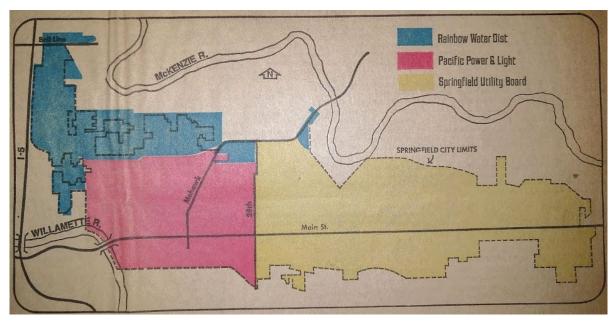


**RWDonline.net** P.O. Box 8, Springfield, OR 97477 1550 42<sup>nd</sup> Street, Springfield, OR 97477 Phone: 541-746-1676 Fax: 541-747-0845

# **JANUARY 2020**

### Rainbow Water District is 70 years old! Some highlights of our THIRD decade follow.

Our August 2019 newsletter described the beginnings of our water system from 1949-1959. Rainbow had developed the Weyerhaeuser Wellfield, built a pump control house/office, and constructed and filled the Kelly Butte Reservoir. In our October 2019 newsletter we looked at 1959-1969, a decade when we developed the Chase Wellfield and built the original Moe (Vitus Butte) Reservoir.



Founding Superintendent Jay Hicks was active with the Springfield Chamber of Commerce and he was appointed to the Chamber Board in 1966. Rainbow was an instrumental part in helping develop the infrastructure for Springfield to grow. **By 1971** when this map appeared in the Eugene Register-Guard, Springfield was served by three different water utilities. Rainbow and SUB jointly owned the Weyerhaeuser Wellfield, and entered into an agreement that covered coordination of services between the city and county customers. Rainbow also had an agreement with PP&L to supply water in emergency conditions to PP&L's service area in downtown Springfield.



As growth continued, pipe was purchased in bulk and stored at our 42<sup>nd</sup> Street office to be used in construction to supply water to new neighborhoods.

(Polyester & bell bottoms were in style and Rainbow employees drove the latest cars.)

Proudly serving North and West Springfield since 1949!

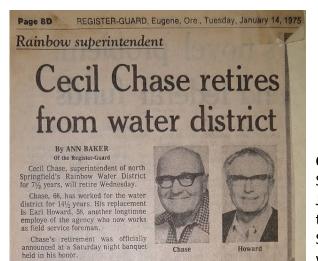


## RWDonline.net

P.O. Box 8, Springfield, OR 97477 1550 42<sup>nd</sup> Street, Springfield, OR 97477 Phone: 541-746-1676 Fax: 541-747-0845

#### Interstate 5 Wellfield: 1974-75

To meet the growing demand for water, two more wells were drilled near the freeway at the north end of Springfield. the system. These wells would become our largest producers, helping serve the expanding Gateway area.





#### Change of Command: 1975

Superintendent Cecil Chase, who led the district since Jay Hicks retired in 1967, retired himself and passed the baton to employee Earl Howard. Also in 1975, SUB bought out PP&L and began serving downtown with Rainbow still serving to the north and west.

#### Q Street Well: 1979-1980

A well driller was hired and after some initial struggles was able to locate water and construct a well closer to our customers along Q Street. We had no idea this would be the last new well for 35 years...



We consider it an honor to still serve you today. We appreciate our customers! Find us online at <u>www.RWDonline.net</u> or use the <u>Facebook</u> link for Rainbow-Water-District.