

## Water/Irrigation Division

### Domestic Water

The original City of Yakima water system was developed by the Pacific Power and Light Company (PP&L) in the early 1900s. The City of Yakima purchased the system on July 1, 1926. At that time, the supply consisted of a diversion from the PP&L power canal.

In an effort to expand the water supply, the City purchased 343 acres of land at Oak Flats to develop a source on the Naches River. A 14-mile, 24-inch wood stave transmission main was constructed to transport the supply to twin concrete reservoirs with a combined 24-MG capacity.

Three shallow wells, including a Ranney collector were later developed in 1948 and 1950 to supplement the Oak Flats supply. The first well developed was the Wright Avenue Well. (The water right for the Wright well was later transferred to the Kissel Park well.) The second well developed was located near 16th Avenue and what is now Highway 12. This well was abandoned in 1969 when this section of Highway 12 was expanded to four lanes.

Two deep wells were developed in 1962 and 1965 to further supplement the Oak Flats supply. The first of these was the Kiwanis Park Well (1962) and the second was the Airport Well (1965). Both of these wells are in service today as backup sources of supply.

A water treatment plant near Rowe Hill on the Naches River and a 48-inch transmission pipeline to the City were constructed during the period from 1969 to 1971 to replace the Oak Flats supply.

In 1993 the Kissel Park Well was added to the City's system. This well is also used for backup purposes and to help meet peak demands.

In 2005 the Ranney well was decommissioned; the water rights were transferred to the Kissel Well and to the proposed Gardner Park Well. In 2011 the Gardner Park Well was placed in service as a replacement for the Ranney and as a backup source.

In recent years, the City has not found it necessary to make any major expansions to the water system facilities, in part because of the high level of service that the system is already capable of providing, and also because expansion of the City's water service area is limited by the surrounding water association and municipal water purveyors. Potential for expansion is also limited by the "place of use" conditions of the surface water rights.

The city has made provisions to meet water demand in the ever increasing and more frequent droughts. This will be mitigated through the installation and use of Aquifer Storage and Recovery. Water will be stored in the ground during the winter and recovered during the summer in drought years.

**Rates:** Rates are based on Cost of Service and Rate Studies that are conducted every 5 years.

**Connection Charges:** Connection charges are assessed to owners of facilities requiring connection to the existing water system. The revenue collected, is comprised of:

- Actual cost of materials, labor and equipment for meter installation
- Equitable share of the existing and future capacity of the water system