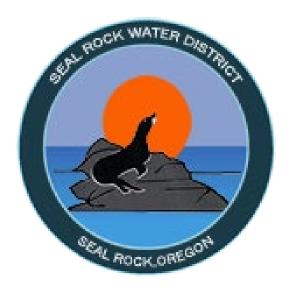
### SEAL ROCK WATER DISTRICT

## ADVANCED METERING INFRASTRUCTURE (AMI) & MY WATER USAGE CUSTOMER PORTAL





#### THE BEGINNING

The installation of our AMI (Advanced Metering Infrastructure) system was part of a \$1.5 million dollar project that was fully funded through a grant provided by the United States Department of Agriculture Rural Development or USDA.





### **OUR STORY**

AFTER OUR COMPLETE AMI INSTALL WE FOUND OURSELVES ASKING, "WHAT IS NEXT???"









## SENSUS REACH 2018 CONFERENCE



- We attended a presentation from City of Cedar Park Texas regarding their customer portal campaign
- We were then inspired to do all we could to have our own customer portal campaign
- 10 % of customers signed up was a good adoption rate
- Important factor in our success was teamwork & support from management



## LIFE BEFORE AMI & THE CUSTOMER PORTAL



#### Millions of gallons lost...

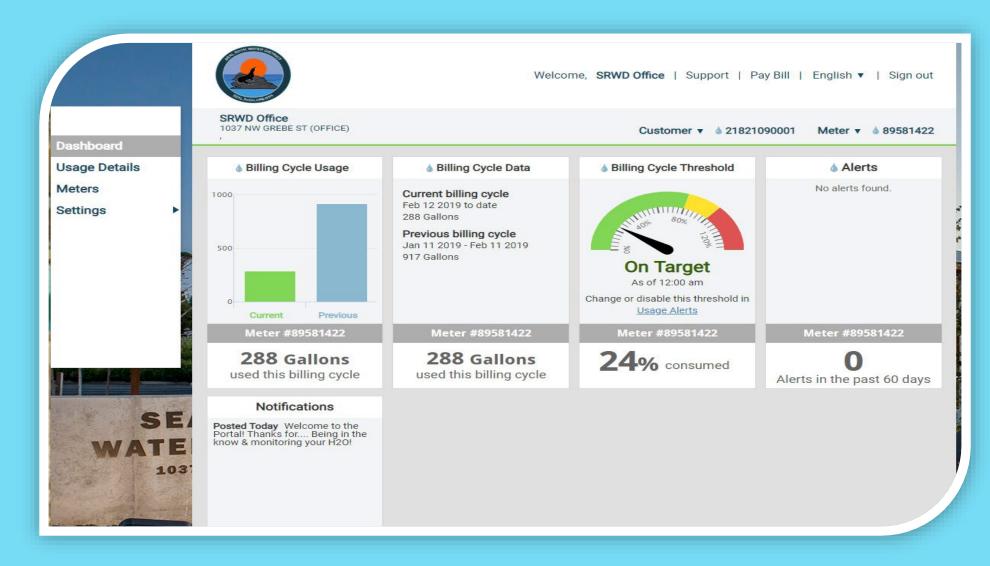
- Meters were read once a month for billing purposes
- We couldn't tell customers when high usage occurred
- Leak adjustments as high as 5 million gallons credited annually

## LIFE AFTER AMI & THE CUSTOMER PORTAL

#### Millions of gallons saved...

- Meters are read hourly
- We can tell customers exactly when high usage occurs
- Customers are notified that they have high usage through alerts set up in the Customer Portal
- Leak adjustments are virtually non-existent

