

SKAGIT PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT WATER QUALITY REPORT 2021 & WATER USE EFFICIENCY UPDATE



Este informe contiene información importante acerca de su agua potable. Haga que alguien lo traduzca para usted, o hable con alguien que lo entienda.

Skagit
PUD
PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT

COMMITMENT



When the tap is turned on, clear, clean water fills the glass. Customers trust that we carefully process each drop of water their families consume. Our water goes through extensive testing to ensure its quality. Most importantly, our people are highly skilled professionals who are passionate about meeting customers' expectations for refreshing, safe water. We know there is no substitute for clean, safe water. This report is a snapshot of the quality of water that we provided in 2021. Included are details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to Environmental Protection Agency and state standards.

GEORGE SIDHU, P.E.
GENERAL MANAGER | SKAGIT PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT

WHO WE ARE

82 YEARS DELIVERING WATER TO SKAGIT PUD CUSTOMERS

REGIONAL LEADER & INNOVATIVE UTILITY PROVIDER

83 UNION & NON-UNION WORKERS

AWARD-WINNING UTILITY & STAFF

PEOPLE WE SERVE

- 83,000 people in Burlington, Mount Vernon and Sedro-Woolley areas
- Plus seven satellite systems from Guemes Island to Marblemount.

- Alger Water System
- Cedargrove Water System
- Fidalgo Island Water System
- Marblemount Water System
- Potlatch Water System
- Rockport Water System
- Skagit View Village Water System

EXCEPTIONAL QUALITY

Skagit PUD earned the Washington Department of Health's Office of Drinking Water Platinum Award for 20 or more consecutive years of optimal performance of the Judy Reservoir water supply system.

WHAT WE DO

SYSTEM

650 MILES OF PIPELINE

- 55% DUCTILE IRON
- 27% PLASTIC / PVC
- 13% ASBESTOS

22 Number of reservoirs in distribution system

3 Number of clearwells at Judy Reservoir

ACCOUNTS

27K+ WATER SERVICES

86% Residential

7% Commercial

5% Multi-Family

1% Farms / Government

WHO TO CONTACT

If you have questions regarding your water quality or the information presented in this annual report, please contact **Emilia Blake**, Water Quality Coordinator, at (360) 848-2135 or blake@skagitpud.org.



YOUR HEALTH

ASSESSING YOUR HEALTH RISK

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised 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, and infants can be particularly vulnerable to infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. The Environmental Protection Agency and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the **Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791)**.

CONTAMINANT SOURCES

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

Microbial contaminants, such as viruses 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 storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.

Pesticides and herbicides, Pesticides and herbicides may come from various sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses.

Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production and can also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems.

Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production, and mining activities.

To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the EPA prescribes regulations that limit the number of specific contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protections for public health.

DRINKING WATER — EPA STANDARDS FOR PROTECTING PUBLIC HEALTH

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the Department of Health and EPA prescribe regulations limiting specific contaminants in water provided by public water systems.

The Food and Drug Administration and the Washington Department of Agriculture regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that must provide the same protections for public health.



POTENTIAL HEALTH EFFECTS OF LEAD

The greatest risk of lead exposure is to infants, young children, and pregnant women. Lead can cause serious health problems if too much enters the body. Lead is stored in the bones and can be released later in life. Lead can cause damage to the brain and kidneys, interfere with production of red blood cells that carry oxygen, and may result in lowered IQ in children. During pregnancy, the child receives lead from the mother's bones, which may affect brain development. Low levels of lead can affect adults with high blood pressure or kidney problems.

HOW YOU CAN REDUCE LEAD EXPOSURE

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.

Skagit PUD 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 www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

SAFETY TIP

Clean your aerator.

Regularly clean your faucet's screen (also known as an aerator). Sediment, debris, and lead particles can collect in your aerator. If lead particles are caught in the aerator, lead can get into your water.



SOURCE WATER PROTECTION

To achieve improved protection of public water supply sources and the health of Washington's citizens, the Washington State Department of Health has developed the Source Water Assessment Program.

The program evaluates potential threats to the safety of our water supplies by assessing sources of contamination. The SWAP is designed to give you and your community more information about your drinking water source and any threats to its long-term quality that we can identify and address through a pollution prevention approach.

To learn more about the SWAP, contact the Department of Health at (360) 236-3149 or visit www.doh.wa.gov/ehp/dw.

STEWARDSHIP

WORKING TOGETHER TO PROTECT FISHERIES RESOURCES

Conservation and environmental stewardship are essential pieces in Skagit PUD's overall mission to provide high-quality, safe, reliable, and affordable water services to our customers.

The Skagit River and its tributaries support some of the healthiest salmon runs in the Northwest and form the only stream system in Washington to support all five species of Pacific Northwest salmon, as well as bull trout and steelhead.

Skagit PUD participates in local watershed management and planning efforts to protect in-stream flows necessary to maintain salmon spawning and rearing habitat while ensuring adequate water to meet our customers' current and future demands.

In 1996, the PUD entered into a memorandum of agreement with the city of Anacortes, Skagit County, the Swinomish, Sauk-Suiattle and Upper Skagit Indian tribes, Department of Ecology, and the Department of Fish and Wildlife, that provides for coordinated water-resource management for 50 years and ensures minimum in-stream flows to protect fish habitat.



DEFINITIONS

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

Haloacetic Acids. A disinfection by-product from chlorinating water that contains natural organic matter.

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL). The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLG 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 health risk. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL). The highest level of disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that the addition of a disinfectant is necessary for the control of microbial contaminants.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG). The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected health risk. MRDLGs do not reflect the health benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

Not Applicable (NA). Does not apply.

Not Detected (ND). Indicates that the parameter was not detected above the Specified Reporting Limit.

Nephelometric Turbidity Units (NTU). A unit of measure for turbidity based on the amount of light that is reflected from the water.

Part per million (ppm). One part per million is equivalent to half of an aspirin tablet dissolved in a full bathtub of water (50 gallons).

Part per billion (ppb). One part per billion is equivalent to half of an aspirin tablet dissolved in 1,000 bathtubs of water (50,000 gallons).

Total Coliforms. A group of non-pathogenic bacteria used in testing water to indicate the presence of pathogenic bacteria. They are naturally present in the environment. If coliforms were found in more samples than allowed, it would be a warning of potential problems.

Trihalomethanes. A disinfection by-product from chlorinating water that contains natural organic matter. The most common by-product is chloroform.

Treatment Technique (TT). A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

Turbidity. A measure of the cloudiness of water. We monitor it because it's a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filtration system.

Water Quality Data

The drinking water results tables included in this report list all the drinking water contaminants we detected during the 2021 calendar year. These contaminants in the water do not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in the tables are from testing done January 1 to December 31, 2021. The state requires us to monitor for specific contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year. Some of the data, though representative of the water quality, is more than one year old.

JUDY RESERVOIR

PUBLIC WATER SYSTEM: ID# 79500E

SOURCE & TREATMENT

The Judy Reservoir system is located in Skagit County and serves over 83,000 people, with the majority being in Mount Vernon, Burlington, and Sedro-Woolley. The source water comes from the Cultus Mountain watershed via four creeks (Gilligan, Mundt, Salmon, and Turner) diverted into Judy Reservoir. Water is also pumped up from the Skagit River to Judy Reservoir. Being surface water, Judy Reservoir can experience seasonal changes that can affect several parameters. Alkalinity, pH, color, turbidity, total organic carbon, and others are all affected by warmer temperatures and high organic content. These factors can increase algae growth resulting in taste and odor issues, plus pose treatment challenges.

The treatment is a multi-step direct filtration process that meets water quality standards and provides 99.99% removal. The raw water from Judy Reservoir is disinfected with chlorine dioxide then pumped to the water treatment plant, where carbon dioxide and coagulant aids are added. This step is intended to provide initial oxidation (beneficial in reducing taste and odor caused by algae) and help coagulate small particles in the flocculation basin, where bigger particles are then formed. Filtration is the next step, where the treated water passes through charcoal media and sand. The finished water is then disinfected and flows by gravity into three clear wells.

Before the water reaches the clear wells, caustic soda and ammonia are added to adjust pH and form chloramines for residual disinfection. Chloramines are used because it provides effective and long-lasting disinfection in the distribution system at low dosages.

Chloramines are measured as both total chlorine and monochloramine. Their optimal formation and stability are at pH 8.5 and above. The water leaving the treatment plant has a target pH of 8.8 and can be slightly higher in the distribution system. Alkaline (higher) pH and alkalinity adjustments help with corrosion control because Judy Reservoir water is soft by nature.

Total chlorine residual is maintained throughout the distribution system to provide sufficient disinfection.

In 2021, 80 routine samples per month from the distribution system were required to be tested for total coliforms and E. coli. The total chlorine residual levels leaving the water treatment plant were between 1.3 to 1.8 mg/l and a pH of 8.8. Monthly the water is tested for total organic carbon and chlorite.

Quarterly, the treated water is tested for disinfection by-products from eight locations throughout the distribution system. Results show that disinfection by-products are below the established Maximum Contaminant Level. Once a year, water is tested for nitrate, which is usually very low (< 1 mg/l). Every three years, lead and copper samples are collected from customers with older homes to establish the corrosive properties of the water. Thus far, the system has complied with the established action levels for lead and copper.

The Judy system is on a testing schedule of every six years for radionuclides. The DOH has granted a reduced monitoring waiver for pesticides, soil fumigants, volatile organics, and complete inorganics tested every three, six, or nine years.

ABOUT JUDY

Since construction in 1947, Judy Reservoir has seen its capacity increased by raising the surrounding dams in 1965 and 2001. The current capacity of the reservoir is approximately 1.45 billion gallons. The reservoir is formed by two earth-fill dams located in the Janicki Creek basin. Janicki Creek was diverted around the eastern edge of the reservoir during past construction activities and is separated from the reservoir by a man-made stream channel.

The PUD's water treatment plant is located on the north side of Judy Reservoir. Water is pumped from the reservoir, processed at the treatment plant in compliance with DOH regulations, and flows through gravity pipelines to the distribution system.

WATER QUALITY

Currently, the drinking water quality meets all primary and secondary drinking water standards. Judy Reservoir water is considered soft with a hardness of 21 mg/l (calcium carbonate).

Throughout the day, the raw (untreated) water quality is monitored by online analyzers and lab tests to evaluate and provide sufficient treatment technique. Some of these daily tests include pH, temperature, color, turbidity, alkalinity, chlorite, and weekly tests for fecal coliforms, algae count, and identification. Less frequent tests are conducted for cryptosporidium, Giardia, and other parasites.

