# Mid-Coast Water Conservation Consortium (Mid Coast Water)

Dedicated to promoting water conservation and improving regional supply resilience.



## **Topics**

- Background
- Goals and Benefits
- Activities
- How to become a Member

## Background

- Formed in April 2021 by a group of Lincoln County Water providers
  - To promote water conservation and improve regional water supply resilience
- Enables water providers to pool resources and share knowledge
- Helps build community awareness and address shared water supply challenges.

# **Initial Members**



Other water providers are beginning to participate. Goal: All Mid-Coast water providers are participating.

## **Consortium Goals**



Improve water supply resiliency



Promote water conservation



Share resources and knowledge

## Benefits

- Coordinated messaging reduces confusion for customers
- Bulk discounts on conservation supplies
- Building regional resiliency for drought, shortages, and emergencies
- Pooled resources

# Activities

## **Ongoing Activities**

- Water conservation outreach
  - Press releases, newsletter articles, billing inserts and messages, Consumer Confidence Report content, website maintenance
- Water provider recruitment
  - Water Provider Resources Guide
- Water-efficient fixtures (showerheads and faucet aerators) and leak detection tablets purchasing and distribution
- Elementary school water conservation lesson plan
- Monthly meetings
- Annual work plan

# **Customer Outreach**

### **Newsletter**

#### Check Out the New Mid-Coast Water Conservation Website

We are pleased to announce that the Mid-Coast Water Conservation Consortium (Mid-Coast Water) has a new conservation website, <u>midcoastwater.org</u>, full of resources to educate our community about conserving water resources. Water conservation helps our region be more resilient when experiencing water supply challenges, such as drought.



Information you can find on the website includes:

#### Indoor and Outdoor Conservation Tips

- Water-Efficient Plumbing —Fixture updates that will help you save water without changing routines.
- Leak Detection Ways to identify leaks in the home and yard.
- Water-Efficient Habits Actions you can take to save water consistently indoors and outdoors.
- Water-Efficient Landscapes Plants and landscape management activities that help reduce water needs.
- Irrigation Technologies Tools to help you irrigate more efficiently.
- Think Outside the Box Other creative ideas for saving water.

#### News and Events

Updates about the region, such as drought declarations, press releases, and upcoming community events.

#### About the Mid-Coast Water Conservation Consortium

The purpose, history, and timeline of Mid-Coast Water.

#### **Educator and Business Resources**

Conservation lesson plan for fourth graders and assistance for businesses.

# Billing Inserts

#### Save Water This Summer

Water is a vital resource that allows our community to thrive. It's important that we each do our part to use this valuable resource wisely, especially in summer when water demand increases and streamflows are at their lowest.

Here are some actions you can take to save water this summer:



Check for leaks and drips at indoor and outdoor fixtures.



Install a hose timer or a weather-based irrigation controller on an irrigation system to manage watering amounts.



Position sprinklers to prevent irrigating concrete or hardscaping.



Install water-efficient fixtures, such as low-flow showerheads, faucet aerators, and toilets.



#### A New Water Conservation Website for Our Region!

Water is a shared and valuable resource. When we come together and conserve water, we increase the reliability of our water sources.

The Mid-Coast Water Conservation
Consortium (Mid-Coast Water) just
launched a website, midcoastwater.org,
with water conservation tips and more!
Mid-Coast Water is a group of regional
water providers who are working
together to promote water conservation
and to improve resiliency to drought
and other water supply issues.

#### The new website includes:

- Information about Mid-Coast Water and why water conservation is needed in our region
- · Tips for saving water indoors and outdoors
- News and events related to water resources and conservation in the Mid-Coast region

#### How to Save Water at Home

Here are some things you can do at home to conserve precious water resources:

- 1. Use your water meter to detect leaks. Record your water meter number before leaving your house when no water fixtures or appliances are running, then record the number after you return home. If the number is different after not using water for a few hours, you have a leak that needs attention.
- Minimize your shower time and install an efficient showerhead. Replacement showerheads may be available for free through your water provider.
- In the summer, use a broom instead of a hose to clean your outdoor spaces.
- 4. Set your lawn mower blades higher to promote deeper roots.
- Generally, Irrigate for longer and less frequently.
   You want water to reach the roots and encourage deeper growth.

