



CITY OF  
**Brownsville**



★ **2025 Spring Newsletter** ★

*Council Meeting Synopsis*

*Council met in regular session at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers on  
March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2025.*

All members of Council except Councilor Winklepleck were present. Winklepleck was excused. Mayor Craven presided.

*The Brownsville Times Revival* | Sharon Banks spoke on behalf of a newly formed non-profit organization hoping to restart *The Brownsville Times*. Banks highlighted their plans for getting the paper back in circulation. The paper is a living history of the City with a 136-year tradition. The relaunch will include an on-line aspect but many still like the paper in hand. She highlighted the scope of the paper and policies being considered. Banks said their Board will be holding fundraising efforts to garner enough financial support to begin operations. You can learn more, subscribe or donate to the cause at <https://www.zeffy.com/ticketing/the-brownsville-times-subscription>.

*Consumer Confidence Report* | *Karl Frink* | Public Works Superintendent Karl Frink reviewed the annual water quality report required by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Highlights included the sources of Brownsville's water supply, the items tested monthly and annually, the importance of the GR12 project and the backflow prevention program. Frink covered the ways the City distributes and manages water throughout the City system. He encouraged anyone interested to view the report on the City website or on the State website at [www.oregon.gov/oha/ph/healthyenvironments/drinkingwater](http://www.oregon.gov/oha/ph/healthyenvironments/drinkingwater).

*Goals 2025.2026* | Council passed goals as presented. Council met in February twice to consider options for the next two years. The City continues to face many challenges imposed by the State and Federal governments on a variety of issues from addressing homelessness, to housing, to floodplain management, just to name a few. Council agreed to work closely with McDowell to accomplish the identified goals. McDowell will provide a strategy and timeline to direct the work at an upcoming session of Council.

*City Website Reviews* | McDowell reviewed the City websites including the Emergency Preparedness website, the SMAC website, and the REAL website. McDowell shared some operational concerns with the current City website. Operational costs associated with migration to a new platform is reason for concern.

*Calapooia Riverbank & Kirk Avenue Retrospective* | McDowell said this information was provided for review only. Council & Staff are constantly asked about these two projects. Every year, Staff does a presentation outlining the costs associated with each project. Council has never moved forward with the Kirk Avenue project due to the costs associated with the project and with the assessments that would be placed on abutting property owners. At some point in the future, the City will have to address this issue.

Council decided years ago to retreat from the river due to the associated costs and permitting required to complete a project to make the necessary repairs. Five State & Federal agencies have jurisdiction on any project that happens in any watercourse in the State of Oregon. City officials can face fines and even be jailed if the proper permits and requirements are not met.

*Linn County Sheriff's Office Report* | Sergeant Frames said that crime has been near zero in Brownsville which has allowed deputies to focus on traffic. A total of forty-six citations were issued last month. Frames reported that coffee shop robberies have been happening throughout Linn County. The Sheriff's Office along with other jurisdictions are working to apprehend the perpetrators. He encouraged folks to consider installing video cameras around their businesses and properties. Cameras are inexpensive and have high quality resolution that can assist law enforcement in apprehending criminals.

*City Administrator Report* | Administrator Scott McDowell reported on several upcoming meetings including the Budget Committee meeting scheduled for April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2025. Council will hold a retreat



## Council Meeting Synopsis Continued ...



♦ *Synopsis continued from page 1 .....*

immediately following the Budget Committee meeting in Council Chambers. McDowell shared information regarding the City's advocacy efforts for this legislative session and the efforts made by the Small Municipalities Advocacy Coalition. He encouraged Council to continue their legislative efforts. McDowell said Council should consider weighing in on a Federal proposal to tax municipal bonds. He encouraged everyone to contact our Congress members.

Councilor Chambers reported on the Sheriff's quarterly meeting. Sheriff Duncan warned that the upcoming contract will increase over eight percent or higher. The Office has been busy hiring and training deputies. Many are now ready for the road. Solberg reported that Duncan had a few bills that should be opposed to keep our communities safe. McDowell was asked to obtain the bill numbers from the Sheriff. Solberg said the fraud issue cost Linn County victims \$500,000 in January alone.

**Resolution 2025.06: Workers' Compensation (Annual)** | Council unanimously passed this resolution covering volunteers serving the City.

