Our Water Quality Commitment:

You Can Count on Washington Water Employees to . . .

⇒ provide you with the highest quality water possible

⇒ sample, test and treat your water on a regular basis

⇒ work diligently to meet every water quality standard on every system, every day

⇒ maintain water distribution system reliability

⇒ provide you with the highest level of customer service possible

Important Phone Numbers:

Washington Water Service Company
P.O. Box 336
Gig Harbor, WA 98335-0336
Office: (253) 851-4060
Toll Free: (877) 408-4060
http://www.wawater.com

SW Regional Operations Mgr:
Paul Robischon

Washington State Department of Health
Southwest Office of Drinking Water
P.O. Box 47823
Olympia, WA 98504-7823
(360) 664-0768
http://www.doh.wa.gov./ehp/dw/

WASHINGTON WATER SERVICE COMPANY

Andrews First Water System
State ID #172419

2009 Drinking Water Report

Washington Water Service Company (WWSC) is committed to being a leader in providing communities and customers with traditional and innovative utility services. WWSC is proud of its service record and is staffed with courteous and knowledgeable water professionals who are dedicated to meeting your needs. While we are proud of our past record, we continually strive to improve upon the quality of services we provide to you, our valued customer.

This *2009 Drinking Water Report* is your annual update on the quality and safety of your drinking water. It includes the water quality monitoring results from the ***most recent round*** of testing done on your system, in accordance with state and federal regulations. This report also provides access through references and telephone numbers to source water assessments, health effects data and additional information about your water system. This allows you to make personal health-based decisions regarding your drinking water consumption and become more involved in decisions which may affect your health. We hope you find this information helpful!

Washington Water Service Co.
Toll-free: (877) 408-4060

Regarding "contaminants" in drinking 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 the water poses a health risk. In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the Washington State Department of Health and EPA prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and the Washington Department of Agriculture regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that must provide the same protection for public health.

Sources of drinking water:

Common sources of drinking water—both tap and bottled water—include rivers, lakes and streams (surface water) and wells and springs (groundwater). As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally-occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material. The water can also pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

Where does my water come from?

Your water comes from two wells and is considered groundwater. Well #1 is 164 feet deep and located in the northwest portion of the system, adjacent to the storage reservoir. Well #2 is 92 feet deep and located centrally within the system, off 84th Court. The source water is pH-adjusted by passing it through calcium carbonate media in the on-site corrosion control treatment facility. Raising the pH of the water reduces its corrosivity toward household plumbing and fixtures.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

- *Microbial contaminants*, such as viruses, parasites and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations and wildlife.
- *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.
- *Pesticides and herbicides*, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff and residential uses.
- *Radioactive contaminants*, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.
- *Organic chemical contaminants*, including ynthetic 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.

Water Quality Data

How To Read The Tables:

Your water is tested for more than 100 contaminants for which state and federal standards have been set. *Tables 1 & 2* list all primary contaminants that were detected (in any amount) along with their respective Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs). Primary standards protect public health by limiting the levels of these contaminants in drinking water. *Table 3* shows the levels of secondary contaminants and common water properties of interest to many consumers. Secondary contaminants have no known health effects but can affect the aesthetic properties of water (taste, odor and appearance). Secondary Maximum Contaminant Levels (SMCLs) are guidelines only.

Terms and Abbreviations used:

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

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

Action Level (AL): the concentration of a contaminant which, when exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

Lead and Copper 90th Percentile Value:: Out of every 10 homes sampled, 9 were at or below this level. This must be ≤ the AL or additional steps must be taken.

ppb: parts per billion *ppm:* parts per million

N/A: not applicable *NTU:* nephelometric turbidity unit

Synthetic Organic Chemicals (SOCs). Because 2008 was the first year in a new 3-year monitoring period, the Dept of Health (DOH) did not schedule any SOC sampling (herbicides, pesticides and insecticides) in 2008 that the water system may receive a monitoring waiver for later. These waivers will be announced by the DOH in 2009.

