



## YOUR PUD IS DEBT FREE!

In January, the PUD made its final payment on a 2000 Public Works Trust Fund Loan. This was a low-interest loan from a Washington State revolving fund that allowed the PUD to complete significant system improvements 20 years ago. This final payment means that your PUD is **DEBT FREE!**

“With this final payment of the Public Works Trust Fund Loan, the PUD is now debt free,” Board President, Judy Ridge, stated. “This is a major milestone for the PUD and the customers we serve. We are financially strong, have the lowest rates in the region and are paying for system improvements on a cash basis”.

We have worked hard to ensure fiscal responsibility which keeps rates reasonable allowing the PUD to be more flexible in how we manage your utility.



## CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS

Beginning in 2012, after retiring the bond debt that was used to purchase the water system in 1987, the PUD has been busy replacing water distribution mains, upgrading facilities and extending the sewer system. Maintaining and improving the system is crucial in ensuring the PUD provides reliable, uninterrupted service. After completing minimal improvements to the system in 2019, in order to establish a Capital Improvement Fund, the PUD has several projects ready for 2020.

### 2020 Capital Improvement Projects

- Water Main Replacements—Contractor
  - ◆ 13th Street—Bridge Street to Fair Street
  - ◆ 14th Street—Fair Street to Elm Street
- Water Main Replacement—PUD operations crew
  - ◆ 10th Street—Fair Street to Bridge Street
  - ◆ Poplar Street—West of 15th Street
  - ◆ McCarroll Street—Libby Street to Highland Ave
  - ◆ Marina View Drive—Off of 24th Avenue
- Service Line Upgrades—30 Services on Libby Street from 6th Street to 13th Street.
- Well 6 Motor Starter
- Rivers Bend Reservoir Booster Improvements

### Capital Improvement Project Statistics 2012-2019

Improvement Investment	\$6,312,732
Water Main Replaced (feet)	48,272 ft (9 miles)
Water Services Replaced	655
Old Main Removed from Service	3,860 ft
Projects Completed	89
Sewer Main Extended	8,124 ft



## Washington State Law requires annual testing of backflow prevention devices

Drinking Water Systems can be contaminated through the lack of **Backflow Prevention**

### What is Backflow ?

Backflow is the unwanted flow of non-potable substances back into the consumer's plumbing system and/or public water system (i.e., drinking water).

Backflow can happen where a *cross connection* exists in a plumbing system where the potable water supply is connected to a non-potable source. A *cross connection* exists whenever the drinking water system is or could be connected to any non-potable source (plumbing fixture). Pollutants or contaminants can enter the safe drinking water system through uncontrolled cross connections when *backflow* occurs.

There are two types of *backflow*, *backsiphonage* and *backpressure*. *Backsiphonage* is caused by a negative pressure in the supply line to a facility or plumbing fixture. *Backsiphonage* may occur during waterline breaks, when repairs are made to the waterlines or when shutting off the water supply.

*Backpressure* can occur when the potable water supply is connected to another system operated at a higher pressure or has the ability to create pressure. Principal causes are booster pumps, pressure vessels and elevated plumbing.

*Backflow Prevention Assemblies* are mechanical devices designed to prevent backflow through cross connections. However, for backflow preventers to protect as designed, they must meet stringent installation requirements and **must be tested annually**.

### Lawn Irrigation Systems

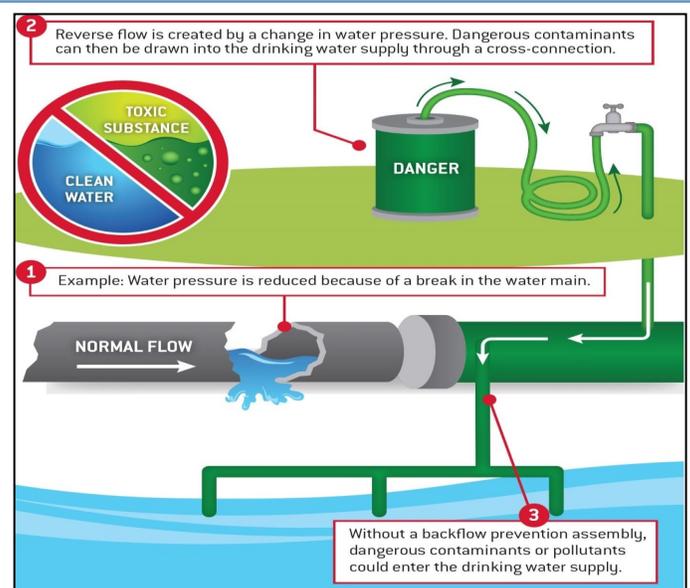


For the protection of the PUD

drinking water system all irrigation systems must have an approved *backflow prevention assembly*.

Any irrigation system that contains pumps or injectors for the addition of chemicals and/or fertilizers is considered a high hazard. An approved *reduced pressure backflow assembly* (RPBA), or an approved air gap separation is required in all cases where chemicals or herbicides may be injected into the irrigation system, or where an auxiliary water supply is also provided for irrigation.

All irrigation systems that are not classified as a high health hazard are considered to be moderate health hazards. This risk assessment is based on the hazard posed by bacterial and chemical contaminants found on lawns. An approved *double check valve assembly* (DCVA) or *pressure vacuum breaker assembly* (PVBA) is required for this application.



We are THE source for your water service and water quality questions.

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