Annual Water Quality Report for the Year 2023

Published May 2024

snoqualmiewa.gov

Our Commitment to You: Safe, Reliable Drinking Water

We are pleased to provide you with the City of Snoqualmie's Annual Water Quality Report for 2023, which is updated for you each year by the City's Public Works Department. Delivering quality water to you is our top priority.

This report includes details about where your water comes from, its composition, and how it meets Environmental Protection Agency and Washington State Department of Health standards. We encourage you to become informed about your drinking water to help us safeguard quality water supplies now and for future generations. This report is sent to you as required by the Federal Safe Drinking Water Act.

The City of Snoqualmie Has Three Sources of Drinking Water.

- **Canyon Springs** is located above the North Fork of the Snoqualmie River. This high-quality spring source has served the City of Snoqualmie since 1953. In 2008, the City constructed a disinfection facility to treat the water with chlorine to meet Washington State Department of Health standards. No filtration is required. No fluoride is added.

- **North Wellfield** (Wells No. 6, 7 and 8) is located near Tokul Road and was developed for the City by the Snoqualmie Ridge Phase I developers. The well water is filtered and treated with chlorine. No fluoride is added.

- **South Wellfield** (Wells No. 1 and 2) is located in downtown Snoqualmie and was developed for the City by the Snoqualmie Ridge Phase II developers. The well water is filtered and treated with chlorine. No fluoride is added.

  The water from Canyon Springs flows from the North Fork Road into Snoqualmie where it is combined with water from the South Wellfield. The mixed water flows through downtown Snoqualmie to a booster station where it is pumped into mains with the North Wellfield source that serves Snoqualmie Ridge. In the event of an emergency, flows from Snoqualmie Ridge and North Wellfield can be reversed to supply water to downtown.

Who Ensures the Water Quality in Snoqualmie?

- The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) sets national standards for more than 100 potential drinking water contaminants under the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA).
- The Washington State Department of Health enforces these standards.
- State certified laboratories test the water according to these standards.
- The results are routinely reported to the Department of Health and are available to all customers.

City of Snoqualmie Water Division: Please Call Us Anytime!

As you read this report, if you have any questions or would like more information about your water utility or drinking water, please call Matthew Hedger at 425-831-4919 or email mhedger@snoqualmiewa.gov.

Water Quality Monitoring Results for the Year 2023

Your water is tested for more than 100 contaminants/compounds. The table below lists the few compounds detected in 2023, along with their concentrations and possible sources. Some of the data – though representative of the water quality – is more than one year old. The state requires the City of Snoqualmie to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations for these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year. The presence of these contaminants/compounds in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. Detected concentrations are listed by water source.

This Is What Is In Your Tap Water	Amount Ideal	Level Allowed (or less)	Snoqualmie Water Sources			Meets USEPA Standards	Typical Sources of Detected Compounds
Detected Compounds	(MCL)	(MCLG)	Canyon Springs	South Wellfield	North Wellfield	Compliance	How did it get there?
INORGANIC AND ORGANIC CONTAMINANTS							
Arsenic	.010	.010	NA	NA	.003	Yes	Natural element that can be found in rocks and soil, water, air, and in plants and animals
Nitrate – N	10.	10.	.48 mg/L	Not tested	<.20 mg/L	Yes	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Manganese	.05	.05	<.01	Not tested	.013	Yes	Is a naturally occurring element and an essential nutrient
Inorganic Chemicals	0.0005-0.05mg/L	0.0005-0.05mg/L	Tested	Not tested	Tested	Yes	Natural occurring inorganic chemicals from water source.
MICROBIOLOGICAL CONTAMINANTS (Distribution Samples)							
Total Coliform	MCL; presence of coliform bacteria in >.5% of monthly samples	0	0 out of 84 samples	0 out of 84 samples	0 out of 156 samples	Yes	Coliforms are bacteria which are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other potentially harmful bacteria may be present
Turbidity, NTU	1.0	0	Not tested	Not tested	Not tested	Yes	Soil runoff
RADIONUCLIDES	**SDRL**	**Results**	**Canyon Springs**	**South Wellfield**	**North Wellfield**	**Compliance**	**How did it get there?**
Radium 228	1.00	<1.00	<1.00	Not tested	<1.00	Yes	Radionuclide is both natural and manmade radioactive material.
Gross Alpha	3.00	<3.00	<3.00	Not tested	<3.00	Yes	Radionuclide is both natural and manmade radioactive material.
DISINFECTION BY-PRODUCTS	**(MCL)**		**Distribution Sample**		**Distribution Sample**	**Compliance**	
TTHM (PPB)	80		2.76		6.34	Yes	Total Trihalomethane
HAA5 (PPB)	60		1.31		2.95	Yes	Halo-Acetic Acids

Definitions

Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow. More info at www.doh.wa.gov/ehp/dw.

