

City of Florence Recognized as an Outstanding Performer by Oregon Health Authority, Drinking Water Program

Oregon Health Authority recently recognized the City of Florence's public water system as an Outstanding Performer based on a Water System Survey conducted by the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) Drinking Water Program. The survey is designed to evaluate the total water system in terms of supplying safe drinking water to the public. The water system survey is an on-site review of our 12 dunal wells, the water treatment processes, storage facilities, distribution system, operation and maintenance procedures, monitoring, and management of the system for the purpose of evaluating the system's capability of providing safe water to the public.

"This is great news for the city and our residents," said Mike Miller, Public Works Director. "I am very proud of our city staff that has worked hard to help the city earn this recognition. Being an outstanding performer allows the city to reduce our water system survey frequency from every three years to every five years," Miller said. "Our reviewer noted that Florence's water system facilities are well operated and maintained by a knowledgeable and competent staff."

To be recognized as an Outstanding Performer, a water system must not have any contamination violations in the last five years; no more than one monitoring or reporting violation in the past three years (we had none); no significant deficiencies or rule violations during the current water system survey; and no waterborne disease outbreak to the water system in the last five years.

Water systems that have met the criteria to be recognized as an Outstanding Performer have their survey frequency (and fee) reduced. Instead of testing every five years, the water survey is reduced to three. OHA Drinking Water Program monitors and enforces drinking water standards for 3,600 public water systems in the state of Oregon. They ensure public water meets or exceeds state and federal standards. "The designation as an "Outstanding Performer" is due to the hard work and dedication of the water treatment and distribution operators, and utility workers who strive to provide high quality water to residents, businesses, and visitors to the city," Miller said.

The City of Florence's water systems are part of the Public Works Department. Florence has over 3,700 water connections. The Public Works Department is more than just water delivery and distribution. Our Public Works department provides water, wastewater, stormwater, streets, parks, airport, and project management services to the community.

The Public Works Department can be reached at 541-997-4106.