

## Our Water Quality Commitment:

### You Can Count on Washington Water Employees to . . .

- ⇒ provide you with the highest quality water possible
- ⇒ sample, test and treat your water on a regular basis
- ⇒ work diligently to meet every water quality standard on every system, every day
- ⇒ maintain water distribution system reliability
- ⇒ provide you with the highest level of customer service possible

#### Important Phone Numbers:

##### **HMC Management**

P. O. Box 119  
Lakebay, WA 98349  
Office: (253) 884-9350  
<http://www.herronisland.org>

##### **Washington Water Service Company**

P.O. Box 336  
Gig Harbor, WA 98335-0336  
Office: (253) 851-4060  
**Toll Free: (877) 408-4060**  
<http://www.wawater.com>

##### **Operations Superintendent: Shawn O'Dell**

##### **Washington State Department of Health**

Northwest Office of Drinking Water  
20425 72nd Ave S., Suite 310  
Kent WA 98032-2358  
(253) 395-6750  
<http://www.doh.wa.gov/ehp/dw/>



WASHINGTON WATER  
SERVICE COMPANY

### **HMC Management Water System State ID #325505**

## **2013 Drinking Water Report**

Washington Water Service Company (WWSC) is committed to being a leader in providing communities and customers with traditional and innovative utility services. WWSC is proud of its service record and is staffed with courteous and knowledgeable water professionals who are dedicated to meeting your needs. While we are proud of our past record, we continually strive to improve upon the quality of services we provide to you, our valued customer.

This **2013 Drinking Water Report** is your annual update on the quality and safety of your drinking water. It includes the water quality monitoring results from the **most recent** round of testing done on your system, in accordance with state and federal regulations (not all testing is required every year). This report also provides access through references and telephone numbers to source water assessments, health effects data and additional information about your water system. This allows you to make personal health-based decisions regarding your drinking water consumption and become more involved in decisions which may affect your health. We hope you find this information helpful!

**Washington Water Service Co.**  
Toll-free: (877) 408-4060

## Regarding “contaminants” in drinking water:

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

## Sources of drinking water:

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

#### Reminder:

Any hazardous material that you put onto the ground or in your septic tank could potentially pollute the groundwater. Please help the HMC Management Water System prevent groundwater contamination for this and future generations.

## Where does my water come from?

Your water comes from two wells and is considered groundwater. These two wells are 196 and 200 feet deep, both tapping the same aquifer. Your water is not treated (no chlorination, filtration, pH adjustment, etc).

## Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

- ♦ **Microbial contaminants**, such as viruses, parasites and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations and wildlife.
- ♦ **Inorganic contaminants**, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining or farming.
- ♦ **Pesticides and herbicides**, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff and residential uses.
- ♦ **Radioactive contaminants**, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.
- ♦ **Organic chemical contaminants**, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff and septic systems.



How To Read The Tables:

Your water is tested for more than 100 contaminants for which state and federal standards have been set. *Tables 1 & 2* list all primary contaminants that were detected (in any amount) along with their respective Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs). Primary standards protect public health by limiting the levels of these contaminants in drinking water. *Table 3* shows the levels of secondary contaminants and common water properties of interest to many consumers. Secondary contaminants have no known health effects but can affect the aesthetic properties of water (taste, odor and appearance). Secondary Maximum Contaminant Levels (SMCLs) are guidelines only.

Terms and Abbreviations used:

**Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL):** the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

**Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG):** the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

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

**Lead and Copper 90th Percentile Value:** Out of every 10 homes sampled, 9 were at or below this level. This must be ≤ the AL or additional steps must be taken.

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

**N/A:** not applicable

**Lead in Drinking Water.** In Washington state, lead in drinking water comes primarily from materials and components used in household plumbing. If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially in pregnant women and young children. When a drinking water tap has not been used for 6 hours or more, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing the tap until the water is noticeably colder (30 sec to 2 min) before using the water for drinking or cooking. Only use water from the cold-water tap for drinking, cooking and especially for making baby formula. Hot water is likely to contain higher levels of lead. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your home's water tested. Information on lead in drinking water is available from the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791, or on EPA's web site at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