JUDY RESERVOIR PUBLIC WATER SYSTEM: ID# 79500E

2021 DRINKING WATER RESULTS

The water quality information presented in the table(s) is from the most recent round of testing done according to the regulations. All data shown were collected during the last calendar year unless otherwise noted in the table(s).

| Contaminants | MCLG | MCL | Judy Reservoir | Range of Detection | | Sample Date | Violation | Typical Source of Contaminant |
|-----------------------------|------|-----|----------------|--------------------|---------|-------------|-----------|--------------------------------------|
| | | | | Lowest | Highest | | | |
| RAW WATER | | | | | | | | |
| Total Organic Carbon (ppm) | N/A | TT | 2.1 | 1.32 | 2.91 | 2021 | NO | Naturally present in the environment |
| Cryptosporidium (oocyst/L)* | N/A | N/A | 0.0 | N/A | N/A | 2021 | NO | Naturally present in the environment |

*Total of 24 samples were collected between 2019 to 2021, and none had a presence of Cryptosporidium or Giardia.

| FINISHED WATER | | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------|-----|----|------|------|------|------|----|--------------|
| Turbidity (NTU) | N/A | TT | 0.02 | 0.01 | 0.05 | 2021 | NO | Soil erosion |

Turbidity measures the cloudiness of the water and is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filtration system at removing particulates from the water. Skagit PUD measures turbidity continuously throughout the treatment process. In 2020, no filter water turbidity results were above the EPA 0.3 NTU limit. For compliance purposes, combined filter effluent turbidity should be <0.3 NTU in 95% of the monthly samples.

| DISINFECTANT RESIDUAL | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------|---|---|------|------|-----|------|----|--|
| Total Chlorine Residual (ppm) | 4 | 4 | 1.04 | 0.12 | 1.8 | 2021 | NO | Measure of disinfectant added to water |

Skagit PUD uses chloramines for disinfection. To ensure disinfectant residual in the distribution system, total and free chlorine residual measurements are taken with each coliform sample. Additionally, monochloramine measurements are taken to establish chloramine formation.

| MICROBIOLOGICAL CONTAMINANTS | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|--------------|---|---|---|------|----|--------------------------------------|
| Total Coliform Bacteria | 0 | 5% per month | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2021 | NO | Naturally present in the environment |

Skagit PUD collects 80 compliance samples per month for total coliforms and E. coli from our distribution system. No total coliforms or E. coli were detected in 2020.

| DISINFECTION BY-PRODUCTS | | | | | | | | |
|---------------------------------|-----|----|-------|-------|--------|------|----|---|
| Chlorite (ppm) | 0.8 | 1 | 0.54 | 0.36 | 0.76 | 2021 | NO | By-product of chlorine dioxide |
| Total Trihalomethanes (ppb) | N/A | 80 | 10.2* | 5.5** | 11.8** | 2021 | NO | By-product of drinking water chlorination |
| Haloacetic Acids (5) (ppb) | N/A | 60 | 13.3* | 4.0** | 23.6** | 2021 | NO | By-product of drinking water chlorination |

Chlorite samples are collected monthly from three locations. The TTHMs and HAA5 results are from the eight locations in Skagit County, which are monitored quarterly to comply with current regulations. *Highest locational running average of the eight sites. **Lowest and highest actual value from all eight locations measured.

| INORGANIC CONTAMINANTS | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------|----|----|----|-----|-----|------|----|-----------------------------|
| Nitrate (ppm) | 10 | 10 | ND | N/A | N/A | 2021 | NO | Erosion of natural deposits |

| RADIONUCLIDES | | | | | | | | |
|----------------------|---|----|----|-----|-----|------|----|-----------------------------|
| Gross Alpha (pCi/L) | 0 | 15 | ND | N/A | N/A | 2021 | NO | Erosion of natural deposits |
| Gross Beta (pCi/L) | 0 | 50 | ND | N/A | N/A | 2021 | NO | Erosion of natural deposits |
| Radium 228 (pCi/L) | 0 | 5 | ND | N/A | N/A | 2021 | NO | Erosion of natural deposits |

| MONITORING WAIVERS* | | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------|-----------|
| Contaminants | Frequency | Last Sampled | Violation |
| Volatile Organic Chemicals (VOC) | Every 6 years. | 2017 | NO |
| Inorganic Chemicals (IOC) | Every 9 years. | 2021 | NO |
| Synthetic Organic Chemicals (SOC) | Every 3 or 9 years.** | 2015 | NO |

*The Washington State Department of Health reduced the monitoring requirements for IOCs (28 contaminants), SOCs (40 contaminants) and VOCs (25 contaminants), because the source is not at risk of contamination. **Pesticides are monitored every three years and herbicides every nine years, none of the two groups have been detected in our finished water.

| LEAD & COPPER | | | | | | | |
|---|------|-----|-------------------------|-------------|------------------------|-----------|--|
| Contaminants | MGLG | AL | Judy Reservoir (90th %) | Sample Date | # Samples Exceeding AL | Violation | Typical Sources |
| Lead – lead at consumer’s tap (ppb) | 0 | 15 | 2* | 2021 | 0 of 30 | NO | Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits |
| Copper – copper at consumer’s tap (ppm) | 1.3 | 1.3 | 0.04* | 2021 | 0 of 30 | NO | Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits |

* The 90th percentile level is the highest result obtained in 90% of the samples collected when ranked from lowest to highest. Judy Reservoir is required to collect 30 samples for lead and copper from household taps every three years. The Washington State Department of Health requires Judy Reservoir to provide corrosion control treatment by adjusting the pH and alkalinity with caustic soda. The target pH leaving the treatment plant is 8.8 and is constantly monitored with online analyzers and lab tests every two hours. pH measurements are taken with every coliform sample throughout the distribution system.

| AESTHETIC AND SECONDARY STANDARDS | | | |
|--|-------|-----|--------------|
| Parameter | Units | MCL | 2021 Results |
| Sodium | mg/l | N/A | 6.0 |
| Hardness | mg/l | N/A | 21.5 |
| Iron | mg/l | 0.3 | ND |
| Chloride | mg/l | 250 | 3.7 |
| Sulfate | mg/l | 250 | 2.8 |

The fourth Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule monitoring started in 2019 and continued in 2020. The Judy Reservoir system was monitored for 30 chemical contaminants using analytical methods developed by the EPA, which provides the basis for future regulatory actions. For more information about the program, visit EPA’s website at epa.gov/dwucmr/fourth-unregulated-contaminant-monitoring-rule.

Susceptibility rating of potential threats to the safety of our water supply: **High**

See Source Water Assessment Program data on the Department of Health website—<https://fortress.wa.gov/doh/swap/index.html>

| How to Read the Water Quality Data Table |
|---|
| EPA establishes the safe drinking water regulations that limit the amount of contaminants allowed in drinking water. The tables show the concentrations of detected substances in comparison to regulatory limits. Substances not detected are not included in the table. |
| 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, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a system must follow. |
| Units in the Table: ppm is parts per million (or 1 drop in 1 million gallons), ppb is parts per billion (or 1 drop in 1 billion gallons) |

ALGER PUBLIC WATER SYSTEM: ID# 01400K

SOURCE & TREATMENT

The Alger water system is located 15 miles north of Mount Vernon and serves approximately 110 residential connections and 12 non-residential connections. Water is drawn from a 51-foot deep, flowing, artesian well. The water is treated for iron and manganese removal via chlorine oxidation and filtration using manganese oxide media. The source water has naturally occurring ammonia, and with the addition of free chlorine for disinfection, it creates total chlorine residuals of 0.9 to 1.2 mg/l.

WATER QUALITY

Currently, the drinking water quality meets all primary and secondary drinking water standards. The hardness of the water is 82.0 mg/l (as calcium carbonate).

A monthly routine distribution sample is tested for total coliform and E. coli. Total chlorine residual levels are around 0.9 to 1.2 mg/l with pH levels of 7.4 – 7.8. Quarterly, the untreated and treated water is tested for iron and manganese to evaluate their removal from the untreated water. Once a year, the nitrate levels are measured and found to be non-detect. This system is on a three-year sampling schedule for lead, copper, arsenic (naturally occurring), manganese, disinfection by-products, and volatile organics. These parameters are below the established MCLs. Radionuclides are on a six-year testing schedule and are also found to be below the established MCLs.

The Washington State Department of Health has granted the Alger water system waivers for asbestos, complete inorganics, herbicides, pesticides, and soil fumigants. These parameters are tested every three or nine years.

2021 Drinking Water Results

The water quality information presented in the table(s) is from the most recent round of testing done according to the regulations. All data shown were collected during the last calendar year unless otherwise noted in the table(s).

| Contaminants | MCLG | MCL | Alger | Range of Detection | | Sample Date | Violation | Typical Source of Contaminant |
|--|------|------------|-------|--------------------|---------|-------------|-----------|---|
| | | | | Lowest | Highest | | | |
| DISINFECTANT RESIDUAL | | | | | | | | |
| Total Chlorine Residual (ppm) | 4 | 4 | 0.9 | 0.58 | 1.2 | 2021 | NO | Measure of disinfectant added to water |
| Alger's water contains ammonia and when chlorine is added for disinfection, chloramines are formed. Total chlorine is measured with each coliform sample. | | | | | | | | |
| MICROBIOLOGICAL CONTAMINANTS | | | | | | | | |
| Total Coliform Bacteria | 0 | 1 Positive | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2021 | NO | Naturally present in the environment |
| Skagit PUD collects one compliance sample per month for total coliforms and E. coli from the distribution system. No total coliforms or E. coli were detected in 2021. | | | | | | | | |
| DISINFECTION BY-PRODUCTS | | | | | | | | |
| Total Trihalomethanes (ppb) | N/A | 80 | 15.5 | N/A | N/A | 2020 | NO | By-product of drinking water chlorination |
| Haloacetic Acids (5) (ppb) | N/A | 60 | 4.3 | N/A | N/A | 2020 | NO | By-product of drinking water chlorination |
| Disinfection by-product samples are collected once every three years. | | | | | | | | |
| INORGANIC CONTAMINANTS | | | | | | | | |
| Arsenic (ppb)* | 0 | 10 | 5.5 | N/A | N/A | 2021 | NO | Erosion of natural deposits |
| Nitrate (ppm) | 10 | 10 | ND | N/A | N/A | 2021 | NO | Erosion of natural deposits |
| *Your drinking water currently meets EPA's standards for arsenic. However, it does contain low levels of arsenic. There is a slight chance that some people who drink water containing low levels of arsenic for many years could develop circulatory diseases, cancer, or other health problems. Most types of cancer and circulatory diseases are due to factors other than exposure to arsenic. EPA's standard balances the current understanding of arsenic's health effects against the cost of removing arsenic from drinking water. | | | | | | | | |

