



Love your water!



For the Love of Tap!

From snowmelt and rainfall sources to your tap, the City of Ashland reliably delivers the highest quality water possible. Not only that, but according to an independent panel of judges, we also have the best tasting water in Southern Oregon!

Each year Southern Oregon water utilities participate in a best tasting water competition put on by the Southern Oregon subsection of the Pacific Northwest section of the American Water Works Association.



We won in 2016!

Wish us luck for the 2017 competition this March!



Greg Hunter, Water Treatment Plant Supervisor, receives the Southern Oregon 2016 Best Tasting Water Award. Pictured with Julie Smitherman, Water Conservation Specialist.

Image by Lucy Vigrass on Do The Green Thing

Learn more about the City of Ashland's water quality by reviewing the 2015 Water Quality Report. (2016 will be available in May 2017.)

Water Words!

What is the term used to describe the *attraction* of molecules to each other on a liquid's surface?

See the next page to find out.



Love your Landscape!

February is a month for love, so don't you think it's time to love your landscape?!?



The weather is still chilly, so maybe you haven't given your landscape much thought yet. However, **NOW** is the time to plan and start making preparations.

Perhaps you are tired of your lawn, and ready for something new. For ideas and inspiration check out our [Water Wise Landscaping website!](#)

If you have a healthy green lawn and are ready to transition to a water wise landscape, you might be eligible for a [rebate!](#) Visit AshlandSavesWater.org to learn more. ♥



City of Ashland
Water Conservation
51 Winburn Way
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AshlandSavesWater.org

“Like” [facebook.com/AshlandWaterConservation](https://www.facebook.com/AshlandWaterConservation)



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Love your water!



Water Words!

The word “cohesion” might have also come to mind.

Water molecules (or other liquids) are attracted to each other and held together by cohesive force. At a liquid’s surface, bonds between the molecules become stronger creating **surface tension**.

Like most relationships, sometimes attraction creates tension. When it comes to water (or other liquids), the surface tension produced by the attraction of the water molecules to each other is a good thing. Surface tension is what allows water droplets to form, it aids in the movement of water in plants, and it’s what keeps the water droplets on the tent wall, instead of dripping on you in the middle of the night! Of course, surface tension is also what makes it challenging to rinse off grease. Soaps, or other surfactants, break the surface tension of water, so we can wash grease and oils away.



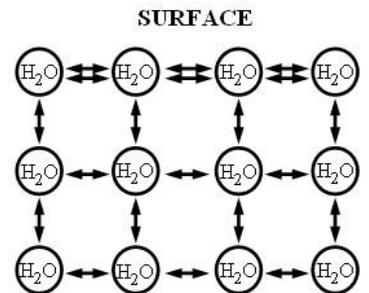
To learn more about surface tension, check out these videos:

[Kids Science: How Does Surface Tension Work?](#)

[The Sci Guys: SE3-EP4 Surface Tension of Water.](#)

Water droplets formed by surface tension, suspended on a spider web. Photo by S.Danyi.

Surface Tension!



Surface tension—molecules at the surface form stronger bonds

Image source: water.usgs.gov



7 Steps to Having a Romantic Valentine’s Day and Saving Water!

1. Make sure your outfit is laundered and ready to go; wash a full load of laundry while you’re at it.
2. Brush your teeth before your date! Don’t forget to turn off the water while you brush.
3. Shorten your shower, or turn off the water while you wash your hair. Your date will still think you look great!
4. Shave using a bowl filled with an inch or two of water to rinse your razor.
5. Surprise your sweetie by switching out the showerheads and aerators in your home to low flow models. Come by 51 Winburn Way to pick up showerheads, kitchen and bathroom aerators, and moisture meters for free!
6. Show your love with a drought tolerant plant or tree. Plant it together to symbolize your relationship’s strength. Check out our [Water Wise Landscaping website](#) to look for a plant or tree with low water needs and pick up a Tree Care guide from the Water Conservation department on how to water.
7. Making your honey a romantic dinner? Afterwards, scrape the dishes clean instead of rinsing them before loading the dishwasher.



You’re all set! Now you can splurge on that extra dessert with peace of mind, knowing you’ve just taken measures to save water and money! Have a wonderful time with your special someone, and continue to use water wisely. ♥

Happy Valentines Day!

Your Water Conservation Team,
Julie Smitherman & Stephanie Danyi



Thank you!!!!

After last month’s newsletter we received some great questions & feedback from many of you. Thank you!



Tell us more about your needs!

Please continue to **send us your ideas** and questions. And, please send us photos of you enjoying our most precious resource: Water!

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