Clackamas River Water Providers: A Coalition Of Municipal Drinking Water Providers

**Summary:** The Clackamas River Water Providers (CRWP) is a coalition of eight municipal drinking water suppliers drawing water from the Clackamas River: The City of Estacada, The City of Tigard, The City of Lake Oswego, Clackamas River Water, City of Gladstone, Oak Lodge Water District, Sunrise Water Authority (City of Happy Valley and Damascus), and South Fork Water Board (City of Oregon City and City of West Linn).

The CRWP jointly funds watershed conservation, protection, research, and outreach programs to the benefit of drinking water providers and residents within the Clackamas River watershed. By working together and combining resources, the Clackamas River Water Providers are able to fund projects and research that are otherwise too costly to take on individually, support a full-time staff to coordinate programs, and represent a unified voice when negotiating with other stakeholders in the basin.

The water providers started working together in 1996. The move to a more formal collaboration began in 2003 in response to the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality Source Water Assessment, which identified over 1,200 potential contaminant sources, including from agricultural activities, septic systems, and stormwater outfalls. In 2007, the water providers expanded and formalized the partnership with the signing of an Intergovernmental Agreement, creating the Clackamas River Water Providers.
The Funding Picture:

- Prior to 2007, watershed efforts were funded through various Memorandums of Understanding and Joint funding Agreements.
- Since formally creating the CRWP, the CRWP has financed operations through membership dues, which are proportionate to the overall percentage of finished water produced, allowing members to share the burden equitably. CRWP has accessed funds through Clean Water Act Section 319 Nonpoint Source Program grants, and the Oregon Safe Drinking Water Revolving Loan Fund Program’s Drinking Water Protection Fund grants. It also maintains a Joint Funding Agreement with the U.S. Geological Survey to manage operation and maintenance of water quality stations on the Clackamas River.

Clackamas River Water Providers Programs:
- Water Conservation Programs
- Watershed Protection Programs
- Water Quality Programs
- Emergency Preparedness

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