BEAVERTON PURPLE PIPE PROGRAM

Connecting the right water with the right uses.

The Beaverton Purple Pipe program waters our green spaces and conserves our most precious natural resource: clean water.

The Beaverton Purple Pipe program includes a new water system that routes cleaned stormwater for irrigation use and stream recharge. Beaverton's drinking water source is mainly from the Tualatin River, and from groundwater wells. It's a precious and limited resource. Treatment and testing make it safe and healthy for us to drink.

Our parks and yards do not need high-quality drinking water, although they do need irrigation to stay green. Using drinking water for irrigation is currently the only available option because our city only has one water distribution piping system. The Beaverton Purple Pipe program will provide available water, using treated stormwater runoff, to irrigate green spaces like parks, school grounds and yards.

The Beaverton Purple Pipe program is:

Environmentally responsible

The program puts water to use that could not otherwise be used, meaning we'll take less water from the Tualatin River, leaving more for fish and aquatic life, resident enjoyment, and surrounding agencies. Also, more than half the stormwater treated by the system will be returned to the local streams to increase summer flows.

Fiscally sound

Providing chlorinated, fluoridated drinking water is expensive—and this high-quality water is not needed for irrigation purposes. As our city's water needs grow, matching the right water with the right uses will keep costs down.



Forward looking

This program is about Beaverton working toward the future we want to see—in which water resources are thoughtfully conserved, the impact of urban development on natural environments is lessened, and our municipal water system supports this vision. Beaverton is creating a blueprint for future applications across the state.



Now is the time

Our community is growing and so are our water needs. The Purple Pipe program works toward the community's long-term goals of creating a reliable and sustainable water supply.

Current growth provides the opportunity to build the Purple Pipe system as areas develop. This minimizes the impacts of adding water pipelines in established neighborhoods and roadways. We believe everyone in Beaverton will benefit from the environmental benefits of the new system.

Approximately 2.5 miles of pipe have already been installed in the South Cooper Mountain neighborhood. The system will be expanded in the future to about 25 miles of pipe, coordinated with development planning processes.

Learn more or get in touch

It takes careful planning to create a fully functional Purple Pipe system. This is one of the City Council's top priority projects, and we're working to move the project forward and plan its future. We'd like to hear what you think and answer any questions you have. Please get in touch.

Purple Pipe Network

Only about 1% of drinking water in the U.S. is used for drinking. Other uses often do not need such high-quality water.

Purple is the national color for pipes carrying cleaned, non-potable water such as groundwater or rainwater.

Things to know about the Purple Pipe program:

- This is a visionary project for Oregon. While similar approaches have been used for years in places such as the southwestern U.S., this will be the first of its kind in our region.
- The program is designed to provide mutual benefit to community members, developers, and water suppliers. It's an investment that's intended to pay back for decades to come.
- The water is safe for irrigation. Stormwater will be collected and treated before storage in the aquifer containing naturally occurring groundwater. The quality of the water can be compared to the water in local streams.



