

The Office of Drinking Water's Organizational Structure is Changing on July 1, 2025

What will change?

We are creating One ODW, with shared culture, structure, and systems that embodies statewide unity and consistency. We are adapting our structure to ensure our work has appropriate oversight while absorbing budgetary cutbacks. You may have heard "the regions are going away," but our professional expertise remains the same. We continue to focus on implementing the federal Safe Drinking Water Act and state drinking water regulations equitably among all counties, regardless of size and population.

Our internal working relationships have been reenvisioned to embrace mutual support and collaboration across all programs. We are making the most of our available management capacity by retooling teams to standardize tasks, expectations, and directions across the state.

Why?

To serve our partners and communities, the Office of Drinking Water is embracing necessary structural changes in response to the loss of two of our upper-level managers, including our Northwest Regional Manager and Policy and Planning Section Manager. We believe the change will maintain customer support, improve operational continuity across the entire state, and position us for success with the existing management and staff capacity.

What stays the same?

County assignments and water system assignments remain the same for Engineers, Planners, and our Coliform, Water Facility Inventory, Source Monitoring, Sanitary Survey, and Compliance teams.

Other than some management changes, our Operator Certification, Water Quality and Data Management, State Revolving Fund, Engineering and Technical Services, Policy, and Foundational Public Health Services Sections assignments will remain the same.

Current contact numbers, email addresses, and website information remain the same at this time. We may adjust to improve efficiency and will share any changes in contact information **prior** to making changes, with a period of overlap to avoid missed communications.

We remain focused on the same ODW Mission, Vision, and Values.

Mission: We work with others to protect the health of the people of Washington by ensuring safe and reliable drinking water.

Vision: The people of Washington understand the value of safe and reliable drinking water to healthy communities and a vibrant economy. As a result, our public water systems have the technical, managerial, and financial capacity they need to provide it, now and for generations to come.

Values: Accountability, Collaboration, Commitment, Compassion, Diversity, Empowerment, Innovation, Learning, and Respect.

We remain committed to the following services:

- Respond to public health emergencies related to drinking water.
- Set clear expectations for Washington's public water systems and hold them accountable for protecting public health.
- Provide funding and technical assistance to support safe and reliable drinking water.
- Educate and inform our partners and the people of Washington about drinking water issues.

Summary of Organizational Structure.

ODW Office Director

Deputy Director

Manages the following statewide teams: State Revolving Fund team, ECM (Electronic Content Management) Project team, and Data and Technology.

Capacity Development and Water Quality Manager (formerly Capacity Development and Policy Manager)

Manages the following statewide teams: Foundational Public Health Services, Water Quality Data and Policy staff, Compliance, Operator Certification, Source Monitoring team, Coliform team, and Engineering and Technical Services team.

Engineering, Planning, Sanitary Survey, and WFI Manager (formerly Field Ops Manager)

Manages the following statewide teams: Water Facilities Inventory team, Sanitary Survey team, Planning Team, Administrative Support team, and Engineering team