| Contaminants | MCLG | MCL | Alger | Range of Detection | | Sample Date | Violation | Typical Source of Contaminant |
|--|------|-----|-------|--------------------|---------|-------------|-----------|-------------------------------|
| | | | | Lowest | Highest | | | |
| RADIONUCLIDES | | | | | | | | |
| Gross Alpha (pCi/L) | 0 | 15 | ND | N/A | N/A | 2021 | NO | Erosion of natural deposits |
| Gross Beta (pCi/L) | 0 | 50 | ND | N/A | N/A | 2021 | NO | Erosion of natural deposits |
| Radium 228 (pCi/L) | 0 | 5 | ND | N/A | N/A | 2021 | NO | Erosion of natural deposits |
| VOLATILE ORGANIC CONTAMINANTS (VOC) | | | | | | | | |
| VOCs (ppb)* | 0 | 0 | ND | N/A | N/A | 2019 | NO | Discharge from factories |
| *VOCs include list of 25 contaminants. | | | | | | | | |

| MONITORING WAIVERS* | | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------|-----------|
| Contaminants | Frequency | Last Sampled | Violation |
| Inorganic Chemicals (IOC) | Every 9 years. | 2017 | NO |
| Synthetic Organic Chemicals (SOC) | Every 3 or 9 years.** | 2017 | NO |

*The Washington State Department of Health reduced the monitoring requirements for IOCs and SOCs, because the source is not at risk of contamination. **Pesticides are tested once every three years and herbicides once every nine years.

| LEAD & COPPER | | | | | | | |
|---|------|-----|----------------|-------------|------------------------|-----------|--|
| Contaminants | MGLG | AL | Alger (90th %) | Sample Date | # Samples Exceeding AL | Violation | Typical Sources |
| Lead – lead at consumer's tap (ppb) | 0 | 15 | 1* | 2021 | 0 of 5 | NO | Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits |
| Copper – copper at consumer's tap (ppm) | 1.3 | 1.3 | 0.08* | 2021 | 0 of 5 | NO | Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits |

*The 90th percentile level is the highest result obtained in 90% of the samples collected when ranked lowest to highest. Skagit PUD is required to collect five samples for lead and copper from household taps every three years.

Susceptibility rating of potential threats to the safety of our water supply: **High**
See Source Water Assessment Program data on the Department of Health website—<https://fortress.wa.gov/doh/swap/index.html>

How to Read the Water Quality Data Table
EPA establishes the safe drinking water regulations that limit the amount of contaminants allowed in drinking water. The tables show the concentrations of detected substances in comparison to regulatory limits. Substances not detected are not included in the table.

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, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a system must follow.

Units in the Table: ppm is parts per million (or 1 drop in 1 million gallons), ppb is parts per billion (or 1 drop in 1 billion gallons)

CEDARGROVE PUBLIC WATER SYSTEM: ID# 119174

SOURCE & TREATMENT

Cedargrove water system is located on the south side of Skagit River near Concrete, serving nearly 200 residential connections. The source water is drawn from a 170-foot deep well located inside a fenced and maintained property. The water is treated for iron and manganese removal through a chlorine oxidation and filtration system using manganese oxide media. The water is pumped to a reservoir of 270,000 gallons for fire protection and system storage. Chlorine residual is maintained throughout the distribution system to sustain disinfection.

WATER QUALITY

Currently, the drinking water quality meets all primary and secondary drinking water standards. Overall, the water is considered moderately hard with hardness at 86.9 mg/l (as calcium carbonate). Once a month, a routine distribution sample is tested for total coliform and E. coli. The chlorine residual

levels are 0.71 to 1.19 mg/l, and pH is in the 7 – 8 range. Quarterly samples are taken of untreated and treated water to test for iron and manganese levels to evaluate their removal by the filtration system. Once a year, nitrate levels are measured and are typically low (<1 mg/l). The system is on a three-year standard monitoring routine for lead, copper, disinfection by-products, and manganese. All of these are found to be below the established Maximum Contaminant Levels. Radionuclides are on six-year standard monitoring and are found to be below the established MCL as well.

The Washington State Department of Health has granted the Cedargrove system waivers for asbestos, complete inorganics, volatile organics, herbicides, pesticides, and soil fumigants. It's tested for these every three, six, or nine years. Most of these contaminants are non-detected in the well water, therefore granted waivers by DOH.

2021 DRINKING WATER RESULTS

The water quality information presented in the table(s) is from the most recent round of testing done according to the regulations. All data shown were collected during the last calendar year unless otherwise noted in the table(s).

| Contaminants | MCLG | MCL | Cedargrove | Range of Detection | | Sample Date | Violation | Typical Source of Contaminant |
|--|------|------------|------------|--------------------|---------|-------------|-----------|---|
| | | | | Lowest | Highest | | | |
| DISINFECTANT RESIDUAL | | | | | | | | |
| Free Chlorine Residual (ppm) | 4 | 4 | 0.95 | 0.71 | 1.19 | 2021 | NO | Measure of disinfectant added to water |
| MICROBIOLOGICAL CONTAMINANTS | | | | | | | | |
| Total Coliform Bacteria | 0 | 1 Positive | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2021 | NO | Naturally present in the environment |
| Skagit PUD collects one compliance sample per month for total coliforms and E. coli from the distribution system. No total coliforms or E. coli were detected in 2021. | | | | | | | | |
| DISINFECTION BY-PRODUCTS | | | | | | | | |
| Total Trihalomethanes (ppb) | N/A | 80 | 20.3 | N/A | N/A | 2020 | NO | By-product of drinking water chlorination |
| Haloacetic Acids (5) (ppb) | N/A | 60 | 8.4 | N/A | N/A | 2020 | NO | By-product of drinking water chlorination |
| Disinfection by-product samples are collected once every three years. | | | | | | | | |
| INORGANIC CONTAMINANTS | | | | | | | | |
| Manganese (ppm)* | 0 | 0.05 | 0.04 | N/A | N/A | 2020 | NO | Erosion of natural deposits |
| Nitrate (ppm) | 10 | 10 | 0.3 | N/A | N/A | 2021 | NO | Erosion of natural deposits |
| *Manganese sample is collected once every three years for compliance. | | | | | | | | |
| RADIONUCLIDES | | | | | | | | |
| Gross Alpha (pCi/L) | 0 | 15 | ND | N/A | N/A | 2021 | NO | Erosion of natural deposits |
| Gross Beta (pCi/L) | 0 | 50 | ND | N/A | N/A | 2021 | NO | Erosion of natural deposits |

| Contaminants | MCLG | MCL | Cedargrove | Range of Detection | | Sample Date | Violation | Typical Source of Contaminant |
|---|------|-----|------------|--------------------|---------|-------------|-----------|-------------------------------|
| | | | | Lowest | Highest | | | |
| Radium 228 (pCi/L) | 0 | 5 | ND | N/A | N/A | 2021 | NO | Erosion of natural deposits |
| SYNTHETIC ORGANIC CONTAMINANTS (SOC) | | | | | | | | |
| Herbicides (ppb)* | 0 | 0 | ND | N/A | N/A | 2016 | NO | Run off from herbicides |

*SOCs include list of 11 contaminants.

MONITORING WAIVERS*

| Contaminants | Frequency | Last Sampled | Violation |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------|-----------|
| Volatile Organic Chemicals (VOC) | Every 6 years | 2019 | NO |
| Inorganic Chemicals (IOC) | Every 9 years. | 2019 | NO |
| Synthetic Organic Chemicals (SOC) | Every 3 or 9 years.** | 2016 | NO |

*The Washington State Department of Health reduced the monitoring requirements for IOCs and SOCs, because the source is not at risk of contamination. **Pesticides are tested once every three years and herbicides once every nine years.

LEAD & COPPER

| Contaminants | MGLG | AL | Cedargrove (90th %) | Sample Date | # Samples Exceeding AL | Violation | Typical Sources |
|---|------|-----|---------------------|-------------|------------------------|-----------|--|
| Lead – lead at consumer's tap (ppb) | 0 | 15 | 0.95* | 2020 | 0 of 5 | NO | Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits |
| Copper – copper at consumer's tap (ppm) | 1.3 | 1.3 | 0.097* | 2020 | 0 of 5 | NO | Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits |

*The 90th percentile level is the highest result obtained in 90% of the samples collected when ranked lowest to highest. Skagit PUD is required to collect five samples for lead and copper from household taps every three years.

Susceptibility rating of potential threats to the safety of our water supply: **Low**

See Source Water Assessment Program data on the Department of Health website—<https://fortress.wa.gov/doh/swap/index.html>

How to Read the Water Quality Data Table

EPA establishes the safe drinking water regulations that limit the amount of contaminants allowed in drinking water. The tables show the concentrations of detected substances in comparison to regulatory limits. Substances not detected are not included in the table.

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, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a system must follow.

Units in the Table: ppm is parts per million (or 1 drop in 1 million gallons), ppb is parts per billion (or 1 drop in 1 billion gallons)

FIDALGO ISLAND PUBLIC WATER SYSTEM: ID# 00932Y

SOURCE & TREATMENT

The Fidalgo water system is located on Fidalgo Island in western Skagit County and serves 717 residential and commercial connections. Water is purchased through an intertie with Anacortes, with their source being the Skagit River in Mount Vernon. Their water is filtered and chlorinated at the Anacortes water treatment plant on Riverbend Road. Free chlorine residual is maintained throughout our distribution system to provide sufficient disinfection.

Fidalgo water is considered soft with a hardness of 23 mg/l (as calcium carbonate).

Two routine samples a month are tested for total coliform and E. coli. Chlorine residual levels are between 0.78 to 1.07 mg/l, with pH levels between 7.5 – 7.9. Quarterly the water is tested for disinfection by-products and is on a year testing schedule for lead and copper. All these contaminants are below the established MCLs. Additional water quality monitoring is performed by Anacortes and can be found on their website.

WATER QUALITY

Currently, the drinking water quality meets all primary and secondary drinking water standards.