**Ordinance 807: City Administrator NonElective Appointments (First Reading)** | Council considered an ordinance that will modify how nonelective positions are filled by the City to match actual practice. The second reading of this ordinance will be held in April.

**Proclamation: Child Abuse & Prevention Month Proclamation** | Mayor Craven and Council recognized April as awareness month for this serious issue.

**Appoint Budget Committee Member** | Council appointed Julie Fisher to the Budget Committee.

**Explore City Website RFP** | Council approved McDowell investigating vendors for the City website. McDowell will be negotiating with the current provider first. Fees are becoming exorbitant as mentioned above.

**Meals on Wheels Request** | Council continued support of the annual partnership with Cascades West Council of Governments in the amount of \$1,200. Councilor Hansen abstained.

**Linn County Pioneer Association | Road Closure Request (Annual)** | Council unanimously approved the parade route for this year's 183<sup>rd</sup> Annual Picnic which will be held June 20<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup>. Picnic theme is Pioneer Logging Camps.

**Partnership Agreements & Memberships** | Council reviewed civic non-profit partnerships and memberships. Mayor Craven shared that three agreements will be reviewed later this year. He stated that it is important for everyone to understand how City funds are being used and how important it is to spend taxpayer dollars responsibly.

**Cleanup Day | April 5<sup>th</sup>, 2025** | Mayor Craven said Sweet Home Sanitation will host the annual Cleanup Day in the Rec Center parking lot. See website for more details.

**Vineyard Wind Machines | Semi-Annual Reminder** | Mayor Craven reminded everyone that the fans may be turning on soon, and they can be heard over most of Brownsville.

**Citizen Comments** | Jared Sweezey relayed a garbage collection issue being requested by Sweet Home Sanitation that is causing a logistics concern with garbage cans being placed on only one side of the street. Sweezey pointed out that based on the size of his lot, and the requirement of cans being placed three feet apart, it severely hampers his ability to use his driveway. Sweezey asked two questions of Public Works Superintendent Frink. The City has had negative results when testing for PFAs. Water testing for individual homes is done by the homeowner and not the City.

**Council Comments** | Councilor Chambers reminded everyone that the Real ID requirement was going into effect May 7<sup>th</sup>. Any travel will require this new form of ID. Councilor Hansen said that a passport will also work. She also thanked Frink for his light-hearted approach to this year's Consumer Confidence Report presentation.

Councilor Hansen recounted a personal story about the sophisticated nature of recent fraud crimes.

All information the Mayor & Council receive for Council meetings can be found on-line prior to every meeting and afterwards at <https://www.ci.brownsville.or.us/meetings>. Please contact City Administrator Scott McDowell with questions at [admin@ci.brownsville.or.us](mailto:admin@ci.brownsville.or.us) or at 541.466.5880. For more information, please visit <https://ci.brownsville.or.us>.

## Upcoming Events

**Clean Up Day** | April 5<sup>th</sup>, 2025 | Rec Center Parking Lot | 7:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

**Easter Egg Hunt** | April 19<sup>th</sup>, 2025 | Pioneer Park | 1:00 p.m.

**Budget Committee** | April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2025 | Community Room | 7:00 p.m.

**Council Meeting** | April 29<sup>th</sup>, 2025 | Council Chambers | 7:00 p.m.

**Calapooia Food Alliance** The Calapooia Food Alliance is powering into its 19th year of "building community one bite at a time." We are lucky to have Melissa Selby as our new Program Manager, replacing Joshua Bloomfield. Melissa is well known to many for her work with the Master Gardeners program. She will manage the Thursday Market as well as the Community Garden. Thursday Market begins May 1 with lots of vegetable and other plant "starts" to grow in your garden. No garden? No problem as the Community Garden has both raised bed and inground plots to rent. Did you know we also have an organic buyers coop with monthly deliveries? Building community involves learning new skills which CFA addresses with monthly Munch Nights, a community gathering with a healthy meal prepared by the CFA Board and a film or speaker. Munch Nights are held third Fridays, 6pm at the American Legion Hall, reservations at [info@gocfa.org](mailto:info@gocfa.org). Interested in the CFA's mission? Visit our website at [gocfa.org](http://gocfa.org)



Check out a free cultural pass from your library to the Oregon Gardens, Oregon State Parks, Central Cascades Wilderness Permit or the University of Oregon Museum of Natural and Cultural History.



