



State of Oregon
Water Resources Department
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Salem, Oregon 97301
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www.oregon.gov/OWRD

Fee Schedule

Effective July 1, 2025

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WATER USE PERMIT APPLICATIONS
(OAR Chapter 690, Division 310)

Please use our EASY Online Fee Estimator:
http://apps.wrd.state.or.us/apps/misc/wrd_fee_calculator/

1. Application for Groundwater or Surface Water

Surface Water Base \$1,635.00
Groundwater Base \$2,355.00

PLUS:
1st cubic foot per second (CFS) or fraction thereof.....\$615.00
Each additional CFS or fraction thereof.....\$615.00
Each additional use, point of diversion or well after the 1st.....\$615.00
Permit Recording Fee..... See Page 3

If also proposing to appropriate stored water under the surface water application, add the following:

Each Acre Foot (AF) or fraction thereof up to 20 AF\$62.00
Each additional AF or fraction thereof\$2.10

2. Application to Store Water in a Reservoir (Standard Process)

To Store Water Base \$1,635.00

PLUS:
Each Acre Foot (AF) or fraction thereof up to 20 AF\$62.00
Each additional AF or fraction thereof.....\$2.10
Each additional storage location after the 1st.....\$240.00
Permit Recording Fee..... See Page 3

Note: An application for an Aquifer Storage and Recovery permit shall be accompanied by the same fee as described for an application to store water, as shown above.

3. Application to use Stored Water ONLY

Base\$915.00

PLUS:
Each Acre Foot (AF) or fraction thereof up to 20 AF\$62.00
Each additional AF or fraction thereof up to 600 AF.....\$2.10
Each additional AF or fraction thereof after 600 AF\$1.00
Permit Recording Fee..... See Page 3

ALTERNATE PERMIT APPLICATION FOR QUALIFYING RESERVOIRS
(Storing less than 9.2 acre-feet or dam less than 10 feet in height) ORS 537.409

Base	\$720.00
<i>PLUS:</i>	
Each Acre Foot (AF) or fraction thereof	\$62.00
Permit Recording Fee	See below

WATER USE PERMIT RECORDING FEES

As of July 1, 2009, there is a permit recording fee required for all new permits, including permits issued under the Alternate Reservoir Process. These fees must be paid prior to permit issuance and may be paid earlier. A refund will be made if the fee is paid early but no permit is issued.

Standard permit recording fee	\$915.00
Additional fee if permit approval involves mitigation for impacts to the proposed water source	\$1,185.00

WATER USE AUTHORIZATIONS
(OAR Chapter 690, Division 340)

1. Limited License	
Base 1 st point of diversion	\$280.00
Each additional point of diversion	\$30.00
For a limited license requiring the use of water for Aquifer Storage & Recovery testing purposes	\$1,150.00
For renewal of a limited license for Aquifer Storage & Recovery testing purposes	\$575.00
For modification of a limited license for Aquifer Storage & Recovery testing purposes	\$575.00
For a limited license filing requesting the use of water for Artificial Groundwater Recharge purposes	\$1,150.00
2. Registration of Water Use for Road Maintenance and Construction	
Initial application	\$340.00
Renewal (each year)	\$60.00

EMERGENCY DROUGHT APPLICATIONS
(OAR Chapter 690, Division 19)

1. Emergency Water Use Permit	
Examination Fee.....	\$200.00
Recording Fee:	
For the 1st CFS or fraction thereof	\$400.00
For each additional CFS or fraction thereafter	\$100.00
2. Temporary Drought Transfer	
Examination Fee.....	\$100.00
Recording Fee:	
For the 1st CFS or fraction thereof	\$100.00
For each additional CFS or fraction thereafter	\$50.00
3. Option or Agreement	
Application Fee	\$200.00
4. Temporary Substitution	
Application Fee	\$100.00

TRANSFER OF WATER RIGHTS (CHANGES TO WATER RIGHTS)

(OAR Chapter 690, Divisions 380 and 385)

Please use our EASY Online Fee Estimator

http://apps.wrd.state.or.us/apps/misc/wrd_fee_calculator/ or the worksheets in the application forms.

For additional assistance in calculating transfer fees, call (503) 986-0801 or (503) 986-0890.

1. Regular Transfers, Permit Amendments, and Water Right Exchanges

A type of change is any of the following: place of use, point of diversion/appropriation, or character of use.

