

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

Belwood Park Water System State ID #056404

2011 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 *2011 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 State 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.

Reminder:

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

Where does my water come from?

Your water comes from two wells and is considered groundwater. The wells are located on the island in the middle of Bellwood Drive. Well #1 is 217 feet deep and Well #2 is 71 feet deep. To remove elevated levels of naturally-occurring iron and manganese from your well water, chlorine and permanganate are added. This oxidizes and precipitates out these nuisance minerals. The water is then filtered for clarity.

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 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.



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.

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 (e.g., chlorine, chloramines, 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.

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

Sodium in your drinking water was last measured in 2009 at **15 ppm**. There is no federal or state maximum for sodium in drinking water but the EPA recommends 20 ppm as a level of concern for those consumers who must restrict their dietary intake.

TABLE 1: Primary Contaminants Detected In Your Drinking Water

| Primary Contaminant | Units | Year Tested | MCL | MCLG | YOUR WATER | Compliant? (Y/N) | Major Sources in Drinking Water |
|-------------------------------------------------------------|-------|-------------|----------------|-----------|-----------------------------------------|------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Nitrate | ppm | 2010 | 10 | 10 | 0.3 | Y | Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits |
| Disinfectant (as measured in the distribution mains) | | | | | | | |
| Chlorine | ppm | 2010 | MRDL = 4 | MRDLG = 4 | 0.18^a | Y | Water additive used to kill microbes |
| Microbiological | | | | | Highest No. Of Monthly Positives | | |
| Total coliform bacteria | | 2010 | 1 ^b | 0 | 1 | Y | 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 ^d | AL | No. of Homes Sampled | 90th Percentile Value | No. of Homes Exceeding the AL | Compliant? (Y/N) | Major Sources in Drinking Water |
|---------------------|-------|--------------------------|-----|----------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------|------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Copper | ppm | 2009 | 1.3 | 5 | < 0.02 | 0 | Y | Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits |
| Lead | ppb | 2009 | 15 | 5 | 15 | 1^e | Y | Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits |

TABLE 3: Secondary Contaminants and Unregulated Contaminants

| Secondary Contaminant | Units | Year Tested ^d | SMCL | YOUR WATER | Compliant? (Y/N) | Major Sources in Drinking Water |
|---------------------------------------------|-------|--------------------------|------|-----------------------|------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|
| Iron | ppm | 2009 | 0.30 | < 0.1 | Y | Leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes |
| Manganese | ppm | 2009 | 0.05 | 0.01 | Y | Leaching from natural deposits |
| Chloride | ppm | 2009 | 250 | 14 | Y | Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence |
| Hardness | ppm | 2009 | N/A | 70^f | Y | Erosion of natural deposits |
| Unregulated Contaminants^g | | | | | | |
| Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM), ppb | | 2008 ^b | N/A | 1.3 | Y | Byproduct of drinking water disinfection |

^a This is the running annual average. Range = 0.00 - 0.67 ppm chlorine.

^b For systems that collect less than 40 bacteriological samples per month, the MCL is one positive (unsatisfactory) monthly sample. One positive sample does not necessarily pose a public health threat. See footnote "c" for more info.

^c Upon notification by the lab of this positive routine sample in Oct 2010, several follow-up samples were collected to **confirm** the presence of coliforms in the system and to determine their source. All of these samples were absent of any coliform bacteria, as were an increased number of routine samples collected in the following month. All other monthly routine samples collected in 2010 were also absent of coliforms.

^d Most recent testing done, in accordance with the regulations (required every 3 years).

^e Customer was contacted and provided with health & educational info on lead in drinking water. See information on "Lead" in right column.

^f Equivalent to 4.1 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".

^g Unregulated contaminants are those for which EPA has not established drinking water standards (note there is no MCL). The purpose of unregulated contaminant monitoring is to assist EPA in determining their occurrence in drinking water and whether future regulation is warranted. TTHMs are regulated in the distribution system where they are known to form over time (rather than at the source, which is where this sample was collected). There were no TTHMs present in the distribution system during testing in 2010.

Synthetic Organic Chemicals. Your drinking water source was tested for herbicides and pesticides in 2009 and we are pleased to report that there were no detections, in any amount, of any of these contaminants! No further monitoring for these chemicals is required until sometime during the new 2011-2019 compliance period.

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.

Lead. Infants and young children are typically more vulnerable to lead in drinking water than the general population. It is possible that lead levels at your home may be higher than other homes in the community as a result of materials used in your home's plumbing and the degree to which your pipes get flushed (related to your water usage). If you are concerned about elevated lead levels in your home's water, you may wish to have your specific home's water tested. We can help you arrange for that through our contract laboratory (approx \$20). Just give our Water Quality Dept a call at 491-3760. **An easy way to reduce your exposure to lead is to flush your tap with cold water for 30 - 45 seconds before using the water for drinking or cooking.**

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 shown below.

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