

Stay Hydrated this May



Klickitat PUD Celebrates Drinking Water Week

Drinking Water Week is an annual observance sponsored by the American Water Works Association the first week of May recognizing the critical role drinking water plays in our daily lives. In 1988, American Water Works Association brought Drinking Water Week to the attention of the U.S. government and formed a coalition along with the League of Women Voters, the Association of State Drinking Water Administrators and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Rep. Robert Roe and Sen. Dennis DeConcini subsequently sponsored a resolution to name the first week of May as Drinking Water Week. The weeklong observance was declared in a joint congressional resolution signed by President Ronald Reagan.

Klickitat PUD reminds the public of the importance of water conservation during Drinking Water Week. Many regions face drought conditions. It is essential to avoid waste through conservation practices to protect our precious source of water.

Stop for a minute to think about all the people and infrastructure that ensure your high-quality drinking water is there when you need it.

The water-wastewater department works diligently to provide safe, reliable drinking water to the nine rural water systems owned and operated by KPUD. The operators work in the field to complete testing, treatment and repairs for these systems.

Sharon Blodgett and Brandon Walter work together to schedule the crew, keep the systems in compliance, field new connection inquiries and much more.

Per EPA requirements, Group A water systems need to develop and submit a Lead Service Line Inventory by October 16, 2024, while continuing to comply with the prior version of the Lead and Copper Rule.

This requires dedicated effort on both the water customers' and KPUD's part to review historic records and determine appropriate identification methods to obtain both private and utility-owned service line information.

Klickitat PUD has created a QR code for the customers of water systems serviced by Klickitat PUD, which include Bickleton, Glenwood, Klickitat, Lyle, Ponderosa Park, Rimrock, Roosevelt and Wishram, that directs to the link for our water service line survey. Completing this survey will help the PUD take inventory of all the water lines, and prevent undue costs to the water



Klickitat PUD Water-Wastewater Department. From left: Zain Gasparovich, Noah Halm, Greg Watson, Mike Krause, Randi Linville, Sharon Blodgett, Rod Kiser, and Brandon Walter

systems. Customer cooperation in answering the questionnaire tied to the QR code will provide KPUD with information related to customer service lines and plumbing and assist KPUD in achieving the mandated service line inventory requirement by October 16, 2024.

If you do not have the ability to use the QR code, please call KPUD Water Department at 509-773-5891 or 800-548-8357 to provide us with necessary information.

For more information concerning EPA's Lead and Copper Rule Revisions, please visit: <https://doh.wa.gov/community-and-environment/drinking-water/contaminants/lead/>





2023 National Drinking Water Week Award

The **Lifetime Achievement** award is presented posthumously to Tim McMurrin, Water and Wastewater Operator, in recognition of his hard work and dedication in providing safe and reliable drinking water.

Tim was nominated by Brandon Walter, Klickitat PUD Water/Wastewater superintendent. He wrote:

Tim McMurrin began his career with Klickitat County PUD as a Water/Wastewater Operator on April 16, 2001.

Like most of us, he spent his time learning hands-on in the field. He was motivated and eager to begin taking water and wastewater exams as soon as he was able.

He was certified as a Water Distribution Manager III, a Cross-Connection Control Specialist, and a Water Treatment Plant Operator I. Tim was proficient in taking tests and rather than keep this gift to himself he would be the first to step up to offer help for new hires by encouraging and sharing his knowledge to help them prepare and practice for

their certification exams.

His willingness to help did not stop with new hires. This desire included covering coworkers' weekend rounds when he wasn't scheduled to do so, responding to alarms during off hours knowing he was the closest in proximity to respond, and always offering help to customers within the communities he served.

Tim brought a great work ethic to the job and he was an individual with a heart of gold who truly cared about his coworkers. The love he had for his family and his beloved dog, Magoo, would melt the hardest of hearts.

I wish I would have taken the time to nominate Tim McMurrin while he was still here with us. Unfortunately we lost our dear coworker and friend on December 12, 2021, when he suffered a sudden heart attack.



Tim McMurrin

As the Water/WW Superintendent for Klickitat County PUD, I am proud of Tim's outstanding service to this utility and it is my sincere hope that you would consider recognizing him for his years of service in the industry for a Lifetime Achievement Award.



With respect, from all of us at the Office of Drinking Water.

May 9, 2023