## Brownsville Community Library

### ACTIVITIES FOR CHILDREN

- ★ **Every Friday:** Story Time with Craft 11 - Noon
- ★ **June 21:** Summer Reading Kick Off with Anne Louise - 1:30 on the Main Stage at Pioneer Picnic - Pioneer Park
- ★ **June 24 - 28:** Library Closed for Maintenance
- ★ **July 1-5:** Take and Make "Out and About Bingo"
- ★ **July 4:** Independence Day - Holiday Closure
- ★ **Thursdays of July:** Summer Reading Program 4-5 p.m.

### PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS (7 - 8 p.m. unless otherwise stated)

- ★ **April 17:** Estate Planning: Advanced Directives
- ★ **May 15:** Estate Planning: Funeral Arrangements
- ★ **EVERY Wednesday:** Stitchery Group 1 - 3:00 p.m.
- ★ **Book Club** 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month 7 p.m.

### Library Hours:

Tuesday 10 - 5  
Wednesday 10 - 5  
Thursday 1 - 7  
Friday 10 - 5  
Saturday 10 - 2  
541.466.5454

Free Prescription mail-back envelopes available to safely dispose of prescription medications.



**Linn County Historical Museum** at 101 Park Ave in downtown Brownsville has been bursting at the seams with school tours. Teachers around the Willamette Valley love bringing their students, particularly their 4<sup>th</sup> graders, to the Museum to see the 1865 covered wagon and other relics of the westward migration in the 1840s. The students (and sometimes the teachers) get a kick out of dressing up in pioneer costumes and posing for selfies in front of the wagon.

It's almost time for Event Season at the Museum. Carriage Me Back always kicks off the season the first full weekend in May. Brownsville residents know that Carriage Me Back is a fun and *sometimes* historically accurate depiction of past times: the horse-drawn wagon hauls ticketholders around town stopping here and there to hear a snake oil salesman urge you to buy his product, watch the Bumblebee Gang escape the law, or sympathize with Mrs. Moyer in her grand home complain that Mr. Moyer has gone off to Portland again leaving her alone. Call the Museum now to reserve your tickets: 541.466.3390.

Next up is Stand By Me Day on July 26, Thousands of fans from around the world will roll into town for the celebration of the film, now a cult favorite, based on a story by Stephen King. Don't miss the Blueberry Pie Eating Contest on stage in Pioneer Park, the antique car lineup, tours of the scene locations, and the Fan Forum.

On the 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday in August, be sure to come to Hands on History, a free participatory celebration of traditional and Indigenous skills and activities: such as cornhusk doll making, cider pressing, gold panning, Mountain Men demonstrations, and stories about the early Kalapuyans and Black Pioneers. Right here in Library Park next to the Museum.

# 2024

## Annual Water Quality Report



Important information about your drinking water!

### Our mission

The City of Brownsville is committed to providing clean, safe, quality water for everyone living and visiting our community. Our efforts include protecting and preserving our water resources, as well as enhancing our treatment processes to provide you, the consumer, with quality drinking water each time you turn on your tap.

### Introduction

Thank you for taking time to review this consumer confidence report provided to you by the City of Brownsville. This report contains important information regarding the quality of Brownsville's drinking water. Congress passed the Safe Drinking Water Act in 1974 and gave the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) the job of making rules, National Primary Drinking Water Regulations (NPDWR), to ensure drinking water in the U. S. is safe. In 1996, Congress passed amendments requiring drinking water systems to provide consumers with important information regarding their drinking water. This information includes where Brownsville's water comes from, what is in the water, and how it compares with Federal standards. We hope you find this report useful with regards to the safety of your drinking water.

### Where does our water come from?

Brownsville's water sources are a well field and an infiltration gallery located in the southwest corner of Pioneer Park adjacent to the Calapooia River. Due to the close proximity of the river, the City's water sources are classified as "groundwater under the direct influence of surface water", which means that our source water comes from beneath the surface of the ground, but has significant or rapid shifts in water characteristics, such as pH, temperature and turbidity (clarity). The infiltration gallery is located under the Calapooia River and serves as the primary water source during the spring, summer and fall months of the year. The other water source, the well field, serves as our water source during the winter months when the river water is muddy and undesirable for treatment. The wells located in the well field, while still very close to the river, are classified as a ground water source, which means the source is located beneath the surface of the ground, and the water characteristics are relatively stable with only subtle fluctuations in pH, temperature, and turbidity. The City has a source water assessment report from the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) and the Oregon Health Authority (OHA), which provides additional information such as the delineation of water sources (watershed), potential sources of contamination and other perils within our watershed area. Copies of this report are available for review at City Hall and the Public Works Department.

