

Strong and Safe Water Tanks

The Willamette Water Supply Program's top priority is providing safe, reliable drinking water. Water tanks are a critical piece of the water distribution system. Stored drinking water provides a number of important benefits:

- Supply the extra water needed each day during peak water use (for example, in the morning when many of us take showers).
- Maintain uniform water pressure at the tap.
- Provide emergency water that can be used when pipes break or pumps stop working and repairs must be made.
- Deliver water for fighting fires, even during power outages and other emergencies.



Water storage tanks, like the Crandall Reservoir, hold water that can be used for regular or emergency water delivery.

Two large water tanks are needed for the Willamette Water Supply System. The reservoirs will store water pumped from the Willamette River at Wilsonville which has been treated at a water filtration facility. From the tanks, water will be delivered – by gravity – to homes and businesses within TVWD and City of Hillsboro service areas. Each tank will store up to 15 million gallons of water for emergencies and day-to-day operations.

Because water tanks play such an important role, they will be designed to current seismic standards with extra safety features. Some features include:

- ✓ Seismic cables will be used to connect tank walls and foundations.
- ✓ Pre-stressed concrete will be used to make sure tank walls do not crack during an earthquake.
- ✓ Sensor valves will be installed on inlet and outlet pipes that can be closed to prevent water loss through broken pipes/leaks in the system that could drain the tank.
- ✓ Pipe connections that are flexible, making them less likely to break.

Our Future Water Supply

The Willamette Water Supply Program is a partnership between Tualatin Valley Water District and the City of Hillsboro to develop the mid-Willamette River at Wilsonville as an additional water supply source. This new system, when operational in 2026, will provide a reliable water supply for the region while also helping water system operators balance supply during times of drought or other supply interruptions, and recover more quickly after a large natural disaster.

Learn More

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