

ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT

Reporting Year 2022



Presented By
City of Stevenson

*Photo credit: Devon Groom,
City of Stevenson Wastewater Treatment Operator*

PWS ID#: 842502



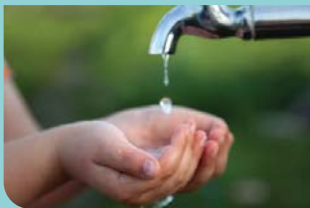
Our Mission Continues

The City of Stevenson is once again pleased to present our annual Consumer Confidence Report covering all testing performed between January 1 and December 31, 2022. Over the years, we have dedicated ourselves to producing drinking water that meets all state and federal standards. Our ongoing goal is to provide our customers with high quality, safe, dependable water in a cost-effective manner. We continually strive to adopt new methods for delivering the best-quality drinking water to you. As new challenges to drinking water safety emerge, we remain vigilant in meeting the goals of source water protection, water conservation, and community education while continuing to serve the needs of all our water users.

To help us serve you better, we would like to hear any concerns or questions you may have about your water or this report.

Lead in Home Plumbing

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. We are responsible for providing high-quality drinking water, but we 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 at (800) 426-4791 or online at: www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.



Important Health Information

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 may be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. The U.S. EPA/CDC (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 at (800) 426-4791 or online at: <http://water.epa.gov/drink/hotline>.

“Thousands have lived without love, not one without water.”

—W.H. Auden

Community Participation

You are invited to participate in our City Council meetings and voice your concerns about your drinking water. We meet the 3rd Thursday of each month beginning at 6 p.m. at City Hall, 7121 E Loop Road, Stevenson, WA.

QUESTIONS?

Please feel free to contact Carolyn Sourek, Public Works Director, at carolyn@ci.stevenson.wa.us or (509) 427-5970.



Photo credit: Devon Groom,
City of Stevenson Wastewater Treatment Operator

Substances That Could Be in Water

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the U.S. EPA and the Department of Health prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. U.S. Food and Drug Administration and the Washington Department of Agriculture regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health. Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of these contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk.

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals, in some cases, radioactive material; and substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity. Substances that may be present in source water include:

Microbial Contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, or wildlife;

Inorganic Contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or may result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming;

Pesticides and Herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses;

Organic Chemical Contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and may also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems;

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

For more information about contaminants and potential health effects, call the U.S. EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.



Water Plant Crew

Where Does My Water Come From?

Stevenson's drinking water comes from three surface water sources--Labong Creek, Cedar Spring, and Rock Creek--and our groundwater source, Hegewald Well. The surface water sources are filtered and treated at our water plant, which has a capacity to flow and treat one million gallons of water a day. Hegewald Well produces 650 gallons per minute. The well is used as an emergency backup. The water distribution system is made up of three reservoirs, eight pressure reducing stations, 123 fire hydrants, and 923 non-transient service connections (up from 820 in 2021). In 2022 we cleaned and inspected our Catholic Church Reservoir as well as our Rock Creek Intake. We provided multiple service connections, made repairs to unexpected leaks within the system, and completed daily operations of the treatment plant.



Photo credit: Devon Groom,
City of Stevenson Wastewater Treatment Operator



Test Results

We are pleased to report that your drinking water meets all federal and state requirements. Our water is monitored for many different kinds of substances on a very strict sampling schedule. And, the water we deliver must meet specific health standards. Here, we only show those substances that were detected in our water (a complete list of all our analytical results is available upon request). Remember that detecting a substance does not mean the water is unsafe to drink; our goal is to keep all detects below their respective maximum allowed levels.

The State recommends monitoring for certain substances less than once per year because the concentrations of these substances do not change frequently. In these cases, the most recent sample data are included, along with the year in which the sample was taken.

REGULATED SUBSTANCES

SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	MCL [MRDL]	MCLG [MRDLG]	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
Asbestos (MFL)	2019	7	7	0.394	NA	No	Decay of asbestos cement water mains; erosion of natural deposits

Tap water samples were collected for lead and copper analyses from sample sites throughout the community

SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	AL	MCLG	AMOUNT DETECTED (90TH %ILE)	SITES ABOVE AL/TOTAL SITES	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
Copper (ppm)	2022	1.3	1.3	0.39	0/20	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Lead (ppb)	2022	15	0	2.2	0/20	No	Lead services lines, corrosion of household plumbing systems including fittings and fixtures; erosion of natural deposits

UNREGULATED SUBSTANCES

SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH
Bromochloromethane (ppb)	2022	1.7	1.2–2.2
Chloroform (ppb)	2022	22.5	15–23
Dichloroacetic Acid (ppb)	2022	8.55	0–9.5
Trichloroacetic Acid (ppb)	2022	12	ND–11

Lead and Copper Control Requirements Violation

Every three years the city tests for lead and copper. Unlike other contaminants, lead and copper do not commonly occur in source water. Instead, they are a result of building plumbing, faucet, and water fixture corrosion. The purpose of monitoring for lead and copper is to determine whether water systems are distributing corrosive water. Systems with corrosive water must investigate and determine the best way to control corrosion. Samples from ten predetermined homes throughout the distribution system are tested. In 2020, two of these samples exceeded the Federal Action Limit. Immediate actions were taken to investigate the cause of the high results. After further investigation it was found that the samples were taken from fixtures that were not in regular use. In 2021 we re-tested ten homes to determine whether any further treatment was required.