#### CUSTOMER PORTAL





## "WHAT TYPES OF ALERTS WOULD BENEFIT OUR CUSTOMERS?"

#### **Billing Cycle Usage Alert**

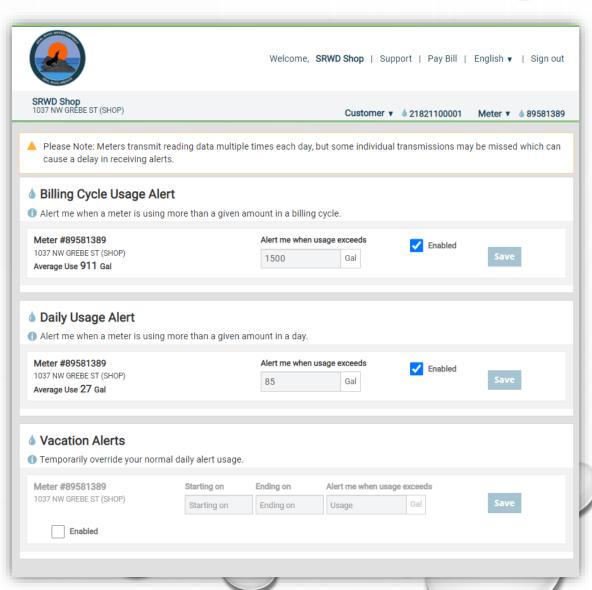
 Helpful in conservation and/or managing water use and associated cost reduction.

#### **Daily Usage Alert**

 Higher than expected daily usage could be a sign of a leak, over irrigation, something running or some other factor you can then correct.

#### **Vacation Alerts**

 Used to determine if a higher-thanexpected volume of water is being used while on vacation or away from property.





## CUSTOMER ENGAGEMENT



#### Seal Kock water District

## My Water Usage Customer Portal



#### My Water Usage Customer Portal - Sign up today!

Sign up in order to view your usage, set up alerts and be smart with your water usage.



#### My Water Usage Customer Portal Sign In or Sign Up

Monitor your water usage by creating an account through our customer portal. Sign up today!

CLICK HERE TO SIGN IN OR SIGN UP »



#### My Water Usage Customer Portal Support & Instructions

Need help signing up for or using the portal...give us a call and we will be happy to help!

READ MORE »

#### QUICKLINKS

- How to Read Your Meter
- My Water Usage Customer
  Portal
- ? FAQs
- Stat
- Board Members
- Meetings

#### **BOARD MEETING**

APR **14** 

Board Meeting 4:00 pm via Zoom



#### 1037 NW Grebe Street

Seal Rock, Oregon 97376

Phone: 541.563.3529 - Fax: 541.563.4246

www.srwd.org

#### **Seal Rock Water District**







#### Announcing My Water Usage Customer Portal



With the successful completion of the districtwide Smart Meter installation where the District's water meters are communicating reads via wireless radio frequencies - just like wireless internet and cable TV, we are pleased to announce that the My Water Usage Customer Portal is now available to you.

In the Customer Portal you can view your usage, set up alerts and be smart with your water usage. Our staff have been calling customers alerting them to high usage that is due to leaks or continuous water flow but we are wanting our customers to take a proactive part in finding and fixing leaks. Thus with the Customer Portal you are in the driver's seat where you can monitor your water usage.

Join us in preserving and protecting our environment by monitoring your water usage for unnecessary water usage.

#### Be In The Know...Monitor Your H2O!

There are two ways to log in to our new My Water Usage Customer Portal to view your water usage:

- Go to bit.ly/mywaterusage OR
- Go to our website at www.srwd.org & click on My Water Usage Customer Portal (see reverse for sign up instructions).









If you have any questions give us a call at 541-563-3529



#### H20 HAPPY HOUR

Wednesday
March 6, 2019
3 pm - 6 pm
Seal Rock Water District Office

Free Water Saving Kits

#### My Water Usage Customer Portal Sign Up

Monitor your water usage and set up alerts to notify you of high usage by creating an account through our new customer portal.

Bring your tablet, smartphone or laptop to our office and we will help you with signing up to the portal and answer any questions you may have about the portal.