### Information about source water

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally-occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

*Contaminants that may be present in source water include:*

Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.

Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.

Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses.

Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also, come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems.

Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

## What if I have questions about our water?

This report shows our water quality and what it means. If you have any questions regarding our water, please contact our Public Works Department at (541) 466-3381, Monday through Friday, from 7:00 am – 4:00 pm, City Shop. If there is no answer, please leave a message and we will get back to you as soon as possible. You may also attend the regular City Council meetings on the fourth Tuesday of each month at 7:00 pm at Brownsville City Hall. If there is an emergency, please call Karl Frink, Public Works Superintendent at (541) 409-3700.

The City of Brownsville routinely monitors for constituents in your drinking water according to Federal and State law. Some of the constituents include total coliform, arsenic, disinfection by-products (trihalomethanes and haloacetic acids), lead and copper and arsenic. This report shows the results of the City's monitoring for the period of January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023. As water travels over the land or underground, it can pick up substances or contaminants such as microbes, inorganic and organic chemicals and radioactive substances. All drinking water, *including bottled drinking water*, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amount of some constituents. *It is important to remember the presence of these constituents does not necessarily pose a health risk.* More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800)426-4791, or on the internet at: <http://www.epa.gov/federal-agencies/drinking-water-hotline>. For more information regarding the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Act, please visit the EPA's website at: [www.epa.gov/sdwa](http://www.epa.gov/sdwa).

## Terms and abbreviations used in this report

*In this report, you may find some unfamiliar terms and abbreviations. To help you better understand these terms we have provided the following definitions:*

**Non Detects (ND)** – laboratory analysis indicated the constituent is not present.

**Part per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/L)** – one part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in \$10,000.

**Parts per billion (ppb) or Micrograms per liter (mcg/L)** – one part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2000 years or a single penny in \$10,000,000.

**Parts per trillion (ppt) or Nanograms per liter (ng/L)** - one part per trillion corresponds to one minute in 2,000,000 years or one penny in \$10,000,000,000.

**Parts per quadrillion (ppq) or Picograms per liter (pg/L)** - one part per quadrillion corresponds to one minute in 2,000,000,000 years or one penny in \$10,000,000,000,000.

**Picocuries per liter (pCi/L)** – Picocuries per liter is a measure of the radioactivity in water.

**Millirems per year (mrem/yr)** – Measure of radiation absorbed by the body.

**Million Fibers per Liter (MFL)** – Million fibers per liter is a measure of the presence of asbestos fibers that are longer than 10 micrometers.

**Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU)** – Nephelometric turbidity unit is a measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.

**Variances & Exemptions (V&E)** – State of EPA permission not to meet an MCL or a treatment technique under certain conditions.

**Action Level** – The level of a contaminant that, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

**Treatment Technique (TT)** – a required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

**Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL)** – The “Maximum Allowed” (MCL) is the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCL's are set as close to the MCLG's as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

**Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG)** – The “Goal” (MCLG) is the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLG's allow for margin of safety.

**Total Coliform:** The Total Coliform Rules require water systems to meet a stricter limit for coliform bacteria. Coliform bacteria are usually harmless, but their presence in water can be an indication of disease-causing bacteria. When coliform bacteria are found, special follow-up tests are done to determine if harmful bacteria are present in the water supply. If this limit is exceeded, the water supplier must notify the public by newspaper, television or radio. To comply with the stricter regulations, we have increased the average amount of chlorine in the distribution system.

**Nitrates:** As a precaution, we always notify physicians and health care providers in this area if there is ever a higher than normal level of nitrates in the water supply.

**Lead:** Lead in drinking water is rarely the sole cause of lead poisoning, but it can add to a person's total lead exposure. All potential sources of lead in the household should be identified and removed, replaced or reduced.

