

City Receives Awards for Conservation and Communication

by Bend Weekly News Sources

The City of Bend is Recognized for Innovative Publications, Partnerships and Programs by Two Oregon State Agencies and National Trade Association

The Oregon Department of Water Resources, the Oregon Department of Energy and the American Water Works Association recently named the City of Bend as recipient of annual conservation and communication awards. "These awards acknowledge the continued commitment and stewardship of the citizens of Bend and City staff in conserving our energy and water in our community," said Public Works Director Ken Fuller. The awards include:

¶ From Oregon Water Resource Department:

2006 Stewardship and Conservation Award for the City of Bend WaterWise Program for spreading the word about water conservation through the City of Bend WaterWise program and related efforts. The Oregon Department of Water Resources recognized the City's outstanding education and outreach efforts under its WaterWise program, which focuses on indoor and outdoor water conservation. "Water isn't all you save" is our program motto," said Public Works' Water Resource Coordinator, Patrick Griffiths. "The program's goals are to create informed water users who choose wise water use over waste, and who also integrate and invest in best conservation practices, both indoors and out, at their homes and businesses."

Recognition from the Oregon Water Resources Commission is given on an annual basis to individual citizens, groups, businesses or other partners that adhere to the Oregon Water Resources Department's mission "to serve the public by practicing and promoting wise long-term water management" and for responsibly managing, conserving and restoring Oregon's water resources.

¶ From Oregon Department of Energy:

2006 Oregon Plan for Salmon and Watersheds Award for demonstrating exceptional vision and initiative in promoting energy efficiency, water conservation and sustainability in City operations and within the Deschutes Basin. "The City has implemented many energy-efficiency and water-saving programs, including the upgrading and installation of new turbine pumps and other improvements in its well system," said Assistant Public Works Director Mike Miller. The Pilot Butte high-efficiency turbine pumps and the other improvements to the well system will save the City of Bend an estimated 745,000-kilowatt hours and \$1.5 million in energy costs over 20 years.

The Oregon Department of Energy's Oregon Plan for Salmon and Watersheds Award honors individuals, schools, businesses, organizations, local governments and state agencies that have made special efforts in the area of energy efficiency or renewable energy projects that also benefit watershed health.

§ From the American Water Works Association, Pacific Northwest Section:

2006 Excellence in Communication and Conservation: Best of Show for the publication "Xeriscaping in the High Desert" available through the City's WaterWise program, produced cooperatively with the Oregon State University Extension Service and the Central Oregon Cities Organization representing the 8 Central Oregon Cities. The AWWA is the largest organization of water professionals in the world. The Pacific Northwest Section includes over 3000 members in Washing, Oregon and Idaho.

§ From the American Water Works Association, Pacific Northwest Section:

2006 Excellence in Communication and Conservation: Consumer Confidence Report which is the City's annual report on water quality.

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