

City of Port Townsend

UTILITIES NEWSLETTER

July 2026

City of Port Townsend Utility Billing

250 Madison St.
(360) 385-3000
9am–4pm M–Th
ptutilities@cityofpt.us

Info & Forms



cityofpt.us/finance/page/utility-information

Check Fire Danger

Stay safe this summer by
monitoring and following
current burn restrictions.

Visit: co.jefferson.wa.us/1687/
Office-of-the-Fire-Marshall



Happy Summer from the City of Port Townsend! Planning on spending these longer, warmer days in your garden? Consider ways to conserve water — see more information on page 2.

Receive your bill earlier with e-billing

Want to make sure you know your monthly balance as soon as it's posted? Sign up to receive an e-bill that will be delivered on or around the first day of every month. With an e-bill as backup, if there is a delay in mailing bills, you'll be able to access your statement early. Plus, you'll see a detailed breakdown of rates, consumption, and adjustments. Still want a paper bill, too? No problem. Opt in or out in your settings on CivicPay. More information at cityofpt.merchantransact.com.

Join us at these City events and programs in July

- This summer kicks off several enhancement projects at **Chetzemoka Park**. From repairs to the Gazebo, to new play equipment, to the rebuilding of the Kitchen Shelter, Chetz will be busier than usual with active construction sites. Come learn about the improvements with Parks staff and share your memories about the park with representatives from the Jefferson County Historical Society. **Stop by the Gazebo from 5:00 – 6:30 pm, Thursday, July 9.**

- **Coffee & Conversation with the City Manager** is at the Fort Worden Commons Patio at Fort Worden State

Park through September. Join John Mauro, neighbors, and friends **from 9 – 10:30am on Friday, July 10**. Note, this is the second Friday, due to the 4th of July holiday. Have a safe and fun 4th, all!

- Connect with the **City at the Farmers Market** this summer. City Councilmembers and staff will host a City table to connect with the community on **July 25** and August 15. Bring your market basket for fresh veg and your curiosity for the City's work.

SIGN UP FOR THE CITY'S E-NEWS:
tinyurl.com/2cb3dcac



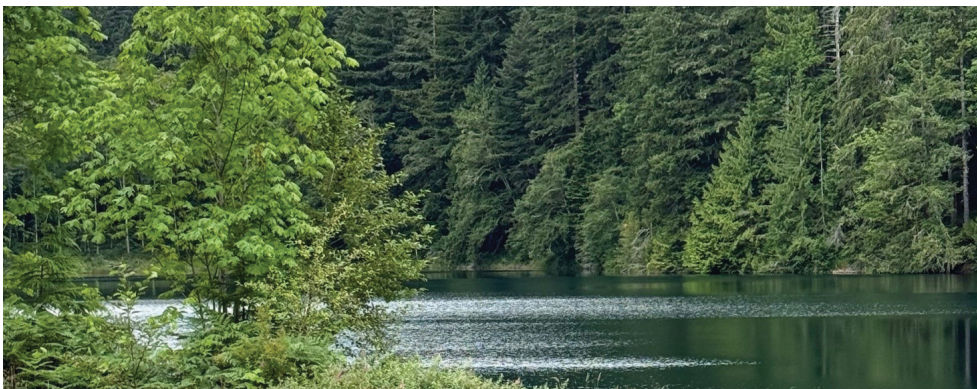
app.repd.us/porttownsend/en

QUESTION OF THE MONTH

"How can city residents help prevent sewage overflows?"

Answered by Steve King
Public Works Director

Scan the QR
code for the
answer!