**Copper:** Copper is an essential nutrient, but some people who drink water-containing copper in excess of the action level over a relatively short amount of time could experience gastrointestinal distress. Some people who drink water-containing copper in excess of the action level over many years could suffer liver or kidney damage. People with Wilson's disease should consult their personal doctor.

### Important! Please note!

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by cryptosporidium and other microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800)426-4791 or visit: [www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water](http://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water) for any questions you may have.

### Summary of test results for 2023

#### Microbiological Contaminants

Contaminant Description	Violation (Y/N)	Level Detected	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Total Coliform Bacteria	N	ND	0	Presence of Coliform in any monthly sample.	Naturally present in the environment.
Fecal Coliform	N	ND	0	A routine sample and repeat samples are total coliform positive, and one is also fecal of E.coli positive.	Human and animal fecal waste.
Turbidity (NTU)	N	0.188 NTU	N/A	TT (NTU) 95% <1 NTU All < 5 NTU	Soil run off.
	N	100%		TT= percentage of samples <1 NTU	

#### Disinfection By-Products

Contaminant Description	Violation (Y/N)	Level Detected	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5's) (ppb)	N	5.04 ppb	N/A	60 ppb	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM's) (ppb)	N	14.9 ppb	N/A	80 ppb	Byproduct of drinking water chlorination.

#### Inorganic Contaminants

Contaminant Description	Violation (Y/N)	Level Detected	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Arsenic	N	ND	0	10 ppb	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; runoff from glass and electronic production wastes.
Nitrates	N	ND	10	100 ppb	Runoff from fertilizer; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits.
Lead	N	0.0 ppb	0	15.5 ppb	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits.
Copper	N	0.0 ppb	1.3	1350 ppb	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Asbestos	N	ND	7	7 MFL	Decay of asbestos cement water mains; erosion of natural deposits.

## Essential things to know about water

Inadequately treated water may contain disease causing organisms. These organisms include bacteria, viruses, and parasites, which can cause symptoms such as nausea, cramps, diarrhea, and associated headaches. The City of Brownsville built a new slow sand filter water treatment plant to provide adequate treatment and remedies for making our water safe. This new water plant went on line in 1998. We added soda ash to the treatment process of our water to adjust the pH of the water. Adjusting the pH of the water helps prevent the leaching of lead in the plumbing of your home. By making these improvements to our water system, we successfully completed two rounds of lead sampling during the year 1999. That success reduced our sampling requirement for lead from twice yearly to once every three years. We also passed the Phase II & V testing requirements. We successfully completed our lead and copper sampling in 2021 and will sample again in 2024 per the OHA drinking water requirements.

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. The City of Brownsville is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or on the web at: [www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/safe-drinking-water-information](http://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/safe-drinking-water-information).

## Source water assessment report

The 1996 Amendments to the Safe Drinking Water Act require that all states conduct Source Water Assessments for public water systems within their boundaries. The assessments consist of (1) identification of the Drinking Water Protection Area, i.e., the area at the surface that is directly above that part of the aquifer that supplies groundwater to our well(s), (2) identification of potential sources of pollution within the Drinking Water Protection Area, and (3) determining the susceptibility or relative risk to the well water from those sources. The purpose of the assessment is to provide water systems with the information they need to develop a strategy to protect their drinking water resource if they choose. The respective Drinking Water Programs of the Department of Human Services and Environmental Quality have completed the assessment for our system. A copy of the report is on file at the Public Works Department and City Hall.

The aquifer(s) supplying water to our well(s): Willamette (sand and gravel). For additional information regarding the Willamette aquifer, please visit: [www.oregon.gov/owrd/pages/index.aspx](http://www.oregon.gov/owrd/pages/index.aspx).

## Cross connection and backflow prevention

This past year the City of Brownsville has been very active with its' Cross Connection Control Program. The Program has been updated and new regulations and requirements have been implemented. This is a Federal and State required program to help protect our water system from potential cross-connection problems and the life threatening conditions when back siphoning or back pressure can be present. Many people don't understand the need for this program; however, there are many deaths across the nation each year where these programs are not in place. The City requires that all backflow devices be tested annually as required in the regulations. The City also provides a backflow device testing program to have any device tested annually at a reduced rate to our residents. Please call our Public Works Department at (541) 466-3381 if you would like to participate, or have any questions concerning this program. We can also be reached by email at: [publicworks@ci.brownsville.or.us](mailto:publicworks@ci.brownsville.or.us)

## Valuable reminder about drinking water!

All drinking water, *including bottled water*, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water is dangerous or poses a health risk. While industry marketing campaigns promote the notion that bottled water is best, please remember, at this time, bottled water is not required to meet the same high quality standards as municipal water. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water hotline at 1-800-426-4791, or on the web at: <https://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water>.

