectively. Replacement of the Treatment System was needed due to the age of the old system and difficulty in finding replacement parts. The new treatment will significantly increase system reliability.



Sierra Treatment System

## Sierra System Backup Well

Completed!

The installation of the well, pump and motor was completed in early 2024. The District is working with DOH to finalize approval for use in the system.



Sierra Backup Well

## Lead Service Line Inventory

The Environment Protection Agency has established new rules requiring the District to inventory all public and private water lines in all of the District systems by October of 2024. The District needs your help complying with the new federal EPA water system requirements.



Staff has already started the process of inventorying the public watermains and lines (on the District side of the meter) but we need your help identifying the materials on all private service lines (lines from the meter to your home or business). If your home was built before 1986, and you know what material your water service line is made of (for example, PVC, poly, galvanized steel, lead, copper, etc.), please contact our office by email or phone with the information listed below. Email: [service@valleywaterdistrict.com](mailto:service@valleywaterdistrict.com) or call: 253-841-9698.

- Your service address
- The year your home was built
- The year your service line was installed or replaced
- The material your service line is made of (PVC, poly, galvanized steel, lead, copper)

The Clean Water Act banned lead in drinking water pipes in 1986, therefore homes built after 1986 are unlikely to have lead in their service lines. The District is very confident that none of the public watermains or service lines contain lead due to the age of the systems and due to our experience with repairing and maintaining the lines since 1993. The District has never discovered any lead materials in any of the systems.

Thank you for helping the District comply with the EPA requirement.

# 2023 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 2023 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 & Purchased (TP) – Annual Volume	Authorized Consumption (AC) – Annual Volume	Distribution System Leakage – Annual Volume TP - AC	Distribution System Leakage – % $DSL = [(TP - AC) / TP] \times 100 \%$
Alderwood	1/4/23 - 1/3/24	23,255,629 gallons	18,829,908 gallons	4,425,721 gallons	19.03 %
Buttes	1/5/23 - 1/4/24	36,102,400 gallons	34,638,135 gallons	1,464,262 gallons	4.06%
Chinook	2/3/23 - 2/7/24	13,360,400 gallons	11,793,968 gallons	1,566,432 gallons	11.72 %
Country/Eldorado	2/2/23 - 2/7/24	40,417,000 gallons	33,460,206 gallons	6,956,794 gallons	17.21 %
Sierra	2/3/23 - 2/6/24	9,691,151 gallons	9,534,195 gallons	156,956 gallons	1.62 %
Valley	1/5/23 - 1/3/24	91,029,286 gallons	84,040,484 gallons	6,988,802 gallons	7.68%
View Royal	2/3/23 - 2/2/24	96,696,832 gallons	86,960,789 gallons	9,736,043 gallons	10.07 %
Winchester	2/1/23 - 2/6/24	2,685,843 gallons	2,084,228 gallons	601,615 gallons	22.40 %

## 2024 Odd/Even Summer Watering Schedule Recommendation

*During the summer months, when water consumption increases*, the *water supply* is often at its lowest. Long periods of high demand, such as 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 recommends that customers voluntarily follow an **Odd/Even Summer Watering Schedule** as an 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 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. **Visit [www.wateruseitwisely.com](http://www.wateruseitwisely.com) for more great water saving tips!**

**To save water, start with irrigating less!**

Only water your landscape when it needs it. Many people are overwatering their lawns, which increases weeds, reduces drought tolerance and, of course, wastes water.