Base: Minimum fee for one change to a single water right.....\$2,040.00

PLUS:

Additional fee for transfers that change a well location, add a well,
change from a surface water diversion to a well, or a substitution\$720.00

Each additional point of appropriation (well) after the first\$615.00

Each additional water right or permit (including supplemental water rights)\$915.00

Each additional type of change requested \$1,635.00

For a change in place of use or type of use or water exchange:

For each cubic foot per second (CFS) or fraction in addition to the 1st CFS\$615.00

(Calculate CFS for primary rights only, not supplemental rights)

2. Temporary Transfers

Temporary transfers are allowed for a change in place of use, a change in point of diversion/appropriation if necessary to convey water to the new temporary place of use, a change in character of use identified in a right to store water, and a change in character of use under some circumstances in the Deschutes Basin.

Base fee for change to one water right\$1,425.00

PLUS:

Each additional water right or permit (including supplemental water rights) \$465.00

Irrigation uses: Charge per acre of land irrigated (acres of primary irr. only)\$4.10
(or \$1.10 if submitted in a Department approved digital format)

Non-Irrigation uses: Charge for each CFS or fraction beyond the 1st CFS\$345.00

3. Permanent Irrigation District Transfers

Base fee for change to one water right \$2,040.00

PLUS:

Each additional water right or permit (including supplemental rights)..... \$915.00

For each cubic foot per second (CFS) or fraction in addition to the 1st CFS\$615.00

(Calculate CFS for primary rights only, not supplemental rights)

4. Temporary Irrigation District Transfers

Base fee for change to one water right\$1,425.00

PLUS:

Each additional water right or permit (including supplemental rights).....\$465.00

Irrigation uses: Charge per acre of land irrigated (acres of primary irr. only)\$4.10
(or \$0.70 if submitted in a Department approved digital format)

Non-Irrigation uses: Charge for each CFS or fraction beyond the 1st CFS\$345.00

5. Substitution of Primary Surface Water Right for Supplemental Groundwater Right

Base fee for first well substitution.....\$1,485.00

PLUS:

Each additional well substitution\$720.00

6. Waiver of Fees (OAR 690-380-3400)

The Director shall waive \$100.00 or 50 percent of the application fee, whichever is greater, for that portion of a change to a water right permit under ORS 537.211(4) or a water right subject to transfer under ORS 540.520 or 540.523, that is:

- (1) To establish an instream water right pursuant to ORS 537.348;
- (2) Necessary to complete a project funded by the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board under ORS 541.932; or
- (3) Determined and endorsed in writing by ODFW as a change that will result in a net benefit to fish and wildlife habitat.

GROUNDWATER REGISTRATION MODIFICATIONS
(OAR Chapter 690, Division 382)

Examination of an application to ONLY change the place of use under a groundwater certificate of registration	\$875.00
Examination of all other applications to modify a groundwater certificate of registration.....	\$1,250.00

NOTE: If the applicant for a modification to change the point of appropriation (well) abandons the original well identified in the claim according to well construction standards within one year of the Department’s recognition of the modification, the applicant may request a refund of \$100.00 of the fee paid under OAR 690-382-0400(18)(b).

INSTREAM LEASES
(OAR Chapter 690, Division 77)

To lease a water right instream:	
For a lease involving four or more landowners or four or more water rights.....	\$915.00
For all other leases	\$615.00
To renew a lease	\$225.00

ALLOCATION OF CONSERVED WATER
(OAR Chapter 690, Division 18)

Examination of an application for an allocation of conserved water:	
For the 1 st water right involved in the allocation.....	\$2,040.00*
<i>PLUS:</i>	
Each additional water right involved in the allocation	\$720.00
*Fee may be reduced under ORS 536.050(5)	

WATER MANAGEMENT AND CONSERVATION PLAN
(OAR Chapter 690, Division 86)

Examination of a water management and conservation plan:	
For a plan submitted by an agricultural water supplier	\$1020.00
For a plan submitted by a municipal water supplier serving a population of 1,000 or less	\$1,830.00

For a plan submitted by a municipal water supplier serving a population
of more than 1,000\$3,675.00

WELL CONSTRUCTION AND COMPLIANCE FEES
(OAR Chapter 690, Division 190, Division 205, & Division 240)

1. Start Card Fee (Notice of Beginning of Well Construction) \$490.00

Each Start Card submitted for the construction of a new well, deepening of an existing well, or conversion of a well is to be accompanied by a fee of \$490.00. This includes both water supply and monitoring wells. (ORS 537.762)

2. Geotechnical Hole Fee (First Hole) \$25.00

Each additional hole in a 7-day period on the same project site.....\$10.00

A geotechnical hole is constructed to collect subsurface data, monitor movement of landslide features, or to stabilize or dewater landslide features.