EPA: Environmental Protection Agency

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL): The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG): The level of contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL): The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants, such as chlorine, chloramines, and chlorine dioxide.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG): The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

mg/L (milligrams per Liter): Equivalent to ppm (parts per million)

NTU (Nephelometric Turbidity Unit): A measure of the clarity of water.

ppb (parts per billion): same as µg/L (micrograms per liter)

Turbidity: A measure of the cloudiness of the water. It is monitored because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of the city's filtration system for Wells 6 and 7 only.

Treatment Technique (TT): A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

USEPA: United States Environmental Protection Agency

Why Are There Contaminants in My Water?

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects may be obtained by calling the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791 or on the EPA website at www.epa.gov.

The City of Snoqualmie participates in the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) unregulated contaminant monitoring program by performing additional tests on the City's drinking water. During that testing, all PFAS and Lithium results were non-detect (ND).

Contaminants that may be present in source water before it is treated include:

Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.

Organic chemical contaminants including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems.

Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agricultural and residential uses.

Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.

Radioactive contaminants, which are naturally occurring.

Nitrate: Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 10 ppm is a health risk for infants of less than six months of age. High nitrate levels in drinking water can cause blue baby syndrome. Nitrate levels may rise quickly for short periods of time because of rainfall or agricultural activity. The nitrate level in the City of Snoqualmie's water is well below the "Action Level". However, if you are caring for an infant, you should ask for more information from your health care provider.

Arsenic: Arsenic in drinking water from Canyon Springs has been reported at less than .002 ppb. The North Wellfield source is currently ranging between 0.002 ppb and 0.006 ppb. This means that your drinking water meets EPA drinking water standards for arsenic. The EPA believes that consumers should be aware of the uncertain health risks presented by very low levels of arsenic. EPA standards balance the current understanding of arsenic's health effects against the costs of removing arsenic from drinking water.

Is My Home Tap Water Monitored for Lead and Copper?

The EPA requires monitoring for the presence of lead and copper with the goal to minimize human exposure to lead and copper in drinking water. Neither lead nor copper has been detected in Snoqualmie's water sources. However, our water is naturally corrosive and may cause lead and/or copper present in your home plumbing to leach into your drinking water. Homes built with copper plumbing and lead solder before 1985 (at which time lead solder was banned) are considered "high risk." Brass fixtures, regardless of age, generally contain some lead also. The City's monitoring protocol includes sampling for lead and copper during both the first and second half of each year. According to the Department of Health, the last two sets of lead and copper testing results in Snoqualmie, collected in two consecutive six month periods, had 90th percentile values below the action levels. Based on the testing results, the water system is considered optimal.

Infants and children who drink water containing lead in excess of the action levels could experience delays in their physical or mental development. Children could show slight deficits in attention span and learning abilities. Adults who drink this water over many years could develop kidney problems or high blood pressure. High risk homes can easily reduce their lead levels by letting their water run for a few seconds before using it.

Lead and Copper Monitoring Program Results

Parameters and Units	MCLG	Action Level	# Homes Exceeding Action Level	Typical Sources in Drinking Water
Lead (ppb)	.001	.015	0 of 30	Corrosion of household plumbing systems.
Copper (ppm)	.02	1.3	0 of 30	

90 percent of the samples were less than the values shown. Lead and Copper testing is performed every three years, with the next tests to be performed in 2024.

Cross Connection Alert for Annual Backflow Assembly Testing

A connection between your drinking water pipes and a source of contamination is called a cross connection. Examples include irrigation systems; dialysis machines; nearly every hose-end applicator used for fertilizers, pesticides and herbicides; photo developing equipment; industrial waste uses; fire sprinkler systems; boilers, humidifiers, and pools.

Cross connections are extremely dangerous because they provide opportunities for contaminating fluids to be pulled back into the water system. To help minimize the dangers, please use the following tips:

- Avoid using hose-end spray applicators for landscape chemicals.
- Install a backflow assembly if there is an existing or potential cross-connection.
- Have the backflow assembly tested by a state-certified backflow tester after installation and send a copy to the City of Snoqualmie Public Works Dept., P.O. Box 987, Snoqualmie, WA 98065.
- Every year, all Snoqualmie water utility customers who have backflow assemblies must have them tested and send a copy of certification to the Public Works Dept.

Please call 425-831-4919 if you have questions about cross connections or testing.

Contacts

Snoqualmie Water Division
425-831-4919

To Report Water Leaks
425-831-4919

EPA – Safe Drinking Water Hotline
800-426-4791; www.epa.gov

Cross Connections Questions
425-831-4919
backflow@snoqualmiewa.gov

Water Utility Billing
425-888-1555

WA State Department of Health
www.doh.wa.gov/ehp/dw

Snoqualmiewa.gov

Public Works Department
38624 SE River Street
P.O. Box 987
Snoqualmie, WA 98065
(425) 831-4919

Annual Water Quality Report for the Year 2023