Water Quality Data

TABLE 1: Primary Contaminants Detected In Your Drinking Water

Primary Contaminant	Units	Year Tested	MCL	MCLG	YOUR WATER	Compliant? (Y/N)	Major Sources in Drinking Water
Nitrate	ppm	2012	10	10	2.0	Y	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Microbiological					Highest No. of Monthly Positives		
Total coliform bacteria		2012	1 <sup>a</sup>	0	1	Y <sup>b</sup>	Naturally present in the environment

TABLE 2: Lead and Copper Monitoring—Samples are collected at customer faucets. The number of homes sampled is based on population served by the system. Specific EPA-mandated criteria are used to select the homes:

Primary Contaminant	Units	Year Tested	AL	No. of Homes Sampled	90th Percentile Value	No. of Homes Exceeding the AL	Compliant? (Y/N)	Major Sources in Drinking Water
Copper	ppm	2011	1.3	6	0.70	0	Y	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Lead	ppb	2011	15	6	5	0	Y	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits

TABLE 3: Secondary Contaminants (Inorganic Chemicals and Physical Properties)

Secondary Contaminant	Units	Year Tested <sup>d</sup>	SMCL	YOUR WATER	Compliant? (Y/N)	Major Sources in Drinking Water
Iron	ppm	2004	0.30	< 0.1	Y	Leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
Manganese	ppm	2004	0.05	< 0.01	Y	Leaching from natural deposits
Chloride	ppm	2004	250	< 20	Y	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence
Hardness	ppm	2004	N/A	84 <sup>e</sup>	Y	Erosion of natural deposits
Sodium	ppm	2004	N/A <sup>f</sup>	9	Y	Erosion of natural deposits; seawater influence

<sup>a</sup> For systems that collect < 40 coliform samples per month, the MCL is one positive (unsatisfactory) monthly sample.

<sup>b</sup> Upon notification by the lab of the positive routine monthly samples in Apr, Jun & Aug 2012, several “repeat” samples were collected to confirm the presence of coliforms in the system. All of these samples were absent of coliforms. An increased number of routine samples were also collected in the month following the coliform presence to ensure that coliforms remained absent. All of these samples were also absent of coliforms. Nevertheless, as a precautionary measure to protect public health during system construction in 2012, temporary manual chlorination of the system (via the storage tank) was initiated on 8/31/12 and continued until construction was completed in early 2013.

<sup>c</sup> Most recent testing done, in accordance with the regulations (this testing is required every 3 years)

<sup>d</sup> Your drinking water source was granted a 9-year monitoring waiver for Inorganic Chemicals (IOCs, 28 different inorganic chemical and physical tests) by the Dept of Health for the 2002-2010 monitoring period. With a waiver, only one IOC sample is required every 9 yrs, rather than every 3 yrs. Full IOC testing is due again in 2013. DOH uses monitoring waivers allowed by EPA because they save water systems money without compromising public health. The waivers are good for such a long time because inorganic chemicals in groundwater do not change over time, since the source is natural and consistent. Nitrate is never waived (see TABLE 1).

<sup>e</sup> Equivalent to 4.9 grains per gallon of hardness. 0-75 ppm hardness is considered “soft” water, 75-150 ppm is “moderately hard”, 150-300 ppm is “hard” and > 300 ppm is “very hard”.

<sup>f</sup> The EPA recommends 20 ppm sodium as a level of concern for consumers who must restrict their dietary intake.

Your drinking water source meets all applicable EPA and Dept of Health standards!

**Water System Improvements!** Significant improvements were made to the water system in 2012 to increase service reliability and to minimize the potential for water quality problems due to failed water lines and equipment. HMC contracted with Northwest Water Systems, Inc to perform this work. It included replacement of all of the distribution system piping that brings water to your homes. This project was successfully completed and approved by the Dept of Health's Office of Drinking Water in March 2013.

**Synthetic Organic Chemicals (herbicides, pesticides and insecticides).** Your drinking water source was tested for 13 herbicides and 31 pesticides in 2012. There were no detections, in any amount, of any these chemicals. The Dept of Health granted a statewide waiver for insecticides, based on water quality information gathered from across the state.

**Source Protection Information.** The Dept of Health Office of Drinking Water has compiled Source Water Assessment Program (SWAP) data for all community water systems in Washington. SWAP data for your system is available on line at:

<https://fortress.wa.gov/doh/eh/dw/swap/maps>

If you do not have access to the web, we encourage you to use the internet service available at your local library.

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

EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline  
1-800-426-4791  
<http://water.epa.gov/drink/index.cfm>