A geotechnical hole report shall be signed by an Oregon licensed Monitoring Well Constructor, an Oregon licensed Water Well Constructor, an Oregon Registered Geologist or an Oregon Professional Engineer and must be submitted to the Department if the geotechnical hole is (ORS 537.880-537.895):

- Greater than 18 feet deep;
- Within 50 feet of a water supply or monitoring well;
- Used to make a determination of water quality; or
- Constructed in an area of known or reasonably suspected contamination.

3. Landowner Permit Fee \$550.00

If a well is to be constructed, altered, abandoned or converted by a person on property owned by that person, by means of a well drilling machine, the person shall obtain a permit from the Commission before beginning work. (ORS 537.753)

4. Well Construction Exam Study Packet Fee \$30.00

A Well Construction Exam Study Packet includes copies of Oregon Administrative Rules and Oregon Revised Statutes, with appendices, tables and figures, pertaining to the appropriation and use of groundwater, State of Oregon licensing requirements, well construction, and the preparation and filing of Start Cards and Well Reports. The fee is only charged if the applicant would like a printed copy of the study packet. The packet is also available online for free.

<https://www.oregon.gov/owrd/programs/GWWL/WCC/resourcesforwellconstructors/Pages/Licensing-Examp-Information.aspx> (ORS 537.750)

5. Well Constructor License Fees

Exam Fee\$25.00

Initial License Fee\$165.00

Renewal License Fee (licenses are valid for two years)	\$165.00
Late License Renewal Fee (includes \$100.00 late fee).....	\$275.00

Any person advertising services to construct, alter, abandon or convert wells, offer to enter or enter into a contract with another person or public agency to construct, alter, abandon or convert a well for such other person, cause any well construction, alteration, abandonment or conversion to be performed under such a contract or operate well drilling machinery shall possess a water well constructor’s license, in good standing, issued by the Department. (ORS 537.747)

6. Exempt Use Well Fee \$300.00

The exempt use fee is paid to record new exempt use groundwater wells. The program is meant to improve the management of groundwater throughout the state. The fee is used to support the evaluation of groundwater supplies, conduct groundwater studies, and to carry out monitoring and processing of groundwater data. (ORS 537.545)

DAM SAFETY ANNUAL FEES
(OAR Chapter 690, Division 20)

The hazard rating is based on potential damage a dam can do to downstream infrastructure or people if it catastrophically failed. It is not a reflection on the condition or maintenance of the existing dam. The rating is determined by calculating or estimating the degree of flooding that would occur and whether homes, roads or business would be flooded, and if there is a potential for loss of life.

Low Hazard Rating Fee	\$190.00
Significant Hazard Rating Fee.....	\$360.00
High Hazard Rating Fee	\$1,235.00
Late Fee	\$220.00

OTHER FEES

Filing a protest:

- By a non-applicant\$1,425.00
- By an applicant.....\$720.00

To request standing in a contested case hearing\$405.00

To participate in a contested case hearing (requires standing)..... \$1,020.00

To request a basin program exception under ORS 536.295 \$1,170.00

Extension of time to develop a water use permit or transfer \$1,170.00

To reinstate a permit that has been cancelled\$915.00

Assignment or partial assignment of a water right application, permit
or license under 537.220 or 537.635\$180.00

Assignment (“Split-A-Permit”) of a water right to one or more
landowners and issuance of replacement water right permits..... Actual cost of work

To submit a Claim of Beneficial Use for permits with a priority date of July 9, 1987 or later,
or transfers submitted on July 9, 1987 or later\$345.00

Blueprint or Computer-Generated Map Actual cost of the work

To receive a copy of both a Proposed Final Order and Final Order on a pending water right
application or permit extension.....\$53.00

Certification of Copies (fee for each certificate).....\$21.00

Copying of documents by the Department:

- For the 1st page\$4.10
- For each additional page.....\$1.10

Copying of documents by the customer:

- Minimum charge\$2.00
- Charge per page\$0.10

Research and scanning of water rights:

- Minimum charge (½ hour)
- Charge per hour Actual cost of work

Adjudication Claim Fees..... see ORS 539.081