MCL's are set at very stringent levels. To understand the possible health effects described for many regulated constituents, a person would have to drink 2 liters of water every day at the MCL level for a lifetime to have a one in a million chance of having the described health effect.

In our continuing efforts to maintain a safe and dependable water supply, it may be necessary to make improvements to the City's water system. The costs of these improvements may be reflected in the rate structure. Rate adjustments may be necessary in order to address these improvements. Income from water rates is used only to operate and maintain the water system and is required by law to be self-supporting.



### In Closing...

The City of Brownsville continually works to meet and exceed all drinking water standards and requirements, and to provide top quality water to every tap. It is important that each of us help us protect our water sources to keep our water safe today, tomorrow and for generations to come. Thank you for taking the time to review this report. The City of Brownsville takes pride in serving our community and providing the quality customer service you deserve.

### City Website

**[www.ci.brownsville.or.us](http://www.ci.brownsville.or.us)**

Our website is updated regularly and new information is available. The updates include information such as City Council meeting minutes, local activities, newsletters, contact information, municipal codes, meeting information, job openings, and more. Please feel free to visit our website any time for additional information.

### Oregon Health Authority Website

**[www.oregon.gov/oha/ph/healthyenvironments/drinkingwater](http://www.oregon.gov/oha/ph/healthyenvironments/drinkingwater)**

### Public Works Contact Information

Karl Frink, Public Works Superintendent

**Office:** (541) 466-3381

**Mobile/ Emergency:** (541) 409-3700

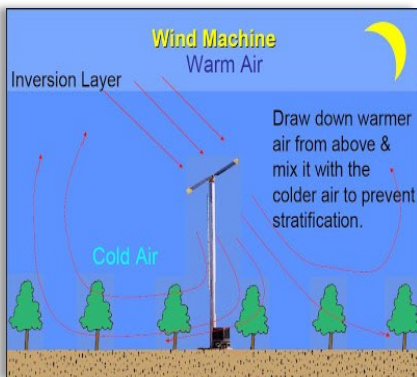
**Fax:** (541) 466-5118

**Email:** [publicworks@ci.brownsville.or.us](mailto:publicworks@ci.brownsville.or.us)

**Mail:** P.O. Box 188, Brownsville, OR 97327



### ***Vineyard Wind Machines Awareness***



The machines may turn on soon depending on temperatures. Due to low overnight temperatures, the wind machines are used to prevent 'cold injury' to the grape vines. The wind machines are very noisy due to the blades and the engines used to generate electricity. Basically, the machines are programmed to turn on at certain temperature levels, generally around 36 degrees Fahrenheit and can only be ran during certain wind speeds. The site south of town has numerous wind machines and they generate a very noticeable sound throughout Brownsville. The motors sound like an old farm tractor and the blades have a high-pitched sound. A low frequency hum may also be heard throughout town when all the wind machines are operating.

**"Spring is the time of year when it is summer in the sun and winter in the shade." - Charles Dickens**



### **SCHOLARSHIP TIME!**

Sweet Home Sanitation, a Central Linn Community Partner, is again offering a scholarship to a graduating Central Linn High School (CLHS) senior in the amount of **\$1,000!**

Applications can be obtained online at [www.ci.brownsville.or.us](http://www.ci.brownsville.or.us) or at the CLHS office. Qualified applicants must have between a 2.75 - 3.75 GPA range, and be a graduating senior. Application due date is **April 10<sup>th</sup> by 4:00 p.m.** at the CLHS office, City of Brownsville, or can be emailed to [finance@ci.brownsville.or.us](mailto:finance@ci.brownsville.or.us). No late applications will be considered.







