Westside Water Association

PO Box 267
Vashon Island, WA 98070
PH: 206-567-4568 (phone tree)
e-mail: Manager@westsidewater.org
Island Water Management iwm.1@juno.com
web: www.westsidewater.org

Year 2022 Westside Water Association Water Quality Report

This "Consumer Confidence Report" is being sent to you to inform you about the quality of your drinking water.

We are pleased to present the 2022 Annual Water Quality Report (aka: Consumer Confidence Report) as required by the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). This report is designed to provide details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to standards set by regulatory agencies.

In 2022 the following tests were taken:

- Bacteriological (monthly)
- Nitrate (all sources, annual)
- Iron (source water)
- Manganese (source water)
- Lead & Copper (10 samples, individual residences)
- Radionuclide: (Gross Alpha and Radium 228)
- Disinfection by-products (THM, and HAA5, 2 samples, distribution system)

To review lab results on-line, click on or paste the following web address into your browser.
https://fortress.wa.gov/doh/odwsentry/portal/odw/si/Disclaimer.aspx?Page=/portal/odw/si/findwatersystem.aspx

That address will take you to a web site that requires the User to agree to conditions in order to view information. Click "I Accept", then "Submit". On the next screen that opens enter Westside's public water system ID: 94950 and then click "Submit". When you arrive at the WWA water system page click on "samples". There is a lot of other information about Westside Water on that site so feel free to explore. We are also happy to provide you with laboratory documentation of water quality for specific test results upon request.

Special Note to vulnerable populations:

This notice pertains to anyone who is wanting more guidance about water quality and health.

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

Summary of Water Quality (Table)

Westside's source water continues to provide high quality drinking water. In the chart below are the test summaries.

Water Quality Table

Contaminants	MCLG or MRDLG	MCL, TT, or MRDL	Your Water	Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
Nitrate (mg/l) blended sample: S01,S03, S06, S09		10	0.55	**2022**	No	Fertilizer run off, failed septic systems, field animals
TTHM (Total Trihalomethanes)		80.4000 ug/l	3.7*	**2022**	No	Disinfection products eg. chlorine
HAA5 (Haloaecetic Acids)		60,4000 ug/l	ND **	**2022**	No	Disinfection products
Contaminants	**MCLG or MRDLG**	**MCL, TT, or MRDL**	**Your Water**	**Sample Date**	**Violation**	**Typical Source**
Gross Alpha		Not established	-1.11	**2022**		Erosion of natural deposits
Radium (combined 226/228) (pCi/L)			ND	**2022***	No	Erosion of natural deposits
* 2022 sample had lab problem. Sample retaken early 2023						

Contaminants	MCL (*mg/l*)	AL (*mg/l*	Your Water (*mg/l*)	Sample Date	# Samples Exceeding AL	Exceeds AL?	Typical Source/Notes
Inorganic Contaminants (10 samples from individual residences)							
Copper - action level at consumer taps (ppm)	1.3	1.3	0.310	2022	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Lead	0.015		Low: ND High: 0.0077	2022	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Iron	0.3		ND	2022	no	No	NOTE: Blended sources (S01, S03,S09)
Manganese	0.05		ND	2022	NA	No	NOTE: Blended sources (S01, S03,S09)

Special Note
Arsenic While your drinking water is much lower in arsenic than EPA's standard, (10 ppb) it does contain ambient levels of arsenic (2-3 ppb in the well points and spring, 0 -1.5 in the Anderson Well field (SO9) and 3.7-5 ppb at the Back 40 well. This background level is associated with ancient volcanic activity in the Puget Sound Region. The EPA Health Goal (MCLG) for arsenic is 0. According to the EPA, these MCLG goals are "aspirational". MCLGs allow for a margin of safety and are non-enforceable public health goals. EPA continues to research the health effects of low levels of arsenic which is a mineral known to cause cancer in humans at high concentrations over many years and is linked to other health effects such as skin damage and circulatory problems. WWA board policy is to provide the cleanest water possible to users. **No water from Canyon Well with its ambient level of 30-35 ppb arsenic has been used since the 2nd well at the Anderson site was put on line in 2016.**

Important Drinking Water Definitions	
Term	**Definition**
MCL	MCL: Maximum Contaminant Level: 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.
MCLG	MCLG: Maximum Contaminant Level Goal: 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.
AL	AL: Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
ppm, ppb	ppm=Parts per Million (mg/l) ppb= parts per billion (ug/l)

About contaminants

It is important to realize that drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected and legally allowed to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. Some people though, may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/Aids or other immune system disorders, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers.

