



Annual Backflow Testing

To ensure clean, safe, potable water, the District maintains a Cross Connection Program required by the Oregon Health Authority (OAR 333-061-0070). This program is designed to protect the water system from potential contamination through cross connections.

Customers with inground irrigation systems and certain water features are required to have their backflow tested annually by a state certified tester. Your backflow device would have been installed with the irrigation system since this has been a state requirement for 25+ years. Do **not** have the District's backflow located in your meter box tested.

You can find a list of certified testers on our website at www.rivergrovewater.com under the section *Keeping up with the District*. An annual test 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?

If your backflow fails and needs replacing, contact the office. We have a limited supply and *may* be able to furnish a used backflow free of charge while supplies last. You must submit a passing test to the District no later than September 30, 2021.

Water Conservation

Summer is here bringing warmer temperatures. We are asking our customers to conserve water. Our distribution system is operating in a modified mode due to the Reservoir 3 project. Currently, Well 2 is providing all the water to our 4,000 customers. Please do your part by limiting the use of water, especially during the peak hours of 6-9 am and 5-8 pm. We expect to return to normal operations in early July.

Water conservation is always advised during heat waves, wildfires, and other climatic events. Please stay informed by visiting our website for important notices and updates posted under the section *Keeping up with the District* or by calling the office at 503.635.6041.

Rate Increases

To improve the aging infrastructure of our water distribution system, a rate increase is needed. The last rate increase of 8% occurred in June 2018. In accordance with the District's latest rate study, rate increases of 5% were **not** implemented in fiscal years 2019/2020 or 2020/2021. A rate increase of 10% will be initiated July 1, 2021 for fiscal year 2021/2022. The Rivergrove Water District is not funded by property taxes, bonds, or levies; we are funded exclusively by these charges.

Water Service Charges Class *1 & **2

Meter Size	Service Charge (Bi-monthly)	Usage Charge (Per ccf = one hundred cubic feet of water or 748 gallons)
5/8" or 3/4"	\$42.52	\$ 3.42
1"	\$91.55	\$ 3.42
1 1/2"	\$173.15	\$ 3.42
2"	\$271.05	\$ 3.42
3"	\$532.13	\$ 3.42
4"	\$719.63	\$ 3.42
6"	\$1641.93	\$ 3.42
8"	\$2621.11	\$ 3.42

*Class 1: Single-residential homes, duplexes, and triplexes

**Class 2: All other services not included in Class 1

Visit our website for a complete list of charges for outside users and fire protection service.

Is My Water Hard or Soft?

The District's water source is groundwater that comes from wells drilled into the Columbia River Basalt aquifer. We have three wells that adequately supply our demand. One characteristic of pure groundwater is its level of hardness which is caused by natural calcium and magnesium found in the ground. Our water was tested in April 2021 and is considered hard: Well 1 was rated 148 mg/L & Well 2 was rated 140 mg/L.

To soften water, you may elect to install a water softener. Many softeners work to remove calcium and magnesium through a process called ion exchange. This process softens water by substituting the hardness minerals with sodium chloride (salt). Hard or soft water...it is your choice.