2021 DRINKING WATER RESULTS

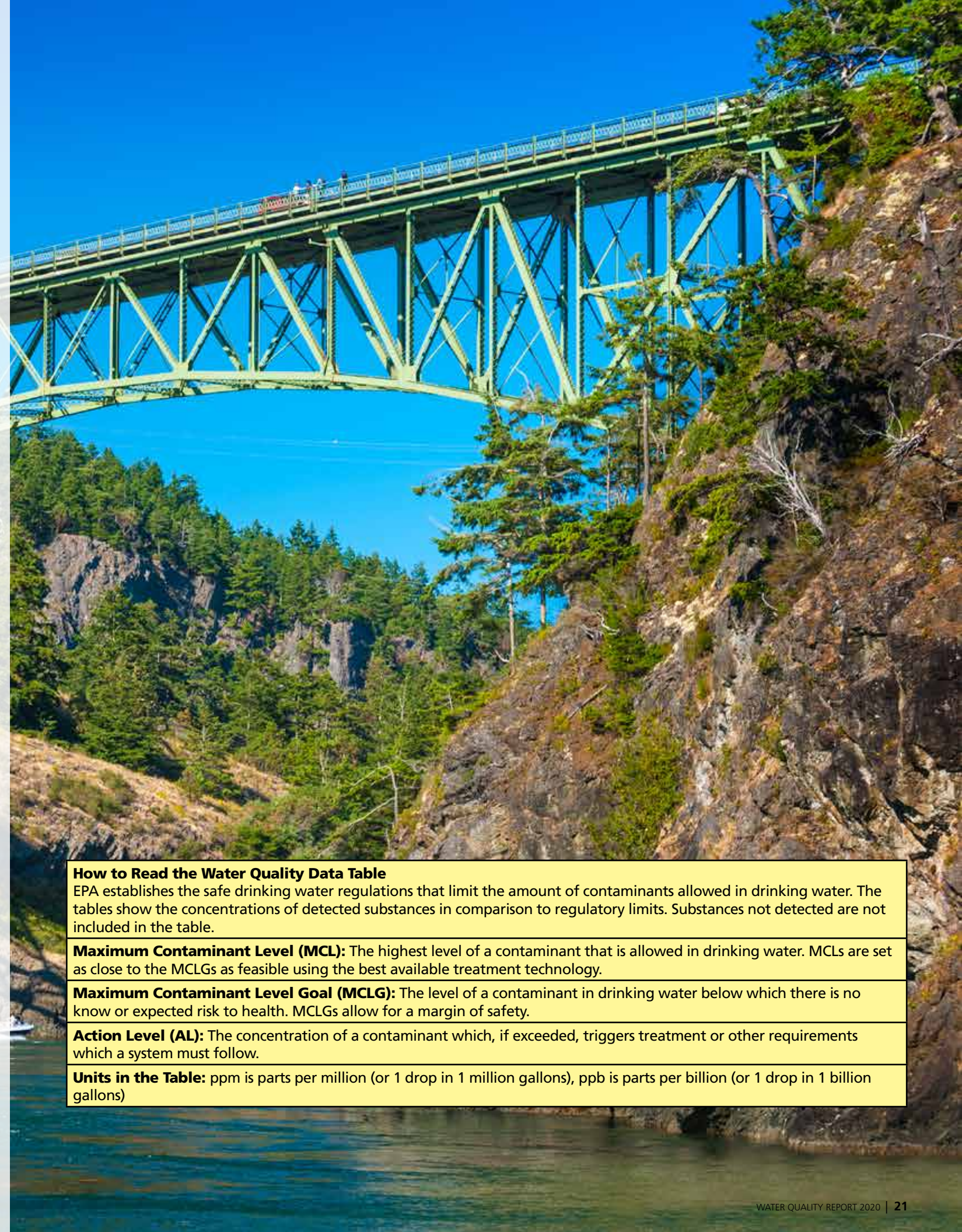
The water quality information presented in the table(s) is from the most recent round of testing done according to the regulations. All data shown were collected during the last calendar year unless otherwise noted in the table(s).

Water is produced by the city of Anacortes water treatment plant. A more detailed water quality report can be found on their website at www.anacorteswa.gov/504/Water-Quality-Reports.

| Contaminants | MCLG | MCL | Fidalgo Island | Range of Detection | | Sample Date | Violation | Typical Source of Contaminant |
|---|------|------------|----------------|--------------------|---------|-------------|-----------|---|
| | | | | Lowest | Highest | | | |
| DISINFECTANT RESIDUAL | | | | | | | | |
| Free Chlorine Residual (ppm) | 4 | 4 | 0.92 | 0.78 | 1.07 | 2021 | NO | Measure of disinfectant added to water |
| MICROBIOLOGICAL CONTAMINANTS | | | | | | | | |
| Total Coliform Bacteria | 0 | 1 Positive | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2021 | NO | Naturally present in the environment |
| Skagit PUD collects two compliance samples per month for total coliforms and E. coli from the distribution system. No total coliforms or E. coli were detected in 2021. | | | | | | | | |
| DISINFECTION BY-PRODUCTS | | | | | | | | |
| Total Trihalomethanes (ppb) | N/A | 80 | 23.8 | N/A | N/A | 2021 | NO | By-product of drinking water chlorination |
| Haloacetic Acids (5) (ppb) | N/A | 60 | 11.9 | N/A | N/A | 2021 | NO | By-product of drinking water chlorination |

| LEAD & COPPER | | | | | | | |
|---|------|-----|-------------------------|-------------|------------------------|-----------|--|
| Contaminants | MGLG | AL | Fidalgo Island (90th %) | Sample Date | # Samples Exceeding AL | Violation | Typical Sources |
| Lead – lead at consumer’s tap (ppb) | 0 | 15 | 0* | 2021 | 0 of 10 | NO | Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits |
| Copper – copper at consumer’s tap (ppm) | 1.3 | 1.3 | 0.09* | 2021 | 0 of 10 | NO | Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits |

*The 90th percentile level is the highest result obtained in 90% of the samples collected when ranked lowest to highest. Skagit PUD is required to collect five samples for lead and copper from household taps every three years.



How to Read the Water Quality Data Table
 EPA establishes the safe drinking water regulations that limit the amount of contaminants allowed in drinking water. The tables show the concentrations of detected substances in comparison to regulatory limits. Substances not detected are not included in the table.

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, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a system must follow.

Units in the Table: ppm is parts per million (or 1 drop in 1 million gallons), ppb is parts per billion (or 1 drop in 1 billion gallons)

MARBLEMOUNT PUBLIC WATER SYSTEM: ID# AA642

SOURCE & TREATMENT

The Marblemount water system is located on the North Cascades Highway, serving 18 residential and 14 non-residential services with a customer population of around 30. Water is drawn from a 163-foot deep well and has a low susceptibility to contamination as determined by the Washington State Department of Health, so no treatment is required or in place at this time.

Once a month, a routine distribution sample is tested for total coliform and E. coli. Once a year, nitrate levels are measured and found to be very low (below 0.5 mg/l). The system is on a three-year testing schedule for lead and copper, which are below the action level. Radionuclides are on a six-year standard testing schedule and are non-detect or below the Maximum Contaminant Levels.

The Washington State Department of Health has granted the Marblemount water system waivers for asbestos, complete inorganics, volatile organics, herbicides, pesticides, and soil fumigants. These components are tested for every three, six, or nine years. Most of these contaminants are non-detect in the water, therefore granted waivers by DOH.

WATER QUALITY

Currently, the drinking water quality meets all primary and secondary drinking water standards. Marblemount water is considered soft with a hardness of 50.7 mg/l (calcium carbonate) and a pH level of 7-7.5.

2021 DRINKING WATER RESULTS

The water quality information presented in the table(s) is from the most recent round of testing done according to the regulations. All data shown were collected during the last calendar year unless otherwise noted in the table(s).

| Contaminants | MCLG | MCL | Marblemount | Range of Detection | | Sample Date | Violation | Typical Source of Contaminant |
|--|------|------------|-------------|--------------------|---------|-------------|-----------|--------------------------------------|
| | | | | Lowest | Highest | | | |
| MICROBIOLOGICAL CONTAMINANTS | | | | | | | | |
| Total Coliform Bacteria | 0 | 1 Positive | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2021 | NO | Naturally present in the environment |
| Skagit PUD collects one compliance sample per month for total coliforms and E. coli from the distribution system. No total coliforms or E. coli were detected in 2021. | | | | | | | | |
| INORGANIC CONTAMINANTS | | | | | | | | |
| Nitrate (ppm) | 10 | 10 | ND | N/A | N/A | 2021 | NO | Erosion of natural deposits |
| RADIONUCLIDES | | | | | | | | |
| Gross Alpha (pCi/L) | 0 | 15 | ND | N/A | N/A | 2018 | NO | Erosion of natural deposits |
| Gross Beta (pCi/L) | 0 | 50 | ND | N/A | N/A | 2018 | NO | Erosion of natural deposits |
| Radium 228 (pCi/L) | 0 | 5 | ND | N/A | N/A | 2018 | NO | Erosion of natural deposits |
| VOLATILE ORGANIC CONTAMINANTS (VOC) | | | | | | | | |
| VOCs (ppb) | 0 | 0 | ND | N/A | N/A | 2016 | NO | Discharge from factories |

| MONITORING WAIVERS* | | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------|-----------|
| Contaminants | Frequency | Last Sampled | Violation |
| Inorganic Chemicals (IOC) | Every 9 years. | 2017 | NO |
| Synthetic Organic Chemicals (SOC) | Every 3 or 9 years.** | 2021 | NO |

*The Washington State Department of Health reduced the monitoring requirements for IOCs and SOCs, because the source is not at risk of contamination. **Pesticides are tested once every three years and herbicides once every nine years.

| LEAD & COPPER | | | | | | | |
|---|------|-----|----------------------|-------------|------------------------|-----------|--|
| Contaminants | MGLG | AL | Marblemount (90th %) | Sample Date | # Samples Exceeding AL | Violation | Typical Sources |
| Lead – lead at consumer’s tap (ppb) | 0 | 15 | 0.6* | 2020 | 0 of 5 | NO | Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits |
| Copper – copper at consumer’s tap (ppm) | 1.3 | 1.3 | 0.13* | 2020 | 0 of 5 | NO | Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits |

*The 90th percentile level is the highest result obtained in 90% of the samples collected when ranked lowest to highest. Skagit PUD is required to collect five samples for lead and copper from household taps every three years.

