

EPA's Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF)

In Oregon, the Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) provided loans to convert miles of open, earthen irrigation ditches to a pressurized and piped system for Hood River's Farmers Irrigation District. Most recently the Farmers Irrigation District also began using the CWSRF loans to purchase equipment for production of clean, renewable energy through micro-hydroelectric generation. Results of the Farmer Irrigation District's full project has resulted in:

- 6 billion gallons of water conserved annually
- 2,000 supplemental water right acres have been abandoned (the water rights have been sold for permanent instream habitat; with the proceeds used to pay off loans used to fund the project)
- 2 minimum flow agreements adopted (Hood River and Green Point Creek)
- 7,800 trees planted In the Green Point Creek riparian corridor
- 2,000 average homes could be powered annually through the energy produced by this irrigation district

Other recent Clean Water Act/Drinking Water Act efforts supporting water conservation include:

- Development of new Guidelines on the use of gray water for water conservation efforts. Newly updated, authoritative reference for facilitating further development of water reuse practices. Working with the National Science Foundation to develop a national standard (Standard 350 and 350-1) for gray water requirements for onsite residential and commercial water reuse treatment systems. This standard will allow treated wastewater (i.e. treated effluent) to be used for restricted indoor water use, such as toilet and urinal flushing, and outdoor unrestricted water use, such as lawn irrigation.
- Water Sense- an EPA partnership program that emphasizes water conservation through public education and outreach
- EPA's Safe Drinking Water Act programs also emphasize water conservation for the approximately 155,000 public water systems in the United States that provide drinking water to 90% of all Americans.
- EPA is working with state, tribal, local governments, and communities, to build resiliency and develop tools to address and respond to the impacts of climate change in the water sector.