

## 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

## 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 (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, also.

## 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	MCL	MCLG	DOCKTON SPRINGS	SANDY SHORES WELL	Compliant? (Y/N)	Major Sources in Drinking Water
Nitrate	ppm	2010	10	10	1.1	< 0.2	Y	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Arsenic	ppb	2007 <sup>a</sup>	10	0	3	2	Y	Erosion of natural deposits (volcanic rock); Runoff from orchards, and from glass and electronics production wastes
<b>Disinfectants and Disinfection Byproducts</b> (as measured in the distribution mains)								
Chlorine	ppm	2010	MRDL = 4.0	MRDLG = 4.0	0.55 <sup>b</sup>		Y	Water additive used to kill microbes
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM), ppb		2010	80	N/A	8.0 - 11.0		Y	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5), ppb		2010	60	N/A	1.0 - 1.5		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	AL	No. of Homes Sampled	90th Percentile Value	No. of Homes Exceeding the AL	Compliant? (Y/N)	Major Sources in Drinking Water
Copper	ppm	2010	1.3	10	0.41	0	Y	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Lead	ppb	2010	15	10	< 1	0	Y	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits

**TABLE 3: Secondary and Unregulated Contaminants**

Secondary Contaminant	Units	Year Tested	SMCL	DOCKTON SPRINGS	SANDY SHORES WELL	Compliant? (Y/N)	Major Sources in Drinking Water
Iron	ppm	2008 <sup>a</sup>	0.30	0.09	1.88	Y <sup>c</sup>	Leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
Manganese	ppm	2008 <sup>a</sup>	0.05	0.06	0.36	Y <sup>c</sup>	Leaching from natural deposits
Hardness	ppm	2004 <sup>a</sup>	N/A	73 <sup>d</sup>	99 <sup>d</sup>	Y	Erosion of natural deposits
<b>Unregulated Contaminants<sup>e</sup></b>							
Total Trihalomethanes, (TTHM), ppb		2010	N/A	4.2	N/A	Y	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection

<sup>a</sup> Both sources were granted a 9-year monitoring waiver for Inorganic Chemicals (IOCs, 28 different inorganic chemical and physical tests) by the Dept of Health, which means only one IOC sample is required between Jan 2002 and Dec 2010. Eligibility for this waiver depends on water quality history and a waiver application and fee. The annual sampling requirement for nitrate is never waived (see results in Table 1).

<sup>b</sup> Running annual average. Range = 0.00- 1.22 ppm chlorine.

<sup>c</sup> 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. The Sandy Shores well is used during peak summer demand only and blended with spring water to keep iron and manganese to a minimum.

<sup>d</sup> 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".

<sup>e</sup> Unregulated contaminants are those for which EPA has not established drinking water standards. 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 (not at the source, which is where this sample was collected). See Table 1 for TTHM results in distribution.

**Sodium.** Neither the EPA nor the WA State Board of Health have established an MCL for sodium but due to concern for consumers who must restrict their dietary intake, your drinking water is monitored for sodium every 3 years (or 9 years, if the source has been granted an IOC monitoring waiver). The EPA recommends 20 ppm as a level of concern for those consumers who must restrict their intake. Sodium in your drinking water was last measured in 2004<sup>a</sup> at < 5 ppm (spring) and 7 ppm (well).

### 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.

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.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised 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. Information about other contaminants found in water can be found there, also.

**EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline**  
**1-800-426-4791**  
[www.epa.gov/ogwdw](http://www.epa.gov/ogwdw)