

FROM THE BOARD

Greetings from the Board of Directors for OHWA. It is already the beginning of July and it seems that those “dog days of summer” are arriving earlier and earlier. We are seeing the weather pattern shifts that included a cool, wet spring that caused plentiful growth of grass and weeds and led to record pollen counts in the Mid-Willamette Valley. Now we are seeing the beginnings of the dreaded El Nino weather pattern that promises hotter and drier summer weather for the next several months. With the combination of those two weather patterns, we can expect a high risk of fire this season as well as an increased demand for water to keep cool and to manage the needs of our animals, landscapes, and households.

The Board is continuing to pursue updates to the water system to help maintain our ability to produce and distribute safe and reliable water to the members of the Association. We continue to rely on expert consultants who are helping us to update our well monitoring capabilities and to pursue the option of bringing an additional water source on-line and connected to our system. This process is methodical and time-consuming, but we are making incremental progress toward this goal.

The Annual Back-flow testing will be completed over the summer months and you will only hear about this if your device fails testing and needs repair.

Please be mindful of water usage and conserve water when possible. Please be conscientious about controlling vegetation and create a defensible perimeter around dwellings and structures to minimize fire risk.

Please also pay close attention to any underground sprinkler systems and monitor for leaks. We have had several leaks over the past year and these are costly for the Association as well as individual members.

Water shares continue to be available for purchase at \$5,000 a share to connect to our system. If you know of anyone who is interested have them contact Mary Tucker, OHWA office manager at officemanager@ohwassn.com or by calling 503-569-9731.

2023 ANNUAL DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT

The Annual Water Quality Report for 2023 was sent out to members at the end of June. It is a required report under the federal Safe Drinking Water Act that lets you know details about the water that comes from the Orchard Heights Water Association. Please take note of the water conservation tips outlined in the report. We can all do our part to help maintain an adequate supply of water for our members.