Snacks Desserts Drinks



Join us at our office: 1037 NW Grebe Street in Seal Rock

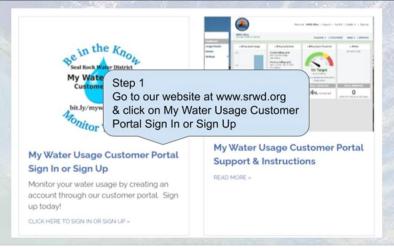


#### My Water Usage Customer Portal Sign Up Today!

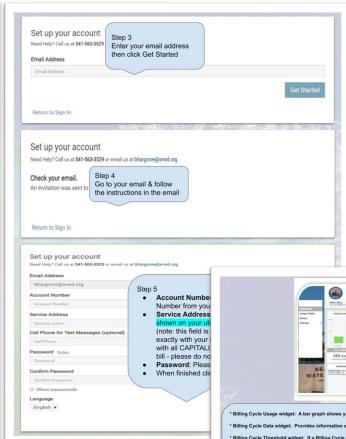


In the Customer Portal you can view your usage, set up alerts and be smart with your water usage. We are wanting our customers to take a proactive part in finding and fixing leaks. Join us in preserving and protecting our environment by monitoring your water usage for unnecessary water usage.

Once you set up an account be sure to set up the Billing Cycle Usage Alert <u>and</u> the Daily Usage Alert so that you will be notified when you have abnormal usage or a leak See last page for details.



Email Address		
Email Address		
Password		
Password		
Show password	Step 2 Click on Need to set up an account?	Sign i



#### How To Set Usage Alerts:

- In Usage Alerts look at your Average Use under Billing Cycle Usage Alert (this is for 30 days usage)
- Then click on the box next to Enabled and then click in the box below Alert me when usage exceeds
  and enter an amount that you would like to be notified if the usage goes over that amount and then
  click Save. You may want to set the alerts twice a year, once in winter & once in summer.
- Do the same for Daily Usage Alert (this is for daily usage)
- No need to set up the Multi-Day Alert unless you have an irrigation system.

\* Note: if you are a new customer you will not have an average use under Billing Cycle Usage Alert because this amount is for 30 days, you may want to enter only an amount in the Daily Usage Alert for now until you have been using water for over 30 days





Billing Cycle Usage widget: A bar graph shows your usage in the current billing cycle & in the most recent prior billing cycle.

\* Billing Cycle Data widget: Provides information about current & previous usage & correlates to the Billing Cycle Usage graph.

Billing Cycle Threshold widget: If a Billing Cycle Alert has been set up, you can monitor your percent consumption based on the threshold value you set. To set up a Billing Cycle Alert, you can click the link to configure one.

\* Alerts widget: Provides a summary of any Alerts that you received in the past 60 days. Click on an alert to dismiss it. You can set up various Alerts using the Meters Page or under Settings.

\* Notifications widget: Notifications that the District may distribute periodically to customer



- \* The Usage Details Page provides details regarding your usage as well as rainfall and temperature data. This information can be displayed over time periods of 24 hours, 7 days, 30 days, and 12 months. Previous time periods can be displayed by using the forward and back arrows above the usage graph.
- \* To choose a specific time frame, click on the blank boxes next to the 12 months button. A calendar will appear where you can choose specific dates. To show 24 hour usage for a specific day, choose the same date in both boxes.
- \* Usage and weather data is displayed when you hover the mouse over a specific bar or points on the graphs. The information shown on the Usage Detail Page can be downloaded by clicking the three lines in the upper right hand corner of the chart.

Automated meters transmit reading data multiple times each day, however some individual transmissions may be blocked for a number of reasons. This can result in delays in receiving readings and alerts.



defined billing cycle. This setting is helpful for

ter understanding of your typical daily usage at our typical daily usage is, you will be able to set a daily ed. Higher than expected daily usage could be a sign

y alert is helpful due to the difference in usage for mount of water used over a 7 day period.

han expected volume of water is being used while you



#### Seal Rock Water District Issues a Stage 1 Water System Advisory:

On June 28, 2021, Lincoln County Board of Commissioners adopted a Declaration of Local Drought Disaster for Lincoln County.

During a drought, water conservation matters more than ever. Across the Mid-Coast region, communities rely on surface water from rivers and streams, and flows are much lower than normal this year.

