The Portland Water District awards grants annually to increase public access to Greater Portland’s excellent tap water. The grant program fully funds the purchase of water bottle filling fountains for entities within the Portland Water District’s service area.

Congratulations to last year’s recipients of Water Bottle Filling Station Grants: Saint Joseph’s College, Greely High School, Greater Portland YMCA, and Casco Bay Island Transit District. Saint Joseph’s fountain was the first installed and is pictured above.

Printed on recycled paper.
The Portland Water District awards grants for the purchase of water bottle filling fountains - up to a $5,000 maximum value for an outside fountain and $2,000 maximum value for an inside unit - to entities within the service territory. Interested organizations should complete the online application at www.pwd.org. Deadline for application for the following year is October 31. Grant recipients will be notified by the first of the year, then will have twelve months to install the unit. For longer term projects, applicants can designate the year in which they expect to install the unit.

**Criteria**

- All Portland Water District non-profit and business customers are eligible to apply.
- Filling stations must be located in a visible, high traffic area, open to the public and/or your general audience, and be within PWD’s service area.
- Grant recipients are responsible for installation and maintenance of the fountain.

Prompted by an interest in the health benefits derived from hydration and a concern to reduce waste, water bottle filling fountains are gaining popularity across the country. Airports, colleges, governments, schools, healthcare facilities, and businesses are installing units in record numbers to offer the public a more convenient way to refill and refresh.

**Water bottle filling fountains offer some features that traditional fountains and bottled water lack.**

- **Green Counters** which display the number of disposable water bottles that have been saved from landfills by using the unit.
- Built-in sensors that activate the flow of water for a **touch-free, sanitary** operation.
- Convenient option to **quickly fill** your bottle without spills and splashing.
- **Reduction in the waste** generated from using disposable water bottles.
- Refilling a bottle with fresh, clean and clear tap water is the **most affordable** way to stay hydrated.