Susceptibility rating of potential threats to the safety of our water supply: **Low**
 See Source Water Assessment Program data on the Department of Health website—<https://fortress.wa.gov/doh/swap/index.html>

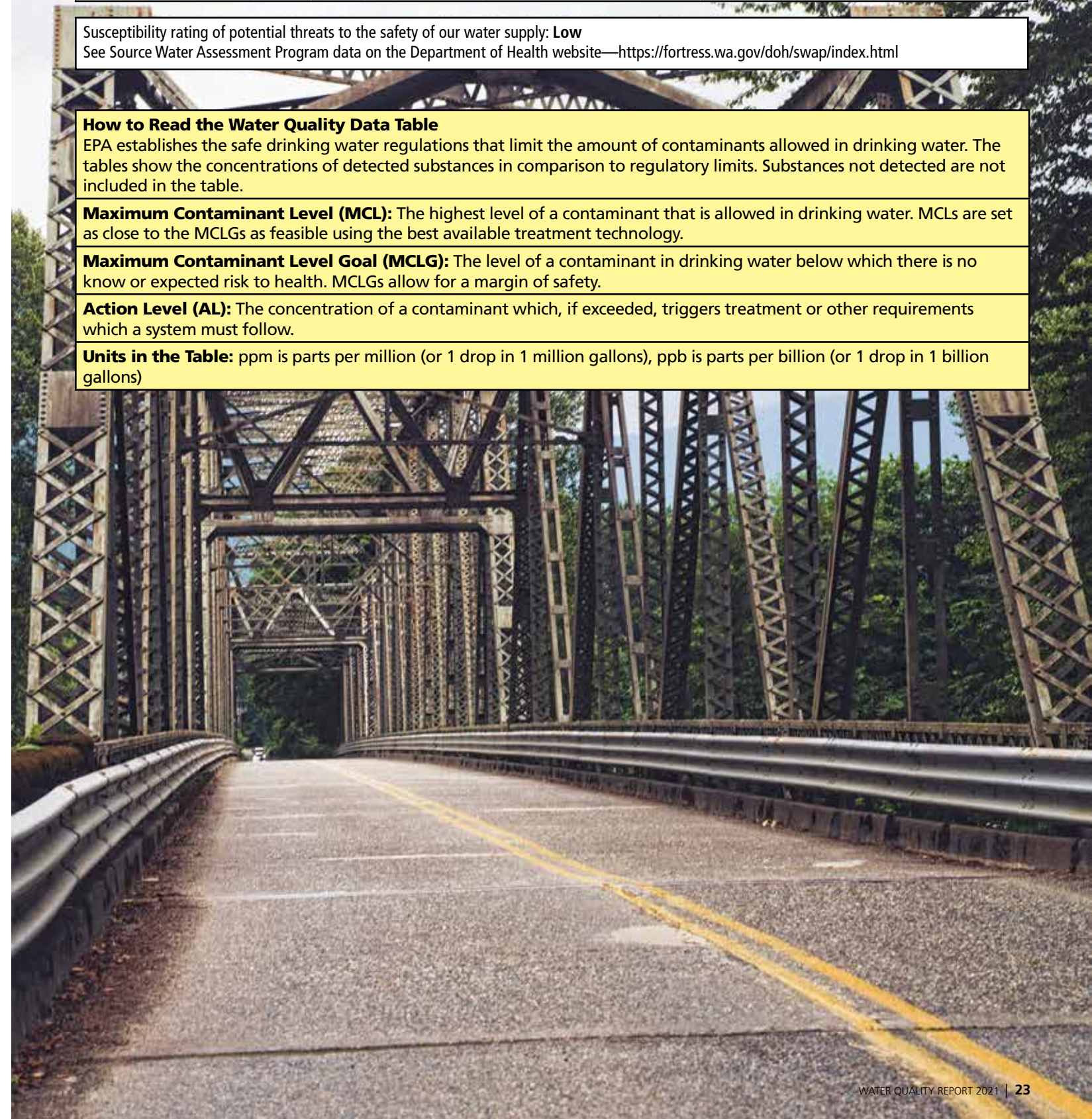
How to Read the Water Quality Data Table
 EPA establishes the safe drinking water regulations that limit the amount of contaminants allowed in drinking water. The tables show the concentrations of detected substances in comparison to regulatory limits. Substances not detected are not included in the table.

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, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a system must follow.

Units in the Table: ppm is parts per million (or 1 drop in 1 million gallons), ppb is parts per billion (or 1 drop in 1 billion gallons)



POTLATCH PUBLIC WATER SYSTEM: ID# 69034L

SOURCE & TREATMENT

Potlatch water system is located on the west shore of Guemes Island and serves 33 residential connections. Seawater from Bellingham Channel is the supply source. The treatment process consists of a multimedia filter, spiral-wound cartridge filters, reverse osmosis desalination membranes, calcite contactor, and hypochlorite disinfection. Free chlorine is maintained throughout the distribution system to provide disinfection.

WATER QUALITY

Currently, the drinking water quality meets all primary and secondary drinking water standards. Overall the water is considered soft with a hardness

of 19.6 mg/l (as calcium carbonate).

Once a month, a routine distribution sample is tested for total coliform and E. coli. Chlorine residual levels are between 0.37 to 0.52 mg/l and a pH of 7.5 – 8.5. An annual nitrate and chloride sample are measured and are below the established Maximum Contaminant Levels. The system is on a testing schedule every three years for lead, copper, and disinfection by-products.

The Washington State Department of Health has granted the Potlatch water system waivers for complete inorganics, soil fumigants, pesticides, volatile organics, herbicides, and asbestos. The system is tested for these contaminants every three, six, or nine years.

2021 DRINKING WATER RESULTS

The water quality information presented in the table(s) is from the most recent round of testing done according to the regulations. All data shown were collected during the last calendar year unless otherwise noted in the table(s).

| Contaminants | MCLG | MCL | Potlatch | Range of Detection | | Sample Date | Violation | Typical Source of Contaminant |
|--|------|------------|----------|--------------------|---------|-------------|-----------|--|
| | | | | Lowest | Highest | | | |
| DISINFECTANT RESIDUAL | | | | | | | | |
| Free Chlorine Residual (ppm) | 4 | 4 | 0.45 | 0.37 | 0.52 | 2021 | NO | Measure of disinfectant added to water |
| MICROBIOLOGICAL CONTAMINANTS | | | | | | | | |
| Total Coliform Bacteria | 0 | 1 Positive | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2021 | NO | Naturally present in the environment |
| Skagit PUD collects one compliance sample per month for total coliforms and E. coli from the distribution system. No total coliforms or E. coli were detected in 2021. | | | | | | | | |
| DISINFECTION BY-PRODUCTS | | | | | | | | |
| Total Trihalomethanes (ppb) | N/A | 80 | 1.2 | N/A | N/A | 2020 | NO | By-product of drinking water chlorination |
| Haloacetic Acids (5) (ppb) | N/A | 60 | ND | N/A | N/A | 2020 | NO | By-product of drinking water chlorination |
| Disinfection by-product samples are collected once every three years. | | | | | | | | |
| INORGANIC CONTAMINANTS | | | | | | | | |
| Chloride | 250 | 250 | 93.8 | N/A | N/A | 2021 | NO | Saltwater intrusion |
| Nitrate (ppm) | 10 | 10 | ND | N/A | N/A | 2021 | NO | Erosion of natural deposits |
| Sodium (ppm) | N/A | N/A | 33.7 | N/A | N/A | 2015 | NO | Naturally occurring, water softeners, animal waste, road salts |
| Total Dissolved Solids (TDS) (ppm) | 500 | 500 | 116 | N/A | N/A | 2015 | NO | Erosion of natural deposits |
| RADIONUCLIDES | | | | | | | | |
| Gross Alpha (pCi/L) | 0 | 15 | ND | N/A | N/A | 2021 | NO | Erosion of natural deposits |
| Gross Beta (pCi/L) | 0 | 50 | ND | N/A | N/A | 2021 | NO | Erosion of natural deposits |
| Radium 228 (pCi/L) | 0 | 5 | ND | N/A | N/A | 2021 | NO | Erosion of natural deposits |

| Contaminants | MCLG | MCL | Potlatch | Range of Detection | | Sample Date | Violation | Typical Source of Contaminant |
|--|------|-----|----------|--------------------|---------|-------------|-----------|-------------------------------|
| | | | | Lowest | Highest | | | |
| VOLATILE ORGANIC CONTAMINANTS (VOC) | | | | | | | | |
| VOCs (ppb) | 0 | 0 | ND | N/A | N/A | 2016 | NO | Discharge from factories |

| MONITORING WAIVERS* | | | |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------|--------------|-----------|
| Contaminants | Frequency | Last Sampled | Violation |
| Synthetic Organic Chemicals (SOC) | Every 3 or 9 years.* | 2013 | NO |

*The Washington State Department of Health reduced the monitoring requirements for SOCs, because the source is not at risk of contamination. Pesticides are tested once every three years and herbicides once every nine years.

| LEAD & COPPER | | | | | | | |
|---|------|-----|-------------------|-------------|------------------------|-----------|--|
| Contaminants | MGLG | AL | Potlatch (90th %) | Sample Date | # Samples Exceeding AL | Violation | Typical Sources |
| Lead – lead at consumer’s tap (ppb) | 0 | 15 | 1* | 2020 | 0 of 5 | NO | Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits |
| Copper – copper at consumer’s tap (ppm) | 1.3 | 1.3 | 0.04* | 2020 | 0 of 5 | NO | Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits |

*The 90th percentile level is the highest result obtained in 90% of the samples collected when ranked lowest to highest. Skagit PUD is required to collect five samples for lead and copper from household taps every three years.