Table 1: Primary Contaminants Detected In Your Drinking Water

Primary Contaminant	Units	Year Tested	MCL	MCLG	YOUR WATER[a]	Compliant? (Y/N)	Major Sources in Drinking Water
Nitrate	ppm	2008	10	10	1.2 - 2.8	Y	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Microbiological					Highest No. Of Monthly Positives		
Total coliform bacteria		2008	1[b]	0	1	Y[b]	Naturally present in the environment

Table 2: Lead and Copper Monitoring—Samples are collected at customer faucets. The number of homes sampled is based on population served by the system. Specific EPA-mandated criteria are used to select the homes:

Primary Contaminant	Units	Year Tested	AL	No. of Homes Sampled	90th Percentile Value	No. of Homes Exceeding the AL	Compliant? (Y/N)	Major Sources in Drinking Water
Copper	ppm	2008	1.3	5	2.1	3	N[c]	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Lead	ppb	2008	15	5	3	0	Y	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits

Table 3: Secondary Contaminants Detected in Your Drinking Water

Secondary Contaminant	Units	Year Tested[a]	SMCL	YOUR WATER[a]	Compliant? (Y/N)	Major Sources in Drinking Water
Iron	ppm	2006,'08	0.30	< 0.1	Y	Leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
Manganese	ppm	2006,'08	0.05	< 0.01	Y	Leaching from natural deposits
Chloride	ppm	2006,'08	250	3 - 5	Y	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence
Sodium	ppm	2006,'08	N/A[d]	6 - 7	Y	Erosion of natural deposits; seawater influence
Hardness	ppm	2006,'08	N/A	78 - 89[e]	Y	Erosion of natural deposits
Turbidity	NTU	2006,'08	N/A[f]	0.3 - 0.4	Y	Soil runoff

[a] There are two sources on this system and each is tested but not necessarily in the same year. A range of concentrations is shown if their results differ.

[b] For systems that collect < 40 coliform samples per month, the MCL is one positive (unsatisfactory) monthly sample. One positive sample does not necessarily pose a public health threat. Upon notification by the lab of the positive routine sample in July 2008, several follow-up samples were collected to ***confirm*** the presence of coliforms in the system. All of these samples were satisfactory (absent of coliforms), as were an increased number of routine samples collected in the following month (Aug 2008). All other routine monthly samples during the year were also satisfactory.

[c] The calcite media used for pH adjustment of the source water was found to be low in the treatment tanks and was replenished immediately. Two rounds of special follow-up lead and copper monitoring are now scheduled to take place in June and December 2009 to confirm that the system is once again "optimized for corrosion control", in accordance with state and federal drinking water standards. ***Health Effects:*** Copper is an essential nutrient but some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the AL over a relatively short amount of time may experience gastro-intestinal distress. Some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the AL over many years could suffer liver or kidney damage. People with Wilson's Disease should consult their personal doctor.

[d] The EPA recommends 20 ppm sodium as a level of concern for consumers who must restrict their dietary intake.

[e] Equivalent to 4.6 - 5.2 grains per gallon of hardness. 0 - 75 ppm hardness is considered "soft" water, 75 - 150 ppm is "moderately hard", 150 - 300 ppm is "hard" and > 300 ppm is "very hard" water.

[f] 1.0 NTU is the state's drinking water response level, meaning additional sampling or steps ***may*** be required, if exceeded.

Volatile Organic Chemicals (VOCs). In 2008, your drinking water sources were monitored for 60 different VOCs. These are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations and dry cleaners. We are pleased to report that there were no detections, in ***any*** amount, of any of these contaminants!

The Office of Drinking Water has compiled *source water assessment program (SWAP) data* for all community water systems in Washington. SWAP data for your system is available by accessing DOH's web site at:

http://www4.doh.wa.gov/dw/swap/app/login.cfm?app=maps

If you do not have access to the web, we encourage you to use the internet service available through the public library system.

Reminder:
Any hazardous material that you put onto the ground or in your septic tank could potentially pollute the groundwater. Please help the Andrews First Water System prevent groundwater contamination for this and future generations.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised people such as those with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, those who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791 or by visiting their web site below.

Safe Drinking Water Hotline
1-800-426-4791
www.epa.gov/ogwdw