What does this mean for our water supply? Here in Seal Rock Water District, currently our water comes from the Siletz River. Currently due to drought conditions, the district is issuing a Stage 1 water curtailment notice. If drought conditions continue to worsen, we will need to implement additional water curtailment measures. We will be monitoring our water supply and we will keep you informed about the status of our water supply throughout the summer.

Conservation will help our water supply go further. Water conservation is important every summer, but even more so during a drought. During the dry season, water use spikes because of landscape irrigation and the influx of visitors. In some areas, summer water use is more than twice the amount used in winter! That is why we are encouraging everyone to do their part to conserve water. The more we can conserve, the better our chances of avoiding the need for further water curtailment actions.

How you can help: Everyone in our community has a role to play in conserving our water resources – from residents and businesses to visitors. Here are some ways you can help:

- · Check your irrigation system for leaks and fix them as soon as you can.
- Make sure you're giving your plants only as much water as they need. If you see runoff after you irrigate, you may be watering too much. Considering cutting back the frequency or duration of irrigation, especially for well-established plants.
- Use drip irrigation, soaker hoses, and other efficient watering systems to send water straight to the roots of your plants.
- Water early in the morning so that water isn't lost to evaporation in the heat of the day.
- Make sure the sprinklers irrigating your landscape aren't also spraying pavement or other impervious surfaces.
- Install more water-efficient fixtures, such as faucet aerators and showerheads, in your home.
- Check for indoor leaks, such as a running toilet.
- Reduce your shower time.

For more information regarding water conservation, please visit the district's website at <a href="https://www.srwd.org">www.srwd.org</a>.



Be sure to sign up for Alerts so that you will be notified if you have abnormal usage or a leak.

Monitor your water usage by creating an account through our customer portal at <a href="https:/bit.ly/mywaterusage">https:/bit.ly/mywaterusage</a> or go to our website <a href="www.srwd.org">www.srwd.org</a> and click on the Be In The Know Monitor Your H2O My Water Usage Customer Portal logo. Please note that the My Water Usage Customer Portal is different from Xpress Bill Pay. You cannot access the portal through Xpress Bill Pay.

To sign up all you need is your account number and your service address <u>exactly</u> as it appears on your paper bill or on your Xpress Bill Pay account.

- If you already have an My Water Usage Customer Portal account make sure you have a daily usage alert set up. This will help you as a customer conserve water & also help catch leaks.
- Want to check and see how much water you're using when you are irrigating and how
  often? Check your daily usage down to the hour. Irrigation systems can be set up
  incorrectly or get stuck in the on position.

Please contact us if you need help signing up or setting up Alerts and we will be happy to assist you.

Also, visit our website www.srwd.org for tutorials on how to sign up and how to use the portal.

Join us in preserving & protecting our environment.

