



Water - Every Drop Counts

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CALL 8-1-1 Before You Dig

As summer gets underway, more improvement projects are started. If you are doing any digging anywhere on your property be sure to call 8-1-1 before you start digging. Call 811 from anywhere in the country a few days prior to digging and your call will automatically be routed to your local One Call center. Do this before you start a project on your property that requires digging, such as landscaping, putting in a fence or adding a deck. They will contact all utilities that provide service to your property. Those utility companies will send out a locator to mark their access lines on your property. Although you may have to wait 48 hours (not including weekends and holidays), you will be aware of service lines. This can prevent any accidents such as chopping up a line that provides service to your home or to your neighborhood. REMEMBER THE 811 PROCESS -



- **Notify** your local one call center by calling 811 or making an online request 2-3 days before work begins. *Be sure to check our [state map](#) to find out how far in advance you need to call.*
- **Wait** the required amount of time for affected utility operators to respond to your request.
- **Confirm** that all affected utility operators have responded to your request and marked underground utilities.
- **Respect** the marks.
- **Dig Carefully** around the marks with care.

When you call, the operator at your local 811 center will be able to answer your questions. If you'd like any additional details about using the 811 service, want to know the timeframe in which you can expect buried lines on your dig site to be marked or would like information about how or whether

Cross Connection Program

Because water is a natural resource, there is a tendency to believe that the use of it should be unlimited and free of charge. Those who work in the water industry know its use must be regulated to meet demands and its purity must be diligently protected to prevent pollution. One of the most effective means of doing this is through an active cross connection control program.

A complete cross connection control program identifies actual or potential cross connections between the potable water supply lines and any pipe or vessel that may contain a contaminant or pollutant which could enter the drinking water system by means of backflow.

What is backflow? It is the flow of water or other liquids, gases or solids from any source back into the distribution piping of the public potable supply system. There are two forces that can contribute to this backflow. Backpressure is when your water pressure exceeds the operating pressure of the water district. Backsiphonage is caused by negative or reduced pressure within the water district's lines, thereby pulling water from your lines. Typically, when we think about hazards associated with water supply systems, names like typhoid and dysentery come to mind. Fifty years ago a contamination would most likely be attributed to the water source and poor treatment practices. Today reports state the majority of contaminations occur in the distribution system and are due to cross connections.

you will be notified when the marks are complete, the operator can talk you through the process. This is a free service. For more information, check out the website at <http://call811.com/before-you-dig>

A CHANGING OF THE GUARD

Heceta Water PUD is governed by an elected Board of Directors. There are five members on the Board representing the subdivisions that the PUD was divided into in 2014. The qualifications for a Board member are that they have lived in the District for at least two years and that they reside within the boundaries of the subdivision that they are representing. The Director for Subdivision 2 has been James Sievers. Jim has been on the Board of Commissioners for Heceta Water District and the Board of Directors for Heceta Water PUD for almost ten years. He brought a lot of experience from his employment with law enforcement and as an executive vice president with Hertz. After his retirement in 2000, Jim volunteered with the Oregon State Police as the President of the Volunteers for 13 years. Jim recently wrote a letter to President Wendy Rohner, resigning his position. We will certainly miss Jim's input at the meetings and his willingness to serve the District in this way. We wish you all the best, Jim. In light of his resignation, a new board member will be appointed to his position until the next regular election in November 2018. We welcome Alan Whiteside to the Board of Directors.

PAYMENT OPTIONS

Even though paying bills may not be your favorite thing to do, be aware that there are several ways of taking care of that chore with HWPUD. You can walk into the office any day, Monday through Friday, from 8am to 4pm and pay with cash, check or credit card. There is a drop box in the parking lot that you can drop a check into. PLEASE DO NOT PAY WITH CASH through the drop box or through the mail. Yes, you can mail a check to us also. It is possible to call the office with a credit/debit card number. We also have an auto-pay option through a checking account or through a credit or debit card. There is a form that needs to be filled out to give us permission to debit your account. That form is available at the office, on our website (under FORMS), or we can mail that form to you. If you have any questions, just call us at 541-997-2446.

OUTSTANDING PERFORMER

A representative from Oregon Health Authority recently performed the required state audit of HWPUD's treatment plant and the distribution system. For the second time in a row, Heceta Water has earned the status of Outstanding Performer. This allows us to put these audits out for five years instead of the normal three years. The representative also stated that the day to day care given to our system shows and we are considered among the top two or three water systems in Lane County that he surveys. Kudos to our plant staff for their hard work and diligence in producing a quality product!