#### Here are some easy ways to save water at home:

Detect toilet leaks and replace parts, like the flapper, to fix them.





Install water-efficient showerheads and faucet aerators.

CCR Content

Upgrade your toilet to a water-efficient model (look for the WaterSense label).





Water your lawn only when it needs it, aim sprinklers low to the ground, and water in the early morning.

Use soil moisture sensors, weather-based controllers, or drip irrigation to prevent overwatering.



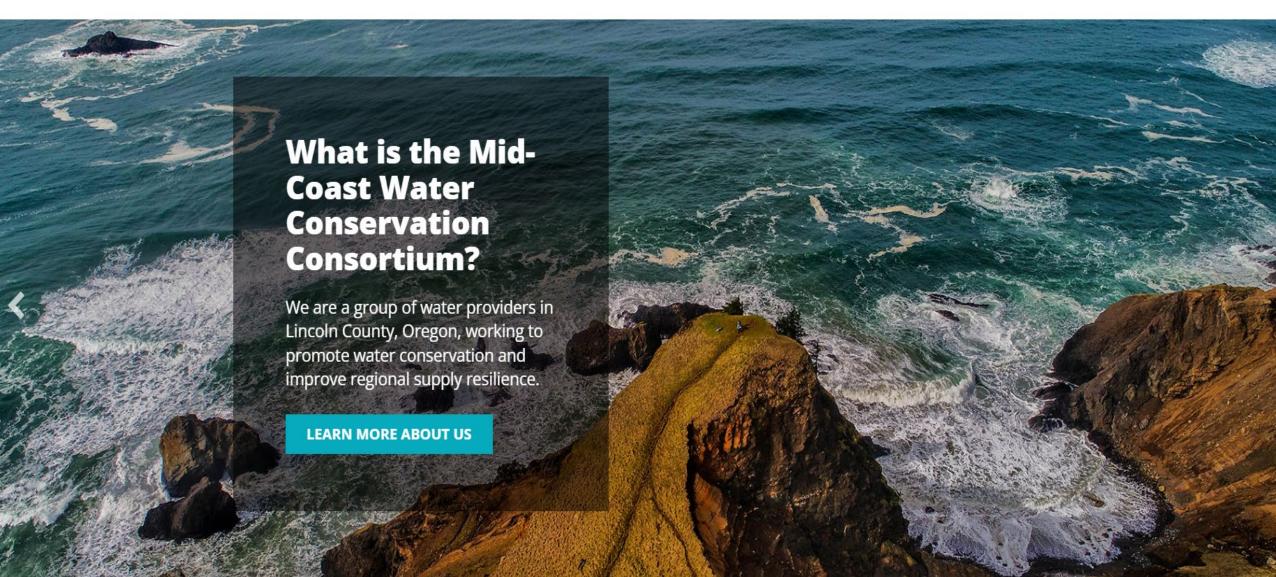


Check for leaks in faucets and showerheads and fix them.

Logo development







Mid-Coast Water Future

## Accomplishments

- January 2022: Elementary School Lesson Plan
- April 2022: Water-Saving Fixtures
- April 2023: Launched Mid-Coast Water website

## **New Activities**

- Event booth hosting and event outreach materials
  - Flyer, bookmarks, kids activity sheet
- Vacation rental outreach materials (include as a requirement for annual license renewal)
  - Table tent, flyer, small wall posting
- Rebate program funding application
  - Step 1: Develop a proposed approach and apply for funding to implement a rebate program

Student outreach

## Become a Member

- Contact Mid-Coast Water about participating anytime
- Contributions are voluntary
- Scope and budget change annually depending on planned activities

