Our mission is to enhance the quality of life for Oklahomans by managing, protecting, and improving the state’s water resources to ensure clean, safe, and reliable water supplies, a strong economy, and a healthy environment.

Goals

- Implement and promote sound water policies, programs, and plans to protect lives, property, and Oklahoma’s water resources.
- Build partnerships and increase public awareness to encourage responsible stewardship of Oklahoma’s water resources.
- Improve service to the public by maximizing agency efficiency and innovation and through promotion of a healthy, safe, productive, and inclusive working environment.
Monitoring & Protecting Water Quality

Managing Water Use
- Allocating water rights through 12,661 permits for the use of more than 6 million acre-feet of stream and groundwater each year.
- Administering federal stream water compacts to ensure the equitable sharing of water with neighboring states.
- Protecting Oklahomans from loss of life and property through maintenance and inspection of approximately 4,600 dams and guiding intelligent land use consistent with local floodplain requirements.
- Preventing groundwater pollution through enforcement of regulations governing the drilling, construction, and plugging of water wells.

Planning for Our Water Future
- Ensuring the viability of state water supplies through proactive studies and long-term plans.

Studying Surface and Groundwaters
- Determining water availability and management options through hydrologic and special studies.

Monitoring & Protecting Water Quality
- Monitoring water quality trends at more than 600 lake and stream sites statewide.
- Developing and establishing fair and consistent standards to ensure water quality protection across the state.
- Curbing pollution of lakes, rivers, and streams and restoring their water quality benefits.

OWRB Budget Overview

What We Do
- Managing Water Use
- Planning for Our Water Future
- Studying Surface and Groundwaters
- Monitoring & Protecting Water Quality

Financing Water & Wastewater Projects
- Providing grants and below-market interest rate loans for water and wastewater infrastructure improvements to facilitate growth and economic development throughout Oklahoma.
- Providing more than $2.6 billion in financial assistance to cities, towns, and rural water districts to-date.
- Saving communities and rural water districts $917 million over conventional financing options.

OWRB Provisional Temporary Permits Issued (2006-2011)

Provisional-temporary permits (PTs), those that authorize relatively short-term (90-day) water use, represent the most common type of permit administered by the OWRB. In 2011, more than 90 percent of these permits were for oil/gas production. The OWRB is currently developing a web-based program to facilitate the authorization of PTs as well as greatly reduce staff time required to process these requests.