

# VINEYARD MOUNTAIN WATER and IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT

## General Information

Vineyard Mountain Water and Improvement District (VMWID) is a tax-exempt, non-profit Public Utility District, chartered under the laws of the State of Oregon, to provide drinking water to the residents of Vineyard Mountain.

VMWID is managed by an unpaid Board of Directors, who are all residents of Vineyard Mountain. The Board's responsibilities are to set policy, to establish rates and to oversee the operation and maintenance of the system. The District contracts with the Oregon Association of Water Utilities (OAWU) a qualified and licensed professional water system operator, to maintain and operate the water system safely, reliably and in compliance with state and local regulations.

VMWID is responsible for the maintenance and repair of the water system up to and including the water meter for each house. Piping and plumbing on the house side of the water meter is the responsibility of the house owner. It is a good idea for home owners to know the location of the water meter and the associated shut-off valve in the event of emergencies (e.g., fire, broken pipes, etc.) The home owner is also responsible for maintaining the landscaping in the vicinity of the water meter so as to permit access for meter reading and repairs. Reasonably direct access from the nearest street to the meter should be maintained free of brambles, blackberries, poison oak and other similar hazards.

The water is pumped from three ground water wells, located on the District's 2.7 acre well field, west of Burgundy Drive and north of Lewisburg Drive, to three 60,000 gallon storage reservoirs and distributed by gravity to each home.

Water pressure is maintained between 40 and 80 psi at all meters. Water quality is excellent and exceeds all State and Federal safe drinking water standards. The water is not fluoridated but slightly chlorinated. Laboratory tests are performed monthly on water samples taken at various locations. Test results are submitted to the State of Oregon Health Division, Drinking Water Department, in accordance with all applicable State and Federal Regulations.

Water use is measured with a water meter at each residence. Water meters are read quarterly at the end of March, June, September and December. **Bills are sent in early April, July, October and January.** They are distributed by U. S. Mail or e-mail at the option of the customer. Water bills include a fixed charge per month plus a variable charge based on the number of cubic feet of water used during the billing period. (One cubic foot equals 7.48 gallons.)

Water rates are reviewed annually by the board of directors.

All notices and bills will be sent to home owners' address of record with the VMWID. Home owners can update their address of record by contacting VMWID billing services, by e-mail or in writing as indicated on the Contacts List on the VMWID website:

<https://sites.google.com/site/vineyardmountain/Home/vmwid>

In addition to their mailing address, it is very important that all residents maintain a current telephone number and/or e-mail address with VMWID so that they can receive timely notice in the event of water emergency such as a contamination alert or impending disruption of service. VMWID does not share or sell contact information.

An Annual Meeting is held in the Spring of each year. The meeting is open to the public. 30 days before the meeting, an Annual Report is mailed to all home owners. The report covers financial and operational information of interest.

VMWID is owned by those it serves. Everyone is encouraged to help by reporting water system problems. Anyone interested in doing volunteer work for the water system or serving on the Board is encouraged to contact the VMWID President or any Board member.

For emergencies or inquiries, please see Contact List on the VMWID website, the URL for which appears above.