More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791). If you have any questions or concerns about your drinking water, please do not hesitate to contact the Westside Water Association at 206-567-4568

Sources of Water

The sources of water Westside draws from are varied in location but all of them are considered by the Dept of Health to be "ground water".

Westside uses the **Canyon Pump Station** (well points + 1 small spring, S01 & S03 respectively) and the

Anderson Well Field (S09) as the primary and regular sources of water supply. These sources provide excellent water quality water to Westside users all year long. The Anderson Well Field is equipped with an emergency generator.

The "**Back 40 Well**" (S10) is intended to be used only when demand exceeds the capacity of the other sources, and WWA policy is to blend this water to mitigate the level of manganese (0.066 – 0.072 mg/l. Manganese is considered a "nuisance" or "secondary" contaminant (taste & odor considerations). The MCL for manganese is 0.05 mg/l

In addition to these sources, the system has the **Canyon Well** (S06) available for extreme water demand situations. We continue to include the source in the water quality testing regiment to keep it as a viable source option. If the Canyon Well does get used, current WWA policy is to blend the well water with other source water to keep the resulting arsenic concentration at or below 5 ppb. This WWA policy is half of the Safe Drinking Water Act monitoring standard of 10 ppb and users would be kept informed about the concentration of arsenic in the blended water. It is worth noting that the Canyon Well has not been used since 2016.

If **Shinglemill Creek** (an emergency surface water source) is ever used, users would be notified that the source is on-line and a "boil water" notice will be posted. The likelihood of needing this source is remote.

Westside is fortunate to own 40 acres of the watershed that provides its water. While we are grateful for the degree of protection this ownership confers it is very important that the rest of the watershed be handled in an ecologically responsible way. If you see any activity that you believe might compromise the quality of the water and thus, you or your loved one's health, please call Island Water Management or a Westside Water Board member and we will investigate the situation.

Monitoring of Ground Water Levels

We continue to do monthly monitoring of the water table associated with all sources.

Potential sources of chemical contamination

Because some of our water comes from springs, the hydrology of which is largely unknown, there is good reason to be vigilant about the environmental health of our watershed. Contaminants that may be present in source water before we treat it include:

Microbial contaminants such as viruses and bacteria, may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations and wildlife. Westside uses chlorine as a disinfectant. The chlorine level is monitored every week day and a bacteriological test is taken monthly. There were no positive bacteriological samples in 2017.

Inorganic contaminants such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, saltwater intrusion, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, and, mining or farming. Inorganic chemicals include arsenic, barium, selenium, nickel, cyanide, fluoride, iron, manganese, silver, etc.

Radioactive contaminants, which are naturally occurring. This is more of a problem in places that have bedrock at the level of their water source and not so much an issue for this hill of a mound of till we call Vashon.

Pesticides and herbicides, may come from sources such as agriculture and residential uses.
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 storm water runoff, and septic systems.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Westside Water treats our water according to

EPA's regulations and/or the standards of the Washington State Department of Health – whichever are more stringent. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that must provide the same protection for public health. If you are using a filter for your household please pay attention to the manufacturer's recommended maintenance schedule.

Source Water Protection Tips

Protection of drinking water is everyone's responsibility. You can help protect your community's drinking water source in several ways:

- Eliminate excess use of lawn and garden fertilizers and pesticides – they contain hazardous chemicals that can reach drinking water sources.
- Pick up after your pets.
- If you have your own septic system, properly maintain your system to reduce leaching to water sources or consider connecting to a public water system.
- Dispose of chemicals properly; e.g. take used motor oil to a recycling center.
- Volunteer in your community. Find a watershed or wellhead protection organization in your community and volunteer to help.

Additional Information for Lead

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. Westside Water Association is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

Management and Board Information

The Westside Water system is operated and managed by Island Water Management, Inc, owned by WWA member Doug Dolstad. Paul Huss has recently joined IWM, Inc to serve as Operations Manager. A five-member Board serves as the governing body of the Association. The Board meets on a regular bi-monthly schedule (usually the 3rd Thursday of the odd month at 7 pm)

Meetings are held at a board member's home or, lately, via Zoom. Please contact us (Doug or a Board member) if you'd like to attend so we can let you know how/where that month's meeting will be held.

(2023) WWA Board Members email: board@westsidewater.org

Holly Shull Treasurer	Peter Meyers, At Large	Sam Lanier President	Doug Swan Secretary	David Hawkins Vice President

2022 WWA CCR Report by: Douglas P Dolstad IWM Inc. iwm.1@juno.com 206-567-4568 x1