Susceptibility rating of potential threats to the safety of our water supply: **High**
See Source Water Assessment Program data on the Department of Health website—<https://fortress.wa.gov/doh/swap/index.html>

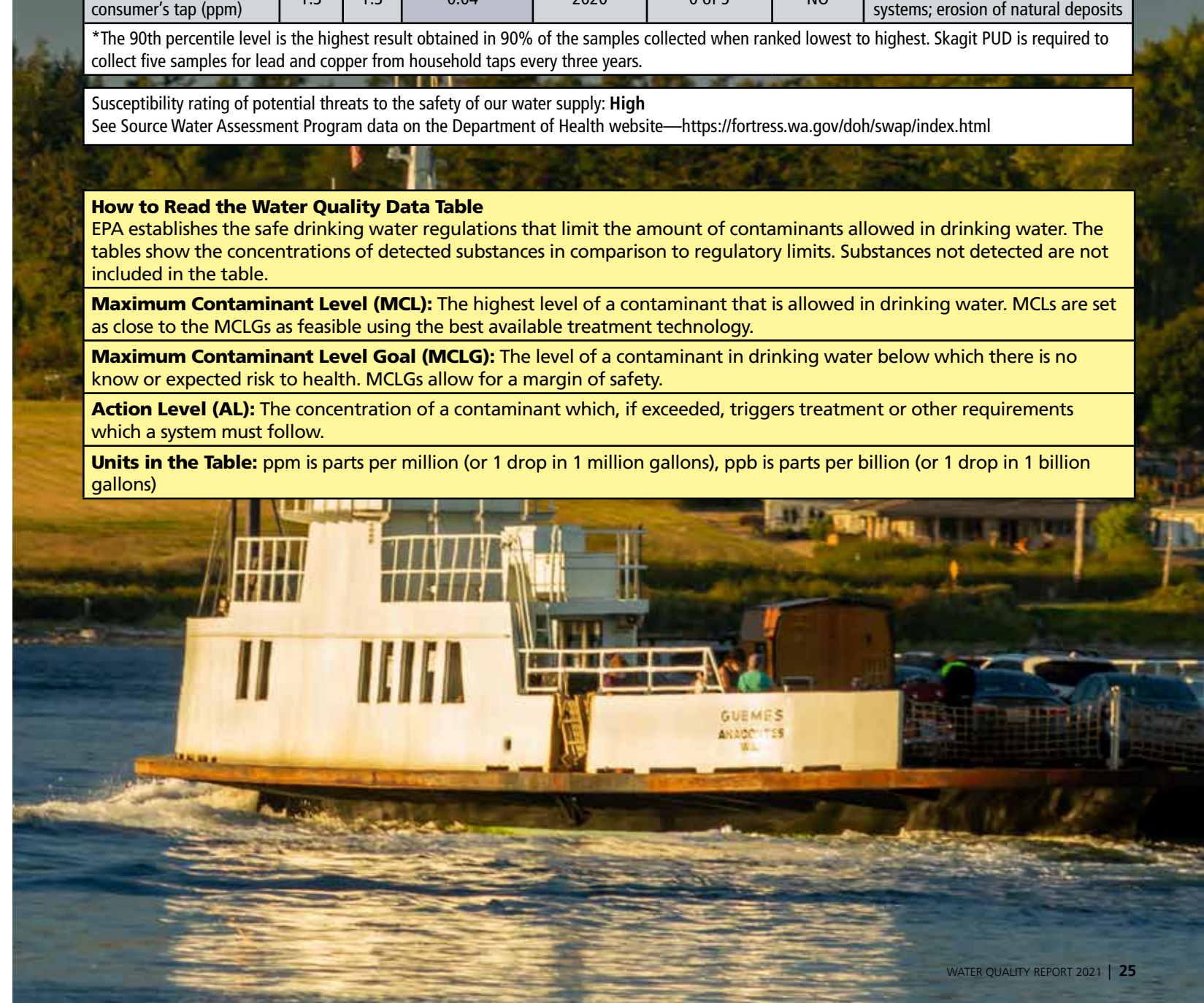
How to Read the Water Quality Data Table
EPA establishes the safe drinking water regulations that limit the amount of contaminants allowed in drinking water. The tables show the concentrations of detected substances in comparison to regulatory limits. Substances not detected are not included in the table.

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, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a system must follow.

Units in the Table: ppm is parts per million (or 1 drop in 1 million gallons), ppb is parts per billion (or 1 drop in 1 billion gallons)



ROCKPORT PUBLIC WATER SYSTEM: ID# 736006

SOURCE & TREATMENT

The Rockport water system is located along the North Cascades Highway serving around 54 residential and six non-residential connections. Water is drawn from a 344-foot deep well and treated for iron and manganese removal using chlorine oxidation and a filtration system. Chlorine residual is maintained throughout the distribution system to maintain disinfection.

Water Quality

Currently, the drinking water quality meets all primary and secondary drinking water standards. Rockport water is considered moderately hard with a hardness of 109 mg/l (calcium carbonate), and pH levels are between 7.4 – 7.8.

Once a month, a routine distribution sample is tested for total coliform and E. coli. Chlorine residual

levels are between 0.11 to 1.11 mg/l. Quarterly the untreated and treated water is tested for iron and manganese levels to evaluate their removal from the untreated water. Once a year, routine nitrate samples are measured and found to be non-detect. The system is on a three-year testing schedule for lead, copper, and disinfection by-products, and all are below the established Maximum Contaminant Levels. Radionuclides are on a six-year testing schedule and are also below the established MCLs.

The Washington State Department of Health has granted the Rockport water system waivers for asbestos, complete inorganics, volatile organics, herbicides, pesticides, and soil fumigants. It's tested for these parameters every three, six, or nine years with these contaminants being non-detect in the source water, therefore granted waivers by DOH.

2021 DRINKING WATER RESULTS

The water quality information presented in the table(s) is from the most recent round of testing done according to the regulations. All data shown were collected during the last calendar year unless otherwise noted in the table(s).

| Contaminants | MCLG | MCL | Rockport | Range of Detection | | Sample Date | Violation | Typical Source of Contaminant |
|--|------|------------|----------|--------------------|---------|-------------|-----------|---|
| | | | | Lowest | Highest | | | |
| DISINFECTANT RESIDUAL | | | | | | | | |
| Free Chlorine Residual (ppm) | 4 | 4 | 0.69 | 0.47 | 0.99 | 2021 | NO | Measure of disinfectant added to water |
| MICROBIOLOGICAL CONTAMINANTS | | | | | | | | |
| Total Coliform Bacteria | 0 | 1 Positive | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2021 | NO | Naturally present in the environment |
| Skagit PUD collects one compliance sample per month for total coliforms and E. coli from the distribution system. No total coliforms or E. coli were detected in 2021. | | | | | | | | |
| DISINFECTION BY-PRODUCTS | | | | | | | | |
| Total Trihalomethanes (ppb) | N/A | 80 | 5.5 | N/A | N/A | 2020 | NO | By-product of drinking water chlorination |
| Haloacetic Acids (5) (ppb) | N/A | 60 | 3.5 | N/A | N/A | 2020 | NO | By-product of drinking water chlorination |
| Disinfection by-product samples are collected once every three years. | | | | | | | | |
| INORGANIC CONTAMINANTS | | | | | | | | |
| Nitrate (ppm) | 10 | 10 | ND | N/A | N/A | 2021 | NO | Erosion of natural deposits |
| RADIONUCLIDES | | | | | | | | |
| Gross Alpha (pCi/L) | 0 | 15 | ND | N/A | N/A | 2021 | NO | Erosion of natural deposits |
| Gross Beta (pCi/L) | 0 | 50 | ND | N/A | N/A | 2021 | NO | Erosion of natural deposits |
| Radium 228 (pCi/L) | 0 | 5 | ND | N/A | N/A | 2021 | NO | Erosion of natural deposits |

| Contaminants | MCLG | MCL | Rockport | Range of Detection | | Sample Date | Violation | Typical Source of Contaminant |
|---|------|-----|----------|--------------------|---------|-------------|-----------|-------------------------------|
| | | | | Lowest | Highest | | | |
| Synthetic Organic Contaminants (SOC) | | | | | | | | |
| Herbicides (ppb)* | 0 | 0 | ND | N/A | N/A | 2016 | NO | Run off from herbicides |

*SOCs include list of 11 contaminants.

| MONITORING WAIVERS* | | | |
|----------------------------------|----------------|--------------|-----------|
| Contaminants | Frequency | Last Sampled | Violation |
| Volatile Organic Chemicals (VOC) | Every 6 years. | 2019 | NO |
| Inorganic Chemicals (IOC) | Every 9 years. | 2019 | NO |

*The Washington State Department of Health reduced the monitoring requirements for IOCs and VOCs, because the source is not at risk of contamination.

| LEAD & COPPER | | | | | | | |
|---|------|-----|-------------------|-------------|------------------------|-----------|--|
| Contaminants | MGLG | AL | Rockport (90th %) | Sample Date | # Samples Exceeding AL | Violation | Typical Sources |
| Lead – lead at consumer's tap (ppb) | 0 | 15 | 1.5* | 2020 | 0 of 5 | NO | Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits |
| Copper – copper at consumer's tap (ppm) | 1.3 | 1.3 | 0.23* | 2020 | 0 of 5 | NO | Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits |

*The 90th percentile level is the highest result obtained in 90% of the samples collected when ranked lowest to highest. Skagit PUD is required to collect five samples for lead and copper from household taps every three years.

Susceptibility rating of potential threats to the safety of our water supply: **Low**
See Source Water Assessment Program data on the Department of Health website—<https://fortress.wa.gov/doh/swap/index.html>

How to Read the Water Quality Data Table
EPA establishes the safe drinking water regulations that limit the amount of contaminants allowed in drinking water. The tables show the concentrations of detected substances in comparison to regulatory limits. Substances not detected are not included in the table.

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, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a system must follow.

Units in the Table: ppm is parts per million (or 1 drop in 1 million gallons), ppb is parts per billion (or 1 drop in 1 billion gallons)

SKAGIT VIEW VILLAGE PUBLIC WATER SYSTEM: ID# 968795

SOURCE & TREATMENT

The Skagit View Village water system is located on the south side of the Skagit River near Concrete and serves around 70 residential connections. The source water is drawn from a 54-foot deep well and has elevated iron levels (up to 0.5 mg/l), manganese (up to 0.045 mg/l), and dissolved carbon dioxide. The water is treated with an oxidation pyrolusite media filtration system for iron and manganese removal, and a calcite contactor is in place for corrosion control. Free chlorine residual is maintained throughout the distribution system to maintain disinfection.

WATER QUALITY

Currently, the drinking water quality meets all primary and secondary drinking water standards. Overall the water is considered moderately hard, with a hardness of 109.9 mg/l (calcium carbonate), and total dissolved solids are 152 mg/l.

Once a month, distribution samples are tested for total coliform and E. coli. Chlorine residual levels are 0.63 to 1.26 mg/l with pH levels between 7 – 7.5. Quarterly, the untreated and treated water are tested for iron and manganese to evaluate their removal. Once a year, nitrate levels are measured and are very low (1 mg/l). The system is on three-year standard monitoring for lead, copper, and disinfection by-products. All are below the established Maximum Contaminant Levels. Radionuclides are on a six-year testing schedule and are non-detected or below MCL levels.

