

August 2026



Waterlines

Quarterly Newsletter
of Medford Water

Water Supply Outlook Page to Stay Updated Through October

As the summer landscape watering season comes to a close and the weather cools, our Water Supply Outlook page at medfordwater.org/watersupply still features information on our current water supply production and demand, regional water conditions, water supply FAQs, and more.

It will remain updated through October, to keep our customers informed about water supply conditions and drought.



Go to
medfordwater.org/watersupply

We're here for you

Contact us:

(541) 774-2430
customerservice@medfordwater.org
medfordwater.org

200 South Ivy Street - Room 177
Medford, Oregon 97501

Si desea obtener una copia de este documento en español, llámenos al 541-774-2430 o visite medfordwater.org/newsletter.

Socialize with us!



GREAT WATER BEGINS AT THE SOURCE

From September 27 through October 3, 2026, we celebrate Source Water Protection Week to raise awareness about the critical need to safeguard our lakes, rivers, and underground aquifers. But did you know our source protection efforts run year around?

The high quality of the drinking water you enjoy begins long before you turn on your tap; it begins at the source. We are lucky to have two high quality drinking water sources: Big Butte Springs, a groundwater resource classified as "pristine" by the

state, and the Rogue River, a surface water resource also of high quality.

Safeguarding these sources through proactive planning, collaborative efforts, and strategic actions is an important first step in assuring safe drinking water for our customers.

Both the BBS and Rogue River watersheds encompass diverse land uses—including forestry,

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Big Butte
Springs, our
primary source



ARE YOU TWO WEEKS READY?

September is National Preparedness Month

National Preparedness Month is an observance each September to raise awareness about the importance of preparing for disasters and emergencies that could happen at any time.

While the traditional three days of supplies is a good start and helpful for short-term power outages or a temporary evacuation, experts recommend that Oregon citizens proactively prepare to be self-sufficient for at least two weeks after a disaster.

This is because first responders may not be able to reach everyone impacted within hours or even days afterward, especially in the

event of a Cascadia Subduction Zone earthquake; utilities may be out during this time as well.

To be ready, you'll need to have an emergency plan and build a kit with enough supplies—including water—to allow you and your family to survive on your own for two weeks. It may seem overwhelming, but you're probably more prepared than you think! For emergency kit how-to's, fillable plans, and more, go to redcross.org, fema.gov, and ready.gov. To determine how much water your family might need, see the helpful information on page two.

Another preparation we recommend is to familiarize yourself with the location of your water meter and its shut-off valve so that you can turn your water off in case of an emergency such as a broken pipe. Water meters and shut-off valves are located in concrete boxes and usually

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The Cascadia Subduction Zone, a 700-mile fault line off the Pacific Northwest coast, is considered overdue for a major earthquake.



SYSTEM DEVELOPMENT CHARGES TO BE CONSIDERED AUGUST 19

Medford Water annually reviews our System Development Charges (SDCs) to update the costs for new service connections to our water system or an increase in capacity to an existing service connection. Typically SDCs are paid by developers as they develop land and install new water mains.

These one-time charges finance capacity-related improvements to our water system. Updates will be considered by the Board of Water Commissioners following a public hearing on August 19, 2026, and if approved, will take effect September 1, 2026.

Time to Cut Back on Watering Soon

As summer winds down and we move into fall, the nights get cooler and the days get shorter. The cooler temperatures reduce evaporation, causing plants to absorb less moisture. During this time, grass and plants grow more slowly and need less frequent watering.

This makes September the perfect time to adjust your sprinkler system to water less often. Before long, you'll be able to stop watering altogether as the fall rains begin.



TWO WEEKS READY, CONT'D.

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found at the property line either in front of or behind the residence; you may have a valve next to your meter that can be turned by hand, or a tool may be needed. Go to

medfordwater.org/yourmeter for help on using your shut-off valve. If you need help verifying where your meter is located and what type of valve you have, call us at 541-774-2430.

How much water you will need depends on several factors:

Each person will need water each day for drinking, meal preparation and cleanup, and hygiene. The amount you'll need will be impacted by the foods you plan to eat and if your family includes people with special needs and pets; a good starting point is one gallon per person, per day. Track how much family members and pets use in a day and use that to calculate how much you will need for two weeks.



TIP: Suitable storage containers for water can be found at your local retail or hardware store, and online. Ensure they are food grade, and don't forget to sanitize them before filling them.



PROJECT UPDATES

Stay up to date with our projects here, or go to medfordwater.org/projects.

Capital Hill Reservoir Replacement

Neighbors will see activity as preparation begins on the site. Stay tuned for updates on current and upcoming work at the project webpage.

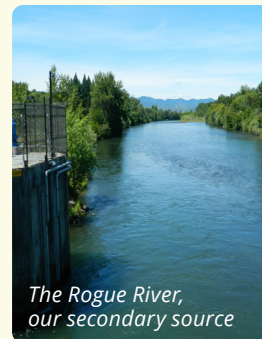
medfordwater.org/capitalhill

SOURCE, CONT'D.

(Continued from Page 1)

agriculture, recreation, urban development, transportation, and industrial activities—increasing their susceptibility to contamination.

Together with our many partners, we oversee both watersheds, through effective state public health programs, environmental protection, land use policies, proactive land stewardship, and local drinking water protection efforts. Our Source Water Protection Program also includes spill prevention education, spill training, watershed management, and educational outreach programs to ensure clean, high-quality tap water for the 150,000 customers of the Rogue Valley that we serve.



The Rogue River, our secondary source

You can help, too! Dispose of hazardous household materials and keep them out of waterways at Rogue Disposal's next drop off event next spring.

Medford Water

Established in 1922 by the City of Medford and governed by the Board of Water Commissioners.

Commissioners

Jason Anderson • David Wright

John Dailey • Robert Mylenek • Brian Sjothun

General Manager

Brad Taylor

Serving Medford and Partner Cities:

Central Point, Eagle Point, Jacksonville, Phoenix, Talent, and Ashland

Also serving:

White City area and the Elk City Water District



Water for the Next Century.

(541) 774-2430 | medfordwater.org