Definitions

90th %ile: The levels reported for lead and copper represent the 90th percentile of the total number of sites tested. The 90th percentile is equal to or greater than 90% of our lead and copper detections.

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

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 (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.

MFL (million fibers per liter): A measure of the presence of asbestos fibers that are longer than 10 micrometers.

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

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

NA: Not applicable

ND (Not detected): Indicates that the substance was not found by laboratory analysis.

ppb (parts per billion): One part substance per billion parts water (or micrograms per liter).

ppm (parts per million): One part substance per million parts water (or milligrams per liter).

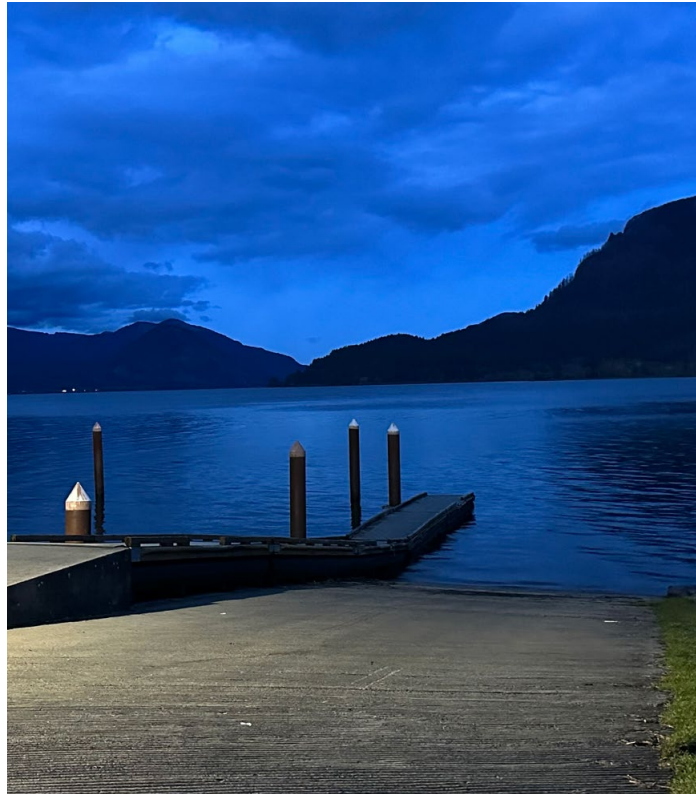


Photo credit: Devon Groom,
City of Stevenson Wastewater Treatment Operator



BY THE NUMBERS

The number of Olympic-sized swimming pools it would take to fill up all of Earth's water.

800
TRILLION

1 The average cost in cents for about 5 gallons of water supplied to a home in the U.S.

The percent of Earth's water that is salty or otherwise undrinkable, or locked away and unavailable in ice caps and glaciers.

99

50 The average daily number of gallons of total home water use for each person in the U.S.

The percent of Earth's surface that is covered by water.

71

330
MILLION The amount of water on Earth in cubic miles.

The percent of the human brain that contains water.

75

What type of container is best for storing water?

Consumer Reports has consistently advised that glass or BPA-free plastics such as polyethylene are the safest choices. To be on the safe side, do not use any container with markings on the recycle symbol showing 7PC (that's code for BPA). You could also consider using stainless steel or aluminum with BPA-free liners.

How much emergency water should I keep?

Typically, 1 gallon per person per day is recommended. For a family of four, that would be 12 gallons for three days. Humans can survive without food for one month, but can only survive one week without water.

How long can I store drinking water?

The disinfectant in drinking water will eventually dissipate, even in a closed container. If that container housed bacteria prior to filling up with the tap water, the bacteria may continue to grow once the disinfectant has dissipated. Some experts believe that water could be stored up to six months before needing to be replaced. Refrigeration will help slow the bacterial growth.

How long does it take a water supplier to produce one glass of treated drinking water?

It could take up to 45 minutes to produce a single glass of drinking water.

How many community water systems are there in the U.S.?

About 53,000 public water systems across the United States process 34 billion gallons of water per day for home and commercial use. Eighty-five percent of the population is served by these systems.

Which household activity wastes the most water?

Most people would say the majority of water use comes from showering or washing dishes; however, toilet flushing is by far the largest single use of water in a home (accounting for 40% of total water use). Toilets use about 4–6 gallons per flush, so consider an ultra-low-flow (ULF) toilet, which requires only 1.5 gallons.

