



## Seven Facts that Shape Oak Lodge Sanitary District's SWM Strategic Plan

- 1. The District's focus in recent years on the wastewater treatment plant upgrade and sewer maintenance has diverted attention and resources away from the surface water management program.**

With the treatment plant under construction and two years of sewer maintenance catchup completed, there's an opportunity now to refocus on SWM activities.

- 2. The lack of clarity and coordination between the District and Clackamas County hampers SWM services.**

Discussions are underway to develop an Intergovernmental Agreement that clearly defines both agencies' surface water management responsibilities.

- 3. Improving SWM program performance and protecting streams will require attention to both water quality and quantity issues.**

The strategic plan identifies priorities that address water quality and quantity problems across the District.

- 4. Pending regulatory changes will impose new, unprecedented demands on the District's staff and funding resources.**

Renewal of the District's MS4 permit will require additional outlays for water quality monitoring, retrofits of existing infrastructure and other program improvements.

- 5. The District's SWM funding – limited almost exclusively to monthly customer charges – hasn't increased in a decade. Customer rates have fallen behind most peer communities. Without increased SWM funding, the District cannot support ongoing operations, meet new regulatory requirements and also pay for planned capital improvements.**

The District's short-term funding plan redirects existing resources to support ongoing O&M activities and assure regulatory compliance – without major capital improvements. The long-term funding plan calls for increased monthly customer charges to support capital improvements.

- 6. The District also lacks a SWM SDC (systems development charge) that would ensure new development pays its fair share of infrastructure costs.**

An early priority is to adopt a SWM SDC.

- 7. Customers are dissatisfied with the "status quo" for the District's SWM program. They want better service and concrete results from the District, along with how-to information that empowers them to become better environmental stewards.**

District management's commitment is to first improve customer service within existing resources. The strategic plan also recommends spelling out customer response protocols and providing educational programs and materials.