

7 Things to Know ABOUT BULL RUN TREATMENT PROJECTS

For lead reduction and water filtration

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1 From Forest to Faucet
The Bull Run Watershed is Portland's primary drinking water source.
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2 Protecting Our Water Supply
Ensuring safe water means protecting the watershed. Strict restrictions in place for the Bull Run water source and surrounding area will remain an essential part of Portland's approach to protecting water quality.
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3 Making Excellent Water Even Better
Portland is continuing to improve Bull Run water through filtration, and lead reduction efforts through improved corrosion control treatment. These projects will continue Portland's legacy of providing safe and abundant water.
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4 Corrosion Control: Reducing Lead Exposure
Portland has been treating Bull Run water since 1997 to reduce lead that can leach from household plumbing to water at the tap. Improved corrosion control treatment will be online in 2022. This will further reduce the community's exposure to lead from household plumbing.
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5 Bull Run Filtration: Investing in Portland's Water
The new filtration plant is a long-term investment that will remove the microorganism *Cryptosporidium*, make Portland's system more reliable, and provide consistent, excellent water to customers.
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6 Filtration Coming in 2027
The filtration plant takes about 10 years to plan, design, and construct—and planning has already started. In the meantime, the Portland Water Bureau is working with our public health partners to continue to make sure that Portland's water is safe to drink.
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7 Prioritizing Affordability
The Portland Water Bureau is committed to keeping water rates affordable for customers by actively managing project costs. And Portland is continuing to assist low-income customers through our recently expanded financial assistance services.



www.portlandoregon.gov/water/BullRunTreatment

Please contact us for translation or interpretation, or for accommodations for people with disabilities.
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www.portlandoregon.gov/water/access · 503-823-8653 (TTY: 503-823-6868, Relay Service: 711)

Bull Run Treatment Projects



Information About Portland Water Bureau's Future Water Treatment Facility

October 2018

Dear Neighbor,

This letter is a follow-up to the communication you received in January informing you that the Portland City Council had determined that drinking water from the Bull Run Watershed should be filtered to meet federal and state regulations. This decision set in motion the task of analyzing options for the design and construction of a future filtration facility—and where this new facility will be built.

Because we want you to have accurate and timely information, we wanted you to know that the Water Bureau owns property near your home that is currently leased to Surface Nursery, Inc. This property was purchased by the bureau with the intent of potentially building a treatment facility.

After careful technical analysis, stakeholder feedback, and discussions at a Portland City Council work session on August 14, 2018, this property near Carpenter Lane has been identified as the preferred option for the location of the new drinking water treatment facility (*see enclosed map*), required to be operational by September 2027. You may have already seen surveyors working in your area.

We wanted you to know that we are available to answer any questions that you may have and can schedule meetings at your convenience. In November we are also hosting a community forum in Portland to speak more generally about the process and projects underway.

The Portland Water Bureau values inclusive and collaborative relationships with its neighbors and partners to deliver quality drinking water, and we look forward to working closely with you throughout the planning, design, and construction phases of this work.

Meanwhile, I am collecting email addresses from you and your neighbors to notify you about meetings, news, etc., as the project moves forward. If you choose to provide your email address, I will not share it with any other city bureau or outside agency.

Please find the latest information about these Bull Run Treatment Projects at www.portlandoregon.gov/water/bullruntreatment and additional information on following pages. Please feel free to contact me with any questions, and with your email address. Thank you.

Sincerely,
Tony Andersen
Strategic Communications Manager
tony.andersen@portlandoregon.gov
503-823-8653

**YOU ARE INVITED TO A
Community Forum
Nov. 8, 6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.**
Immigrant and Refugee
Community Organization (IRCO)
10301 NE Glisan St., Portland

**Portland City Council
will make final decisions on
three options for the future
filtration treatment facility
in December:**

1. Location
2. Capacity
3. Technology

Portland, OR 97204-1926
1120 SW Fifth Avenue, Room 600
Tony Andersen
Portland Water Bureau



Corrosion Control for Reducing Lead in Home Plumbing

Water-related lead exposure in Portland is linked to building plumbing and fixtures, not to lead in the water or distribution system. Portland's drinking water comes from two high-quality sources, the Bull Run Watershed and Columbia South Shore Well Field, and our source waters meet or exceed all federal and state drinking water standards.

The **Lead and Copper Rule**, published in 1991, regulates how drinking water systems manage lead and copper that may enter into drinking water from plumbing. It requires that large systems treat drinking water to make it less corrosive, which reduces the amount of lead and copper from household plumbing that dissolves into drinking water.

Since 1997, the Portland Water Bureau has had a compliance approach that includes treating the drinking water to reduce lead and copper. The bureau makes the water less corrosive by adding sodium hydroxide to increase the pH of the drinking water. This treatment has resulted in up to a 70 percent reduction in lead in water levels at customer taps.

Additional improvements are scheduled to be in place by April 2022, and in the meantime, a range of interim measures is in place to reduce any lead in drinking water from building or home plumbing.

Learn more here: www.portlandoregon.gov/water/ICCT

Bull Run Filtration: Investing in Portland's Water

The high-quality and well-protected nature of the Bull Run Watershed has allowed the Portland Water Bureau to qualify for a treatment variance since 2012, continuing a 125-year legacy of operating as an unfiltered water system.

However, after a series of low-level detections of *Cryptosporidium*, Portland City Council directed the Portland Water Bureau to add filtration treatment to Bull Run drinking water. The new treatment plant will be online by 2027.

In addition to providing treatment for *Cryptosporidium*, filtration will provide more consistent water quality through the distribution system, and increase the reliability of the Bull Run supply by enabling treatment for most instances of increased turbidity.

Constructing a new treatment plant now is also an investment in Portland's future by preparing the Water Bureau to meet future regulations.

Learn more here: www.portlandoregon.gov/water/filtration

Improved Corrosion Control Treatment



Filtration Treatment