20 Protect the Source (3

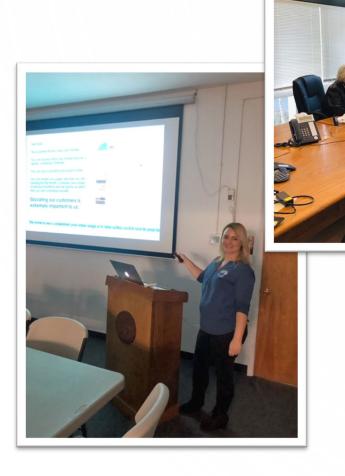


### **POSTCARDS**





## PRESENTATIONS & SOCIAL EVENTS

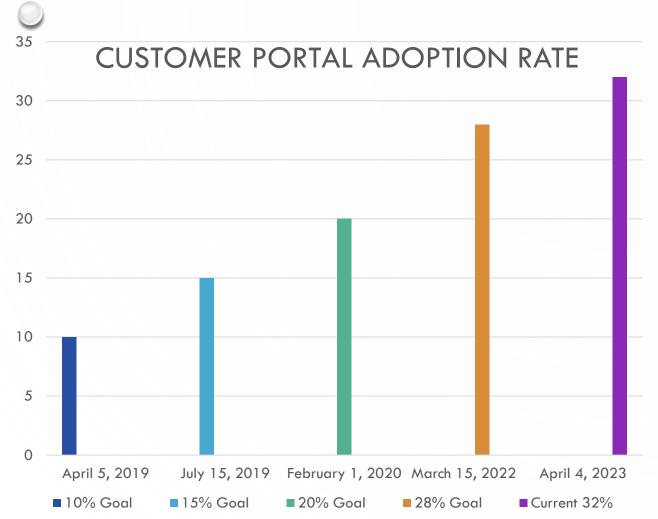






## CUSTOMER ENGAGEMENT RESULTS

### CUSTOMER ENGAGEMENT RESULTS









# POSITIVE RESPONSES FROM OUR CUSTOMERS

"Last year, while away on a trip, the usage alerts I received from the system identified that I had a leak. At first, I assumed I had another toilet flapper fail, but the volume was a bit more, and I was able to have my neighbor turn off my water supply to stop the usage until I returned. Once home it took a bit of investigating to find the old copper pipe that "burst" in the wall behind the washing machine and have it repaired. Without the usage alerts, I would have had a much larger bill than the minor flooding of basement carpet I experienced before I returned to repair the problem and am very happy My Water Usage Customer Portal was watching out for me." - SRWD Customer

"We really like using the My Water Usage
Customer Portal for several reason. We use it to
track trends of our water usage and set up daily
usage alerts to help us conserve water. Our daily
usage alert is set for 120 gallons a day and we
try to stay under that amount. It becomes a
challenge on laundry, and we end up going over
and we do receive an alert. We celebrate it when
we don't get an alert on that day!"
- SRWD Customer

"We purchased the property in 2018 while living remotely from the area and up until our remodel at the end of 2021 we had several leak events caused by different problems which were caught by the Portal and either we were called or notified by email/text of the situation. This enabled us to engage the resources necessary to fix the problems quickly and efficiently to minimize water waste due to the various leaks. Toilet flapper and fill valves, faucets, outdoor hose bibs and even a cap on a PVC stub on the main after the meter and ahead of the house SOV failed causing leaks that could have gone undetected had it not been for the Portal and smart meters."

-SRWD Customer

"We have, on a couple of occasions, been alerted to a hose that had been left on. We also found a leak at our meter. For the most part, our water usage is due to guests. We do like the portal very much and rely on it to let us know if anything is amiss"

-SRWD Customer

"Use the alert whenever not at home. We decided to spend Christmas away from home. Six hours and many miles the dreaded- did you turn off the water. Worst yet it snowed and I was sure Santa knew I was naughty"

-SRWD Customer

"Glad we have the ability to monitor our home from a distance"

-SRWD Customer

"I think it is great. We were out of town and was informed that we had a leak. We drove back home and made the repair. I think the monitoring system is a big plus.

Especially in most water systems a leak is found out after the bill comes out"

-SRWD Customer

"This is an Excellent tool"

-SRWD Customer

"I use this as a fail safe for leaks, pipe breaks, or mishaps, ect. I love having a notification system for water! Thanks so much for this option!"

-SRWD Customer

"Last fall my neighbor was watering a few plants for us and the valve wasn't turned off completely. I received an alert regarding overuse and my neighbor went over & found the problem and fixed it right away"

-SRWD Customer

#### HOW DO OUR CUSTOMERS USE THE PORTAL

- Check for leaking toilets
- Check for spikes in water usage
- Knowledge of how much water they use in a given day, week or month
- Track how much sprinkler system is using and making adjustments to the duration for better water conservation
- Check to make sure there is no water usage while a homeowner is on vacation
- Checking if new dishwasher's water saving feature makes a difference
- Used to follow up after fixing a leak
- Detect irrigation systems that turn on when people weren't aware









#### HOW DO OUR CUSTOMERS USE THE PORTAL

- Monitor guest use
- Used customer portal information to lower the maximum occupancy in their short-term rental to help lower the water usage and extend the life of the septic system.
- Check to see if someone is using the house
- Brought comfort to homeowners who don't live here when temperatures dropped to freezing because they could check their water usage, which may have indicated broken pipes.







## SEAL ROCK WATER DISTRICT

PROTECT THE SOURCE

