

OCEAN CITY WATER SYSTEM - #010888

Consumer Confidence Report for 2021

Is my water safe?

Grays Harbor County vigilantly safeguards its water supply and once again, we are proud to report that the Ocean City Water System has met all of the water quality standards required by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Washington State Department of Health. These standards were verified by the collection and sampling of water from various locations throughout the water system which were sent to an accredited lab for analysis. All the samples collected in 2021 were compliant with regulatory standards.

Do I need to take special precautions?

All 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. Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised individuals such as people with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, people 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 individuals 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 microbiological contaminants are also available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

Where does my water come from?

The Ocean City Water System consists of four wells with one emergency well. All of the well systems are equipped with filtration for the removal of iron and manganese, and chlorine is utilized for water disinfection.

Two of the wells, designated as Well #1 and Well #2, are part of the Pacific Winds Water System. These wells were drilled in 1990 and pump into a 20,000-gallon reservoir, from which the water is conveyed to the water distribution system using booster pumps. The system is located on the east side of Ocean Boulevard.

The other two wells, designated as Well #3 and Well #4, are part of the Sea Winds Water System. These wells are capable of supplying 90 GPM. This system is located at the south end of Ocean Boulevard.

There is also an emergency backup well at the Sunset Water System, which is capable of supplying 40 GPM.

Water Use Efficiency:

The Grays Harbor County Utilities Division operates your water system to maximum water use efficiency. A primary goal is the discovery and repair of leaks. Every leak, even small ones, can have a significant impact when spread throughout the distribution system.

The County's partnership with our customers is a key component of our leak detection process. If you suspect a leak, please contact the Utilities Department at 360-249-4222. Signs of a possible water leak include: unexplained puddles or wet spots, sinkholes, and/or cracking of paved surfaces.

Why are there contaminants in my drinking water?

The sources of drinking 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 and, in some cases contaminants.

Source water is tested for the following contaminants:

Microbial contaminants - such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations and wildlife.

Inorganic contaminants (IOC's) - such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or result from urban stormwater discharges, industrial and domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining or farming.

Pesticides and herbicides - from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses.

Organic Chemical Contaminants - including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, (SOC's and VOC's) which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems. Total tri-halomethanes (TTHM's) and haloacetic acids (HAA5's) are water disinfection byproducts.

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

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations also establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health. For more information about contaminants and potential health effects call the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

Recent Testing for Contaminants:

Sampling Point	Contaminant (Units)	Violation	MCL	MCLG	SRL	Detected Level	Sample Date	Typical Sources
SO4 & SO5	Nitrates (ppm)	NO	10.0	10.0	0.05	ND ND	08/10/2021 09/08/2021	Runoff from fertilizer, leaching of septic tanks, or erosion of natural deposits
SO1 & SO2	Nitrates (ppm)	NO	10.0	10.0	0.05	ND ND	08/10/2021 08/10/2021	Runoff from fertilizer, leaching of septic tanks, or erosion of natural deposits.
SO1	VOCs (ppm)	NO			0.5	ND	07/09/19	Runoff from industrial and petroleum products, or septic systems
SO1	Herbicides ug/L	NO				ND	10/19/21	Agriculture or storm water runoff
SO1	Gross alpha pCi/L	NO	15	15	3	<3.00	10/05/21	Erosion of natural deposits
SO1	Radium 228 pCi/l	NO	5	5	1	1.16	10/05/21	Erosion of natural deposits
SO4 & SO5	Iron (ppm)	NO	0.300	0.300	0.100	<0.1	9/10/19	Erosion of natural deposits
SO4 & SO5	Manganese (ppm)	NO	0.050	0.050	0.010	<0.01	9/10/19	Erosion of natural deposits

Disinfection by Products								
Sample Point	Contaminant (Units)	Violation	MCL	MCLG	SRL	Detected Level	Sample Date	Typical Sources
Dist.	TTHM (ug/L)	NO	80	80	0.5	14.54	10/19/21	Disinfection by products
Dist.	HAA5 (ug/L)	NO	60	60	15.0	ND	10/19/21	Disinfection by products
Dist.	Chlorine Residual (ppm)	NO	4	4		0.60 ppm Average	3 Per Week	Measurement of disinfection added to water

Lead and Copper (5 samples)							
Sample Point	Contaminant (Units)	Violation	Action Level	SRL	Detected Level	Sample Date	Typical Sources
Dist.	Copper (ppm)	NO	1.3	0.02	<0.02 - 0.177	10/12/21	Corrosion of household plumbing products
Dist.	Lead (ppm)	NO	0.015	0.001	<0.001 - 0.0038	10/12/21	Corrosion of household plumbing products

If elevated levels of lead were present, it could 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. Grays Harbor County 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 of lead exposure by flushing your tap for thirty seconds to two 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 Water Drinking Water Hotline or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>

Water Quality Table Definitions	
SO1 – Well 1	MCL – Maximum Contaminant Level: The highest level of contaminant that is allowed in Drinking Water. The MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology
SO2 – Well 2	
SO4 – Well 3	
SO5 – Well 4	MCLG – Maximum Contaminant Level Goal: The level of a contaminant in Drinking Water below which there is known or expected risk to health (MCLGs allow for a margin of safety).
Dist. – Distribution System	
SRL – State Reporting Level	PPM – Parts Per Million
ND – None Detected	PPB – Parts Per Billion
UG/L – Micrograms Per Liter	< - less than

Water System Projects and News:

Grays Harbor County Utilities staff work around the clock to provide top quality water to every tap. We ask that all our customers help us protect our water resources, which are the heart of our community, our way of life, and our children’s future. We encourage you to please use water wisely and let us know if you detect any leaks in the system. We appreciate your help in the conservation process.

As part of the ongoing maintenance of the Ocean City Water System, you will continue to see County staff flushing the water mains. Flushing is accomplished by using blow-off valves located throughout the water system. It helps to ensure that water mains are clean and the water is circulated through low flow areas.

Thank you for allowing us to provide your family with clean, quality water this year. In order to maintain a safe and dependable water system, we sometimes need to make improvements that will benefit all of our customers. Please know rate adjustments may be necessary in order to address these improvements.

How can I get involved?

If you have any questions about this report or your water utility, please contact Kevin McManus at (360) 249-4222 Ext.4171. For billing questions, please contact Traci Bradshaw or Barbara Connolly at (360) 249-4222 or 1-800-230-1638 at extension 1644 or 1650.

Notice:

If you are a proprietor or apartment manager, or someone who receives the billing for the water consumed in a large complex or several buildings, please send a copy of this report to your renters or post in such a manner that all consumers have access to the report. Please let us know if you need additional copies.

For more information, please contact:

Kevin McManus Utilities Forman
 100 W. Broadway, Suite 31
 Montesano, WA 98563
 Phone: 360-249-4222 Ext. 4171
 Email: kmcmanus@graysharbor.us

This report is posted on the Grays Harbor County website. This eliminates mailing out the reports saving the costs of paper, time and postage.

https://www.co.grays-harbor.wa.us/departments/public_services/utilities_and_development_division/consumer_confidence_reports.php

If you would like a paper copy of this report, please contact Kevin McManus at the above address or phone number.