

CITY of CLARKSTON SEWER SYSTEM OPERATION

At the end of December 2022, the PUD and the City of Clarkston entered into an Agreement that provides for PUD contract operation of the City Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) and sewer collection system. The Agreement was effective January 1, 2023 and contract operation will begin on April 1, 2023.

The Agreement gives the PUD full authority for daily operations of the WWTP and sewer system, setting of rates and billing of customers. Current City sewer system employees will transfer to PUD employment. The PUD will also be responsible for allocating \$1.5 million of the City’s American Relief Act Plan funds for the replacement of sewer collection system mains.

Both City and PUD elected officials believe PUD operation of the City sewer system will be beneficial for city citizens who are PUD customers. Contract operation of the WWTP will also be beneficial for current PUD sewer customers who reside in the County. PUD sewage treatment charges are based on the sewer flow to the plant calculated against the City WWTP budget. With PUD, operation overhead and other costs will be reduced lowering the cost of treatment charges stabilizing rates to county sewer customers.

The PUD will begin billing sewer services for City customers in April. Rates and fees currently charged by the City will remain the same and the combined sewer charges will be identical which include the state utility tax that will be broken out on the billing statement. **We look forward to serving you!**

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Planned 2023 Capital Improvement Projects

- Water Main Replacements
 - ◆ 11th Street—Highland Ave to Chestnut St.
 - ◆ 14th Street—Poplar Street to Elm Street
- Well 1 — Emergency Backup Generator Install
- Well 1 Inspect, Replace Pump, Shaft & Column
- Well 2 Motor Starter Replacement
- River’s Bend Reservoir Booster Pump Station

Capital Improvement Project Stats 2012-2022

Improvement Investment	\$9,209,238
Water Main Replaced	67,355 ft (12.75 miles)
Water Services Replaced	945
Water Main Removed	3,860 ft
Projects Completed	106
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

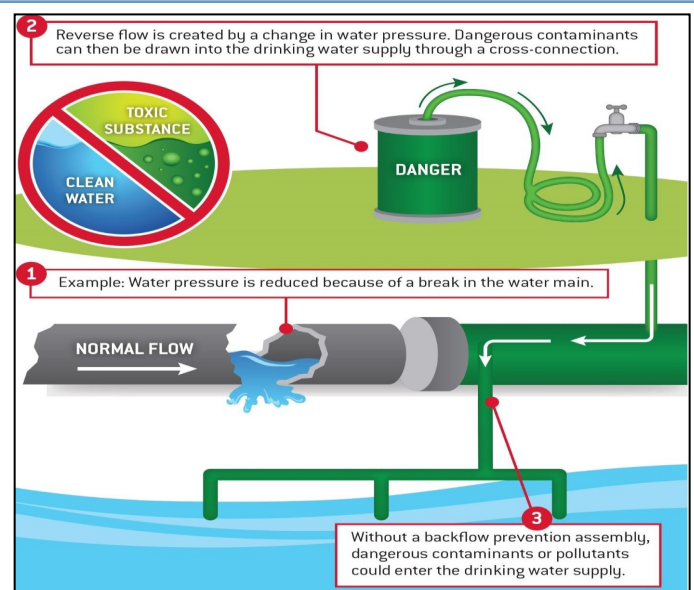


For the protection of the PUD

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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