The Washington State Department of Health has granted the Skagit View Village system waivers for asbestos, inorganics, volatile organics, herbicides, pesticides, and soil fumigants. These components are tested for every three, six, or nine years. Most of the contaminants are non-detect in the well water, therefore granted waivers by DOH.

2021 DRINKING WATER RESULTS

The water quality information presented in the table(s) is from the most recent round of testing done according to the regulations. All data shown were collected during the last calendar year unless otherwise noted in the table(s).

| Contaminants | MCLG | MCL | Skagit View Village | Range of Detection | | Sample Date | Violation | Typical Source of Contaminant |
|--|------|------------|---------------------|--------------------|---------|-------------|-----------|--|
| | | | | Lowest | Highest | | | |
| DISINFECTANT RESIDUAL | | | | | | | | |
| Free Chlorine Residual (ppm) | 4 | 4 | 1.0 | 0.63 | 1.26 | 2021 | NO | Measure of disinfectant added to water |
| MICROBIOLOGICAL CONTAMINANTS | | | | | | | | |
| Total Coliform Bacteria | 0 | 1 Positive | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2021 | NO | Naturally present in the environment |
| Skagit PUD collects one compliance sample per month for total coliforms and E. coli from the distribution system. No total coliforms or E. coli were detected in 2021. | | | | | | | | |
| DISINFECTION BY-PRODUCTS | | | | | | | | |
| Total Trihalomethanes (ppb) | N/A | 80 | ND | N/A | N/A | 2020 | NO | By-product of drinking water chlorination |
| Haloacetic Acids (5) (ppb) | N/A | 60 | ND | N/A | N/A | 2020 | NO | By-product of drinking water chlorination |
| Disinfection by-product samples are collected once every three years. | | | | | | | | |
| INORGANIC CONTAMINANTS | | | | | | | | |
| Barium (ppm) | 2 | 2 | 0.006 | N/A | N/A | 2016 | NO | Erosion of natural deposits |
| Nitrate (ppm) | 10 | 10 | 0.5 | N/A | N/A | 2021 | NO | Erosion of natural deposits |
| Sodium (ppm) | N/A | N/A | 7.7 | N/A | N/A | 2016 | NO | Naturally occurring, water softeners, animal waste, road salts |
| Total Dissolved Solids (TDS) (ppm) | 500 | 500 | 152 | N/A | N/A | 2016 | NO | Erosion of natural deposits |

| Contaminants | MCLG | MCL | Skagit View Village | Range of Detection | | Sample Date | Violation | Typical Source of Contaminant |
|--|------|-----|---------------------|--------------------|---------|-------------|-----------|--|
| | | | | Lowest | Highest | | | |
| RADIONUCLIDES | | | | | | | | |
| Gross Alpha (pCi/L) | 0 | 15 | ND | N/A | N/A | 2015 | NO | Erosion of natural deposits |
| Gross Beta (pCi/L) | 0 | 50 | ND | N/A | N/A | 2015 | NO | Erosion of natural deposits |
| Radium 228 (pCi/L) | 0 | 5 | ND | N/A | N/A | 2015 | NO | Erosion of natural deposits |
| VOLATILE ORGANIC CONTAMINANTS (VOC) | | | | | | | | |
| Chloroform (ppb) | 80 | 80 | 1 | N/A | N/A | 2016 | NO | By-product of drinking water chlorination |
| Bromodichloromethane (ppb) | 80 | 80 | 0.7 | N/A | N/A | 2016 | NO | By-product of drinking water chlorination |
| Chlorodibromomethane (ppb) | 80 | 80 | 0.5 | N/A | N/A | 2016 | NO | By-product of drinking water chlorination |
| Soil Fumigants (ppt) | 0 | 200 | ND | N/A | N/A | 2016 | NO | Runoff/leaching from soil; fumigant used on soybeans, orchards, etc. |

| MONITORING WAIVERS* | | | |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------|--------------|-----------|
| Contaminants | Frequency | Last Sampled | Violation |
| Inorganic Chemicals (IOC) | Every 9 years | 2016 | NO |
| Synthetic Organic Chemicals (SOC) | Every 3 or 9 years** | 2015 | NO |

*The Washington State Department of Health reduced the monitoring requirements for IOCs and SOCs, because the source is not at risk of contamination. **Pesticides are tested once every three years and herbicides once every nine years.

| LEAD & COPPER | | | | | | | |
|---|------|-----|------------------------------|-------------|------------------------|-----------|--|
| Contaminants | MGLG | AL | Skagit View Village (90th %) | Sample Date | # Samples Exceeding AL | Violation | Typical Sources |
| Lead – lead at consumer’s tap (ppb) | 0 | 15 | 1* | 2018 | 0 of 5 | NO | Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits |
| Copper – copper at consumer’s tap (ppm) | 1.3 | 1.3 | 0.8* | 2018 | 0 of 5 | NO | Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits |

*The 90th percentile level is the highest result obtained in 90% of the samples collected when ranked lowest to highest. Skagit PUD is required to collect five samples for lead and copper from household taps every three years.

Susceptibility rating of potential threats to the safety of our water supply: **Moderate**
See Source Water Assessment Program data on the Department of Health website—<https://fortress.wa.gov/doh/swap/index.html>

How to Read the Water Quality Data Table
EPA establishes the safe drinking water regulations that limit the amount of contaminants allowed in drinking water. The tables show the concentrations of detected substances in comparison to regulatory limits. Substances not detected are not included in the table.

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, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a system must follow.

Units in the Table: ppm is parts per million (or 1 drop in 1 million gallons), ppb is parts per billion (or 1 drop in 1 billion gallons)

HEALTH EFFECTS OF COPPER

Copper is an essential nutrient, but some people who drink water containing copper above the action level over a relatively short amount of time could experience gastrointestinal distress.

Some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over many years could suffer liver or kidney damage. People with Wilson's Disease should consult their doctor.

YOU CAN REDUCE YOUR COPPER EXPOSURE BY FLUSHING

It's recommended that you let the water run before using it for cooking or drinking whenever the household water remains unused for more than six hours. This would include the times when you first get up in the morning or when you come home from work. The longer the water sits in your household pipes, the more copper it may contain.

Flushing the faucet means running the cold-water tap until the water feels as cold as it can get, or for about one minute. Also, avoid cooking with or consuming water from hot water taps as hot water dissolves copper more readily than cold water does.

CROSS-CONNECTION

WHAT CAN YOU DO TO PROTECT THE WATER SUPPLY?

Skagit PUD offers a cross-connection control program to help ensure that the water delivered to our customers remains a safe and reliable supply that we can all depend on. The program exists to prevent the reverse flow of water from a customer's plumbing back into the public water supply. This reversal of flow is called backflow. Cross-connection control is a mandated program under the Washington Administrative Code.

One of the most effective ways to prevent backflow is installing a specialized plumbing assembly directly after the meter called a backflow prevention assembly.

However, as users of the water system, there are other ways to help prevent contamination due to backflow. Hose bibbs (outside faucets) that have been installed in the last few years now include an atmospheric vacuum breaker. The AVB helps to re-direct potentially contaminated water onto the ground instead of entering your private plumbing system in the instance of a backflow occurrence.



Typical situations where this may occur are when filling a bucket for washing a vehicle, filling a water trough, or cleaning equipment. Life is busy, so sometimes it's easier to leave the hose in the bucket while filling it up and even leave it there once it's done. If there is a main break or the fire department withdraws water from a nearby fire hydrant, the water from your private system could be sucked back into the public water supply. If this happens, then anything connected to water, especially the contents of that bucket, is pulled back into the system. The effect is the same as if you suck a beverage through a straw.

It's impossible to identify and protect against every water hazard in the PUD's system; change is constantly happening. However, through information, education, and working together, protecting the water supply is ultimately the joint responsibility of the PUD and its customers.

For questions or more information about what you can do to help, please contact Courtney Shilling, cross-connection control coordinator, at (360) 848-2138 or shilling@skagitpud.org.

WUE GOAL NO. 1

SAVE A CUMULATIVE TOTAL OF 4.29 MILLION GALLONS OF WATER BY 2024

For 2021, Skagit PUD's goal for estimated annual cumulative water savings through the Water Use Efficiency program was 530,040 gallons. Skagit PUD achieved an estimated 305,038 gallons saved. The COVID-19 pandemic continued to greatly affect sales of the indoor retrofit kits, which is the measure that typically realizes the largest annual water savings. The PUD exceeded its rain barrel program goal by 114%, with 75 barrels distributed in 2021.

Skagit PUD continues to focus its public outreach efforts on providing customers with simple water-saving ideas to use at their homes or business. Unfortunately, in 2021, Skagit PUD's public outreach activities at local community events, festivals, and fairs were again curtailed due to the ongoing pandemic.

Hardware measures provide the most quantifiable method for calculating potential water savings as compared to behavioral measures. Since 2008, Skagit PUD has teamed with the Environmental Protection Agency's WaterSense program to help customers decrease indoor and outdoor water use through water-efficient products and simple water-saving practices. The program encourages customers to look for WaterSense labeled products, which are independently certified for efficiency and performance.

Skagit PUD sells low-cost indoor retrofit kits that include one 1.5 gallons per minute low-flow showerhead and a kitchen and bathroom aerator. The kits sell for \$11 at the PUD's main office. In 2010, Skagit PUD first introduced its rain barrel program to single-family and commercial customers to create awareness and visibility around water use practices. In 2021, Skagit PUD placed 75 rain barrels into the community with an estimated water savings of 98,775 gallons. Although the total is not a substantial water saving compared to other hardware measures, the act of collecting rainwater can be an inspiration to find different ways to conserve water around the home and at work. The PUD sells ready to install rain barrels for \$60.

Skagit PUD places emphasis on creating public awareness of the need to use water wisely. The PUD regularly provides outdoor water-saving tips in its *Pipeline* customer newsletter and on social media.



WATER USE EFFICIENCY UPDATE

Starting in 2008, Skagit PUD established measurable water-saving goals for the six-year period from 2008 through 2013 for both the supply- and demand-side of the PUD's distribution system. These goals were set through a public process as required by the Municipal Water Law. The goals provided a benchmark for achievement and played a significant role in defining the success of Skagit PUD's Water Use Efficiency program. The PUD re-established its six-year WUE goals in 2013 for the six-year period from 2014 through 2019. In 2020, those goals were extended through 2024 as part of a limited Water System Plan update.

