

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:

Dockton Water Association
9710 SW Windmill St
Vashon, WA 98070
Office: (206) 463-5600

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>
NW Regional Operations Mgr: Dan Brown

Washington State Department of Health
Northwest Office of Drinking Water
20435 72nd Avenue South, Suite 200, K17-12
Kent WA 98032-2358
(253) 395-6750
<http://www.doh.wa.gov/ehp/dw/>



WASHINGTON WATER
SERVICE COMPANY

Dockton Water Association Water System State ID #19550J

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 any new water quality test results obtained in 2008 or the *most recent* results of tests conducted over the last 5 years (not all testing is required every year). 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!

The Dockton Water Association Board meets on the fourth Monday of every month at 7:00 p.m. The annual meeting is held on the third Saturday in June.

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 one spring source and one well. This is considered groundwater. Dockton Springs, located across the road from Dockton Park, is the primary source of supply. Through siphon action, the water flows from 35 different “well points” to a collection tank where chlorine is added for disinfection purposes (to kill any bacteria that may be present). Chlorination is required due to the shallow depth and potential for surface water influence. The 423-foot deep Sandy Shores well, located on 94th Ave, is used seasonally (during peak demand) and for emergency purposes. Unlike the spring water, the well water is high on iron and manganese which are nuisance minerals that can affect taste and cause staining of fixtures but are not a safety or health concern. Chlorine is added to the well water for disinfection purposes.

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 \leq the AL or additional steps must be taken.

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

NA: Not applicable

TABLE 1: Primary Contaminants Detected In Your Drinking Water

Primary Contaminant	Units	Year Tested ^a	MCL	MCLG	DOCKTON SPRINGS	SANDY SHORES WELL	Compliant? (Y/N)	Major Sources in Drinking Water
Nitrate	ppm	2008	10	10	1.2	1.2	Y	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Arsenic	ppb	2007	10	0	3	2	Y	Erosion of natural deposits (volcanic rock); Runoff from orchards, and from glass and electronics production wastes
Disinfectants and Disinfection Byproducts (as measured in the distribution mains)								
Chlorine	ppm	2008	MRDL = 4.0	MRDLG = 4.0	0.4 ^b		Y	Water additive used to kill microbes
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM), ppb		2007	80	N/A	21.5		Y	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5), ppb		2007	60	N/A	2.9		Y	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection

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 ^a	AL	No. of Homes Sampled	90th Percentile Value	No. of Homes Exceeding the AL	Compliant? (Y/N)	Major Sources in Drinking Water
Copper	ppm	2007	1.3	10	0.59	0	Y	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Lead	ppb	2007	15	10	7	0	Y	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits

TABLE 3: Secondary Contaminants (Inorganic Chemical and Physical)

Secondary Contaminant	Units	Year Tested	SMCL	DOCKTON SPRINGS	SANDY SHORES WELL	Compliant? (Y/N)	Major Sources in Drinking Water
Iron	ppm	2008	0.30	0.09	1.88	Y ^c	Leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
Manganese	ppm	2008	0.05	0.06	0.36	Y ^c	Leaching from natural deposits
Sodium	ppm	2004 ^d	N/A ^e	< 5	7	Y	Erosion of natural deposits; seawater influence
Hardness	ppm	2004 ^d	N/A	73 ^f	99 ^f	Y	Erosion of natural deposits

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

^b Running annual average. Range = 0.1 - 1.3 ppm chlorine.

^c Secondary maximum contaminant levels (SMCLs) are guidelines only, to control the staining and scale build-up on sinks and fixtures, and the "dirty", colored water that nuisance minerals like iron and manganese can cause. There are no known health effects associated with drinking water containing iron and manganese at these levels.

^d Both sources were granted a 9-year monitoring waiver for Inorganic Chemicals (IOC) by the Dept of Health, which means only one complete IOC sample is required between January 2002 and December 2010. Eligibility for an IOC waiver depends on water quality history and a waiver application and fee. The annual sampling requirement for nitrate cannot be waived (nitrate is in the IOC group).

^e The EPA recommends 20 ppm as a level of concern for those consumers who must restrict their dietary intake.

^f 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".

Coliform Major Monitoring Violation. Dockton Water Association is required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not your drinking water meets health standards. During the month of January 2009, we did not monitor or test for coliform bacteria and, therefore, cannot be sure of the quality of your drinking water during that time. This was an unfortunate oversight due to clerical error. All routine monthly coliform samples were collected in 2008, and all monthly samples from February 2009 to present have been collected and all have been absent of coliform bacteria.

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 sampling for herbicides, pesticides and insecticides in 2008 that the water system may receive a monitoring waiver for later. These waivers will be announced by DOH in 2009.

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 at your local library.

Reminder:

Any hazardous material that you put onto the ground or in your septic tank could potentially pollute the groundwater. Please help Dockton Water Assn 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 at:

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