## NATIONAL DRUG TAKE BACK DAY

State and local law enforcement agencies, in conjunction with the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), will be hosting a drug take back event. This is a free event for citizens to dispose of their unused/unwanted medications (including pet meds). Linn County Sheriff's Office (LCSO) will be participating by doing a mobile drug take back event and will be traveling between:

- \* Mill City | *City Hall* | 9:00 -10:00 a.m., \* Scio | *Fire Station* | 10:30 - 11:30 a.m.,
- \* Halsey | *City Hall* | 1:00 -2:00 p.m., and \* Harrisburg | *City Hall* | 2:30-3:30 p.m.

There is also a prescription drop box in the lobby of the Linn County Sheriff's Office for people to drop off their unwanted medications at any time. No sharps (needles) of any kind are allowed.



## BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING & STATE REVENUE SHARING HEARINGS NOTICE

*Thursday, April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2025 | Community Room | 7:00 p.m.*

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a public meeting of the Budget Committee of the City of Brownsville, Linn County, State of Oregon, to discuss the budget for the fiscal year July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025 to June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2026, will be held at Brownsville City Hall, 255 N. Main Street, Community Room, Brownsville Oregon. The meeting will take place on the 24<sup>th</sup> day of April 2025 at 7:00 p.m. The purpose of the meeting is to elect a Committee Chair, receive the budget message, discuss possible uses of State Revenue Sharing, receive public comment, review the entire budget, and prepare motions to make a recommendation to Council. A copy of the budget document may be reviewed or obtained on or after April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2025, at City Hall, 255 N. Main Street, Brownsville Oregon, between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. or on-line at [www.ci.brownsville.or.us](http://www.ci.brownsville.or.us).

All Budget Committee meetings are open to the public. Listed below is the time and place of additional Budget Committee meetings which will have a public comment opportunity. Any person may appear and discuss the proposed appropriations with the Budget Committee.

The other purpose of each meeting is to discuss Possible Uses of State Revenue Sharing Funds. Any citizen may appear at the meeting and discuss possible uses of these funds with the Budget Committee.

**Date:** April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2025  
May 27<sup>th</sup>, 2025 | Second State Revenue Sharing (SRS) Hearing\*

**Time:** 7:00 p.m.

**Location:** City Hall, 255 N. Main Street, Community Room, Brownsville, Oregon.

\*The SRS hearing will take place at 7:00 p.m. during the regularly scheduled Council meeting to be held at City Hall, 255 N. Main Street, Fisher Hall, Brownsville, Oregon.

Please contact City Hall, (541) 466-5880, at least forty-eight (48) hours prior to the hearing if any special accommodation is required.

S. Scott McDowell, Budget Officer

## Tall Grass & Weeds

Weed abatement time is quickly approaching, and with the warm temperatures and intermittent rain showers, grass and weeds are thriving! All properties are required to meet the minimum standards defined by the Brownsville Municipal Code by June 1<sup>st</sup> of each year. The code can be found on our website at [www.ci.brownsville.or.us](http://www.ci.brownsville.or.us).





**City of Brownsville**  
255 N Main Street  
P.O. Box 188  
Brownsville, OR 97327

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LOCAL POSTAL PATRON  
Attn: City of Brownsville Residents



## **Clean Up Day is April 5<sup>th</sup>, 2025!**

**Brownsville's Annual Clean Up Day is coming soon!**

This year's Clean Up Day event will be held on Saturday, April 5<sup>th</sup>, 2025, in the Rec Center parking lot, behind City Hall at 145 Park Avenue. The crew will be there from 7:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. You will need to be able to show your Sweet Home Sanitation bill to participate in this free service event.

You may be responsible for unloading and sorting your own items at the event site due to time constraints and the popularity of the event.

Curbside pickup for seniors and others with physical disabilities will be available, with 48 hours prior notice given to Sweet Home Sanitation for scheduling the pickup. Please call them directly at the number listed below. This event is sponsored by Sweet Home Sanitation and the City of Brownsville.

If you have questions about the process or items that will be accepted, please contact Sweet Home Sanitation directly at (541) 367-2535.

### **Acceptable Items:**

- ★ Old Lumber (smaller than 4 ft. lengths) must also be bundled and easy to handle
- ★ Old Appliances
- ★ Scrap Metal
- ★ Yard Debris (smaller than 4 ft.)
- ★ Passenger & Light Truck Tires (4 max per vehicle)

### **Unacceptable Items:**

- ★ No Household Garbage
- ★ No Loose Trash
- ★ No Liquid Waste, Paint, or Pesticides
- ★ No Large Truck Tires