Our water use efficiency goals and the steps we are taking to meet those goals are as follows:

MEASURES

Skagit PUD's Water Use Efficiency program for 2020 to 2024 consists of 10 water saving measures. The WUE program reflects a continuation of the measures from the 2014 to 2019 program.

| Measure | Estimated Average Annual Savings 2020 to 2024 | | | | |
|----------------------------------|---|----------------|----------------|------------------|------------------|
| | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 |
| Public Outreach | N/Q | N/Q | N/Q | N/Q | N/Q |
| Indoor Retrofit Kits | 265,020 | 530,040 | 795,060 | 1,060,080 | 1,325,100 |
| Shower Timers | N/Q | N/Q | N/Q | N/Q | N/Q |
| School Outreach | N/Q | N/Q | N/Q | N/Q | N/Q |
| Toilet Leak Kits | N/Q | N/Q | N/Q | N/Q | N/Q |
| Soil Moisture Meters | N/Q | N/Q | N/Q | N/Q | N/Q |
| Rain Barrel Program | 21,000 | 42,000 | 63,000 | 84,000 | 105,000 |
| System Leak Detection & Repair | N/Q | N/Q | N/Q | N/Q | N/Q |
| Bill Showing Consumption History | N/Q | N/Q | N/Q | N/Q | N/Q |
| Large Meter Testing | N/Q | N/Q | N/Q | N/Q | N/Q |
| Annual Total | 286,020 | 572,040 | 858,060 | 1,144,080 | 1,430,100 |
| Cumulative Total | — | — | — | — | 4,290,300 |

WUE GOAL NO. 2

REDUCE DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM LEAKAGE TO 10% OR LESS OF TOTAL WATER PRODUCED PER YEAR

Skagit PUD operates the most expansive water system in Skagit County with over 27,000 metered services, serving approximately 83,000 people. The majority of Skagit PUD's services are within the Judy Reservoir system; however, the PUD also operates seven remote water systems that are monitored for water quality.

All water services in Skagit PUD's water systems are metered. The PUD tracks high-use meters to check on accuracy. All two-inch and larger meters are tested and calibrated on a three-year rotating schedule.

In 2021, the average water loss reported from distribution system leakage (DSL) for all systems operated by Skagit PUD was **9.6%**. The three-year DSL rolling average for the Judy Reservoir system stands at **9.6%**, which continues to meet the standard set by the state.

OUR VALUES

As we pursue our vision and advance our mission, we demonstrate and maintain balance among our Core Values:

QUALITY. We seek to exceed customer expectations by providing exceptional service.

ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP. We act to preserve our region's natural resources.

FINANCIAL PRUDENCE. We strive to keep our rates as low as possible while making wise capital investments and strategic business decisions.



WATER SYSTEM PERFORMANCE 2021

| | |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Judy Reservoir Production | 3,010,480.0 Kgals Produced |
| Judy Reservoir Billed | 2,617,59.9 Kgals Billed |
| % Distribution System Leakage | 9.7% DSL |
| Alger Production | 9,026.5 Kgals Produced |
| Alger Billed | 8,766.5 Kgals Billed |
| % Distribution System Leakage | 9.2% DSL |
| Cedargrove Production | 11,584.6 Kgals Produced |
| Cedargrove Billed | 11,185.6 Kgals Billed |
| % Distribution System Leakage | 1.6% DSL |
| Fidalgo Island Production | 57,603.8 Kgals Produced |
| Fidalgo Island Billed | 47,545.1 Kgals Billed |
| % Distribution System Leakage | 4.4% DSL |
| Marblemount Production | 2,932.7 Kgals Produced |
| Marblemount Billed | 1,962.0 Kgals Billed |
| % Distribution System Leakage | 6.6% DSL |
| Potlatch Beach Production | 647.9 Kgals Produced |
| Potlatch Beach Billed | 611.1 Kgals Billed |
| % Distribution System Leakage | 5.7% DSL |
| Rockport Production | 3,151.2 Kgals Produced |
| Rockport Billed | 2,606.8 Kgals Billed |
| % Distribution System Leakage | 7.2% DSL |
| Skagit View Village Production | 4,291.9 Kgals Produced |
| Skagit View Village Billed | 4,139.4 Kgals Billed |
| % Distribution System Leakage | 1.0% DSL |

Numbers calculated in thousands of gallons (Kgals).

The chart at the left reports each system's water production performance for 2021. All water that is not authorized consumption is considered distribution system leakage (DSL). Some examples of water use considered leakage include: water main breaks, theft, meter inaccuracies, meter reading errors, data collection, and calculation errors.

The DSL calculation also takes into account water that is produced but not billable. For example: backwash, customer leak adjustments, estimated fire suppression usage, estimated project line flushing, etc.

The total average DSL in 2021 for all systems is **9.6%**. The DSL standard set by the state is **10% or less** for the last three-year average.

DROPS NEED WATTS

SAVE WATER & ENERGY BY SHOWERING BETTER

Water and energy work together. Have you ever picked up a gallon of water or milk from the fridge? It's pretty heavy, right? A lot of energy is used to carry every gallon of water you use from a drinking water source to a treatment plant that makes it safe to drink.

After the water leaves the treatment plant, more energy is needed to carry it through water pipes to your house. Imagine the journey it has taken — and just how tired you would be after carrying that much water all day!

And the work doesn't stop there. If you want that water to be hot, it takes energy to warm it up before it hits the tap. Here's some food for thought — the energy it takes to treat and deliver the water that just 10 houses use in a year could power your home's refrigerator for more than two years!

That's why it's so important not to waste water at home. Don't leave the water on when you brush your teeth. Make sure to turn off the faucet all the way after you wash your hands. If water drips from the faucet after you turn it off, it could be a leak. One of the best places to save both water and energy at home is in your shower. Besides taking shorter showers, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's WaterSense program has some tips for how you and your family can "shower better."

SHOWERING FACTS

The shower is a place where we can clean up, cool off, wake up, or relax after a long day. But it's also a place where we waste a lot of water and energy!

Consider this:

- The average shower lasts eight minutes. Since a standard showerhead has a water flow of 2.5 gallons per minute, each shower uses 20 gallons of water!
- Across the United States, we use more than one trillion gallons of water each year just for showering.

Never fear! You can still save water and energy. WaterSense has a special label for showerheads that use less water but still provide a great spray of water when you shower. If your family uses a WaterSense labeled showerhead:

- Every shower, you'll save enough electricity to power a 60-watt light bulb for eight hours.
- Every year, you'll save the amount of water it takes to wash more than 70 loads of laundry.

DREAMING OF A BETTER BATHROOM?

Bathrooms are by far the largest water users in the home, accounting for more than half of all the water that families use indoors. If you are planning to remodel your bathroom, did you know plumbing fixtures are available in a wide variety of colors, models, and prices to help you save water and money?

Advances in plumbing technology and design mean that faucets, showers, and toilets can use significantly less water than standard models while still delivering the rinse, spray, and flush you expect.

Skagit PUD is a partner in the EPA's WaterSense program, which encourages customers to look for WaterSense labeled products. The products have been independently certified for efficiency and performance, and promote water-saving techniques that reduce stress on water systems and the environment. Just look for the WaterSense label to find products at retailers in our area.

SAVE MONEY, SHOWER BETTER

An American taking a 5-minute shower uses more water than the average person in a developing country uses for an entire day.

Installing a low-flow showerhead takes only minutes. Low-flow means it uses 2.0 gallons per minute. You'll never notice a difference in water pressure, but you'll cut your water use and your water heating bills. Skagit PUD sells a quality, low-flow, multi-mode massage showerhead and ultra-efficient faucet aerators kits for just \$11.

Install these items today for more efficient and enjoyable showering with better faucet flow.



HARVESTING RAINWATER WITH RAIN BARRELS

Besides helping the environment, an obvious reason for harvesting rainwater is to save money. Depending on the size of your house and the amount of rainfall in your area, you can collect a substantial amount of rainwater with a simple system.

Generally, a rain barrel is made using a 55-gallon drum, a vinyl garden hose, couplings, a screen grate to remove debris and keep insects out, and other materials found at most hardware stores.

Rain barrels can be constructed in several ways, but they all serve the same purpose — to collect rainwater and decrease the amount of stormwater runoff that leaves your property. Using rain barrels is one way to reduce your household's impact on local waterways and become a good steward of the local watershed.

WHY USE RAIN BARRELS?

During the summer months it's estimated that nearly 40% of household water is used for lawn and garden maintenance. A rain barrel collects water and stores it for those times you need it most — during the dry summer months. Using rain barrels potentially helps homeowners lower water bills while also improving the vitality of plants, flowers, trees, and lawns.

The average rainfall of one inch within 24 hours can produce more than 600 gallons of water that runs off the roof of a typical house.

Much of this water runs from gutters onto surfaces that do not allow water to soak into the ground. These are called impervious surfaces and include concrete, asphalt, and compacted soil. Even commonly used sod has a very low infiltration rate and can be a major cause of increased runoff.

As it flows, runoff collects and transports soil, pet waste, salt, pesticides, fertilizer, oil and grease, litter, and other pollutants. This water drains directly into nearby creeks, streams, and rivers without receiving treatment at sewage plants.

Polluted stormwater contaminates local waterways. It can harm plants, fish, and wildlife while degrading the quality of water.

PURCHASE A BARREL

Skagit PUD sells rain barrels for \$60 plus tax. For more information, call (360) 424-7104.

SETTING UP YOUR BARREL

LOCATION

Before installing rain barrels, take a moment to consider how the rain barrels will be used, how much water will be needed (especially during drier months), how many are being installed, and how overflow will be handled. Also, make sure rain barrels are clean and free of debris before installing them. If the rain barrel(s) will be attached to a downspout, choose a convenient, easy-to-access location.

OVERFLOW

One inch of rain falling in one day on 1,000 square feet of roof area can produce over 600 gallons of water!

As your rain barrel(s) fills, you will want to consider what to do with any overflow. Sections of garden hose, pipe, or downspouts can all be used to handle overflow via the overflow valve.

Overflow can be directed back down the old downspout. If allowed to flow naturally, it must run onto a landscaped area or lawn large enough to filter the water — generally about 15 square feet. Overflow must be directed at least 10 feet away from any foundation or impervious surface (like a driveway or sidewalk) and five feet away from a neighboring property or right of way.



LEARN MORE ABOUT YOUR WATER

skagitpud.org

1415 FREEWAY DRIVE, MOUNT VERNON WA 98273

(360) 424-7104 pud@skagitpud.org

