

SERVING THE
WEST SLOPE
NEIGHBORHOOD
SINCE 1922

Board Meetings

- Board of Commissioners
Virtual Meeting; 5 PM
Wednesday, August 17
- Board of Commissioners
Virtual 5 PM, Wednesday,
September 21
- Board of Commissioners
Virtual Meeting; 5 PM,
Wednesday, October 19

What's Happening in the District?

Our District turns 100 years old this year! To celebrate, the District is holding an event in Raleigh Park Saturday, September 10. Watch for an insert in your August bill for more details !!

Our office is fully open and our Board meetings are still virtually held. Stay tuned as we pivot to equipping our office to accommodate hybrid meetings!

Do you need assistance with our On-Line Bill Pay Service? Please contact us at 503-292-2777 or at customer.service@wswd.org We are here to help you!

Contact Us !

3105 SW 89th Ave.
(503) 292-2777

On the web at:
www.wswd.org

Email: customer.service@wswd.org



Volume 3 Issue 3

July to September 2022

Building a Resilient Water System for West Slope

The headline of this article is the answer to a question you might have this summer: "Why did my water rate increase and why is my water bill a few dollars higher this month?" At a time when inflation is at a level not seen since the late 1970s, the District raised water rates for a very good reason: The District is starting a long-term renewal and replacement strategy for water mains and reservoirs that are vulnerable to failure due to age, degrading material, and seismic resiliency. Rather than borrow money and pay interest to lenders, the District gathers money to pay for capital projects upfront **before** construction. The planning horizon for this strategy is over 30



years and will carry the District into the 2050 decade. Each year, the District will add back to its Capital Reserve Fund money that was used to pay for the previous year's capital project. This summer, the District will contract with a construction contractor to replace the 80

-year old water main in Beaverton Hillsdale Hwy. Later this year, the District will launch a comprehensive study to determine the most vulnerable water mains in the District as part of our asset management plan. Then, over the next 30 years as funds are available, we will start replacing the most vulnerable assets in the District and work our way down the list. West Slope is strong



today, but we know we need to make it stronger in the years to come. Thank you!

Welcome to West Slope, Wendy Irwin !!



In April, West Slope welcomed Wendy Irwin to join our staff. Starting July 1st, Wendy became the District's new Finance and Customer Service Manager. She brings a strong financial background and stellar customer service skills to the District including preparing financial statements for audits, managing & implementing internal accounting systems, and Oregon Budget Law preparation and compliance. Prior to joining West Slope, Wendy was an auditor for a large national CPA firm, managed the business and accounting needs for a large church, and most recently served as the part-time Finance Director for the City of Maywood Park while managing her own CPA practice. West Slope is very pleased to have Wendy working with us, so please be sure to say hello the next time you visit the office!

Seven Ways to Save Water Outdoors This Summer

Learn easy ways to save water outdoors. Whether you have an in-ground sprinkler system or water by hand, we have tips to help you save water and money. Discover 10 Water Tips at <https://bit.ly/H2Outdoors>

#1: Sign up for the Weekly Watering Number. It's free, personalized for your zip code, and includes smart watering tips to help you save water all summer: <https://regionalh2o.org/wwn>

7 DAYS, 7 WAYS TO SAVE WATER OUTDOORS

Tip #1

Sign up for your Weekly Watering Number



7 DAYS, 7 WAYS TO SAVE WATER OUTDOORS

Tip #2

Add a shut-off nozzle to your garden hose



#2: Water flows from a garden hose at an average rate of 5-7 gallons per minute! Adding a shut-off nozzle to your garden hose can save you water every time you water your garden or wash your car this summer

7 DAYS, 7 WAYS TO SAVE WATER OUTDOORS

Tip #3

Adjust your lawnmower to a higher setting



#3: Keep your lawn longer in the summer. Grass that is around 2.75-3 inches deep provides shade to your lawn's roots and holds soil moisture better than shorter lawns. Never want to mow again? Consider a lawn alternative: <https://bit.ly/h2olawns>

7 DAYS, 7 WAYS TO SAVE WATER OUTDOORS

Tip #4

Create a watering schedule



#4: Overwatering is a significant demand of water. Create a watering schedule to give your landscape only the water it can absorb. Also water before 10 AM or after 6 PM to maximize your outdoor watering efficiency. Learn more at <https://bit.ly/watering-wise>

7 DAYS, 7 WAYS TO SAVE WATER OUTDOORS

Tip #5

Check your watering system regularly



#5: Inspect for leaking hoses, broken lines, and blocked sprinkler heads by regularly walking through your watering system. Checking or "auditing" your watering system is a great way to make sure you are watering efficiently all summer long

7 DAYS, 7 WAYS TO SAVE WATER OUTDOORS

Tip #6

Water your landscape, not the street



#6: No matter how much you water the sidewalk or street, it will never grow! Make sure you are watering your landscape by checking and adjusting sprinkler heads and hoses throughout the summer. Get more maintenance tips at <https://bit.ly/sprinkler-maintenance>

#7: Our last water-saving tip is to get more water-saving tips! Follow the Regional Water Providers Consortium on Twitter and Facebook for ways to save water and find leaks at home. Get more tips, how-to videos, and resources at www.regionalh2o.org

7 DAYS, 7 WAYS TO SAVE WATER OUTDOORS

Tip #7

Follow for more tips:
@ConserveH2Org
@RegionalH2O