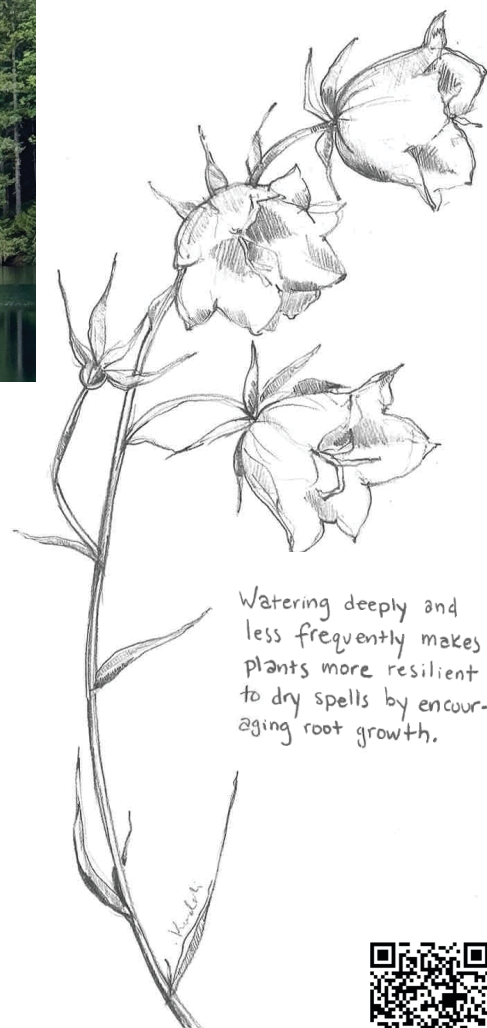


The City has been authorized by the Department of Ecology's Dam Safety Office to temporarily increase the amount of water held in Lords Lake Reservoir.

How Can We Help Conserve Water Throughout the Year?

Rivers are experiencing diminished stream flows earlier than an average year. As we enjoy the long days and sunny skies that summer brings, remember to consider our water supply in your everyday use.

Based on current patterns and data provided by USGS National Water Information System, it is anticipated that withdrawal from Lords Lake Reservoir will begin approximately six weeks earlier than an average year. In light of the water supply outlook this year, the City of Port Townsend was authorized by the Department of Ecology's Dam Safety Office to temporarily increase the amount of water held in Lords Lake Reservoir. The additional volume of stored water will provide approximately one additional week of supply. Let's make the most of the water we have. In our everyday use, are we using water in an efficient manner? Find some tips below for getting the most out of our water as we endeavor to keep our lawns, gardens, and selves healthy.



Watering deeply and less frequently makes plants more resilient to dry spells by encouraging root growth.



Did you know? We use an average of 1M gallons a day, and closer to 2M in summer. Read more conservation tips: tinyurl.com/577xxxy

WATER CONSERVATION TIPS FOR GARDENING & HOME

- Use **DRIP IRRIGATION** for plants, shrubs, & trees. Sprinklers typically lose between 25 - 50% of the water through evaporation, wind, & surface run off.
- Watering **DEEPLY & LESS FREQUENTLY** makes plants more resilient to dry spells by encouraging root growth. Water your lawn and gardens early in the morning or later in the evening (not too late, otherwise you will encourage fungal growth).
- Limit watering to approximately one inch per week, including rainfall. For best results, moisten the soil between 4-6 inches deep with each watering. This will encourage

growth of a **DEEP, MORE DROUGHT-RESISTANT ROOT STRUCTURE**. Water can be conserved by allowing lawns to go dormant, however it may be necessary to water deeply once a month in summer to keep roots alive.

- Flow from a garden hose can be more than 10 gallons of water per minute. **USE A SPRAY NOZZLE** with an automatic shutoff handle on your hose so water doesn't flow continuously. Convert to low water use landscaping, known as Xeriscape. Many plants & shrubs trees need minimal water once established.
- Take **SHOWERS INSTEAD OF BATHS**. A standard bathtub holds up to 50 gallons of water, whereas a normal shower would use less than 20 gallons. Shorter showers save

water as well as the energy used to heat the water. New showerheads use 2.5 gallons per minute or less - up to 75 percent less than older showerheads.

- **DON'T LET THE WATER RUN** when you are shaving, brushing your teeth, or hand washing dishes. Turn on the tap only when you need it! Additionally, don't use faucets at full pressure.
- **COLLECT ALL THE WATER** that is typically wasted while waiting for the hot water to reach your faucet or showerhead. Use this to water your houseplants or garden. Do the same with water that is used to boil eggs or steam vegetables.