



Warm Springs Hydropanels Making Water Accessible

Last year, we **reported on** the launch of a project to begin installing **SOURCE® Hydropanels** on the land of the **Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs**, north of Bend in Central Oregon. The Warm Springs community is suffering from an outdated and over capacitated water infrastructure that frequently left the community without clean drinkable water. This year, improving due to a new and innovative project, water is beginning to flow.

Launching the project last year

Kicking off last October, the first Hydropanels were open and operational in May of this year. An initial test phase was the first step, in which ten panels were installed at the **Warm Springs Community Action Team** office. Donations from **3x5 Partners** and philanthropist Missy



Community Goals, People's Plan

Our tribes work together to protect treaty and other rights, tribal values and sovereignty.



Vaux Hall made the test possible. Those initial panels generated about 50 gallons of water daily, and their success led to the next larger phase.

The water farm

Warm Springs set aside an industrial-zoned one-acre lot located centrally to the community to serve as their water farm. The farm now features 200

SOURCE® Hydropanels, covering one third of the lot, along with water storage facilities and a spring bar for distribution. Those 200 panels were made possible by a combination of funding from generous donors and the Warm Springs Economic Development (WSED) corporation. They produce about 160 gallons, on average, per day.

The Tribe then made a significant contribution to the project to allow the remaining two thirds of the farm to be populated with additional Hydropanels, with a target of generating 720 gallons per day. With storage capacity of about 6,000 gallons, this will provide much-needed drinking water for the community's 5,000 inhabitants. A few homes which are more remotely located are slated to receive their own two-panel system; about 40 of 50 total have been deployed to date.

SOURCE (you may know them by their previous name, Zero Mass Water) has coordinated the installation process as part of the purchase price of the Hydropanels. They sent a small team, but also sourced local labor, providing employment opportunities and training as part of the project.

WHAT IS A HYDROPANEL?

SOURCE® Hydropanels use the power of the sun to extract clean drinking water from the air. Using solar power, they pull water vapor from the atmosphere to create clean, distilled water, which is then treated with essential minerals.





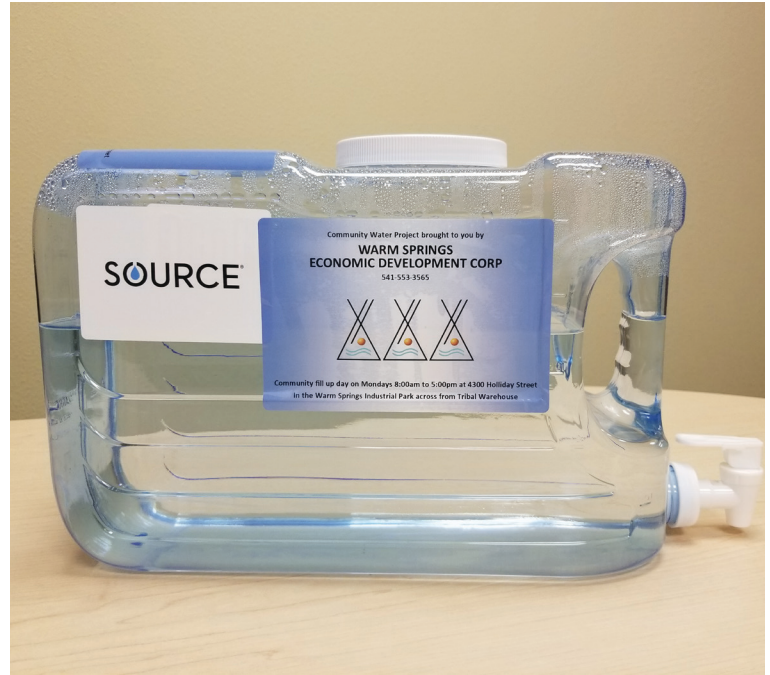
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The Spring Bar

Jim Souers, CEO of the Warm Springs Economic Development Corp., describes how community members are now able to gain easy access to drinking water. “We built what we call a ‘spring bar,’ meant to simulate a natural spring. It looks like a work bench and has three spouts, each with a valve. The bar is open every Monday from 8 to 5, and the Tribe provided everyone with a 2 ½ gallon reusable container, or they are welcome to bring their own. This is all about providing free water to everyone in the community.” Most of Warm Springs’ population lives within a few miles of the water farm.

Once the panels are installed, there isn’t much maintenance to worry about, Souers said. Since they use solar power, they don’t require any other source of electricity to run and are fairly self-sufficient. The Hydropanels include a ten-year warranty, and SOURCE is able to monitor them digitally from its headquarters in Scottsdale, Arizona, to quickly analyze any issues that might arise.

Even though the water infrastructure at the Warm Springs Reservation still needs significant improvements, the new water farm provides a meaningful, independent water source when it is most needed, now.



What’s next?

There may be future phases in the works for the Warm Springs water farm as well. There is the possibility of commercialization; with some investment in capacity and commercial bottling operations, the water farm has the potential to one day become a source of economic opportunity for the Warm Springs community. WSED corporation is working closely with SOURCE to understand new developments the company is exploring and seek ways to continue their partnership.

The SOURCE technology has demonstrated the incredible power of technological ingenuity applied to real-world human problems. With water scarcity becoming an issue globally, and many communities lacking functioning and reliable water infrastructure, Hydropanels are a remarkable, near science-fiction solution. This project epitomizes what intentional investing is all about and what it can accomplish. From the earliest investment by **3x5 Partners LLC** and Arnerich Massena in Zero Mass Water as a startup to watching this and other similar projects unfold across the globe, it is breathtaking to be part of progress that can have this sort of impact.

Thanks to the technological innovators, visionary investors, courageous Warm Springs administrators, and generous donors who made it possible, Warm Springs families have an endless and sustainable supply of fresh, clean drinking water.

