

# CITY OF WENATCHEE'S

# 2023 CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT

The primary mission of the City of Wenatchee's water utility is to ensure safe and reliable drinking water to all of our customers.



## City of Wenatchee

Environmental Division  
P. O. Box 519  
Wenatchee, WA 98807-0519

PRSR STD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
PERMIT NO. 800  
GOLDSTREET  
97301  
ECRWSS

## POSTAL CUSTOMER

### IMPORTANT NUMBERS:

- Water Quality Questions or Concerns - (509) 888-3235
- Water Bill Questions - (509) 888-3600
- Schedule to Have Your Water Shutoff for Repairs - (509) 888-3600
- Questions About Your Backflow Assembly - (509) 888-3235
- After Hours Emergency Water Phone Number - (509) 665-2236

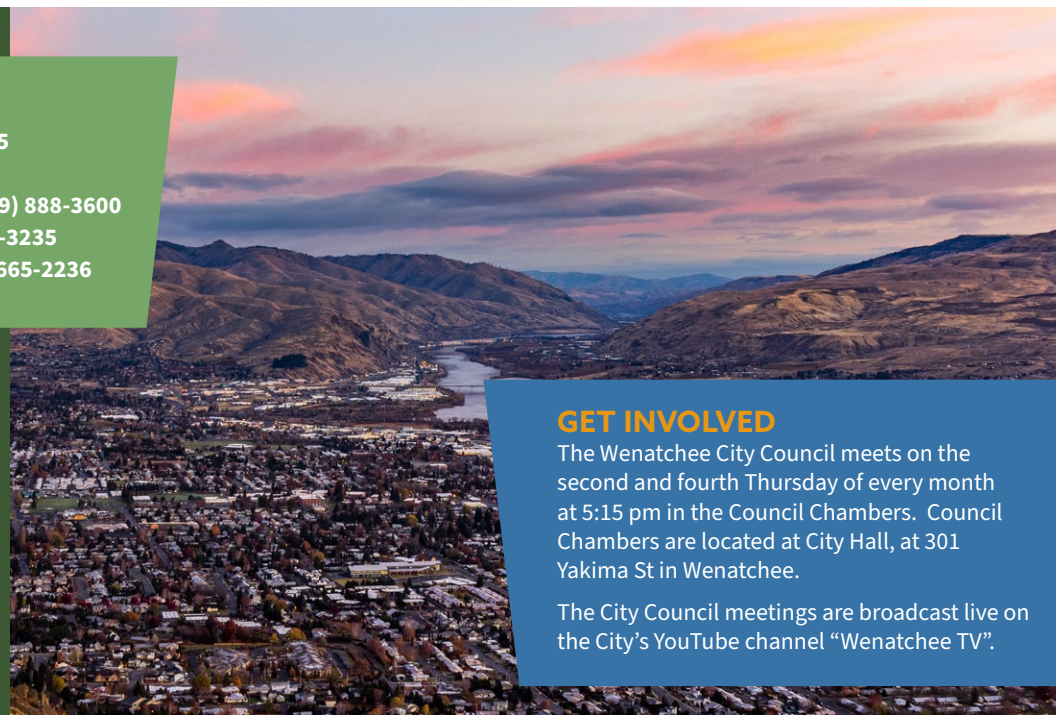
### ATENCION:

Este documento contiene información muy importante referente a su agua. Por lo tanto deseamos compartir los resultados. Fue aprobado por los Departamentos del Estado y Gobierno Federal, pasando todas las pruebas para el año 2021 y calificó como saludable y apta para nuestro consumo. Si necesita más información, por favor llamar a la ciudad, al teléfono 888-6200 y con mucho gusto contestaremos sus preguntas.

### GET INVOLVED

The Wenatchee City Council meets on the second and fourth Thursday of every month at 5:15 pm in the Council Chambers. Council Chambers are located at City Hall, at 301 Yakima St in Wenatchee.

The City Council meetings are broadcast live on the City's YouTube channel "Wenatchee TV".



## WELCOME TO THE CITY OF WENATCHEE'S WATER QUALITY REPORT

The following is information about our drinking water.

**Our Drinking Water Source:** Located just north of Rocky Reach Dam, the Eastbank Aquifer is the primary source of drinking water for the City of Wenatchee, East Wenatchee Water District and the Chelan County PUD. Aquifers, such as the Eastbank Aquifer, act as a natural filter and underground storage for water. The Eastbank Aquifer is recharged by the Columbia River, and as indicated by the high quality water it produces, the aquifer is an excellent filter. The aquifer currently supplies an average of 10.5 million gallons per day to Wenatchee Valley residents.

The City operates the water utility under regulations set forth by the Washington State Department of Health (DOH) and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) under Public Water Supply ID# 943507. To ensure that safe drinking water is delivered everyday to your home, the City of Wenatchee administers a number of programs required by the DOH including Cross Connection Control, Water-Use Efficiency, and Wellhead Protection. While the Eastbank Aquifer has been rated as having low susceptibility to contamination, all of these programs work together to maintain high quality water every day.

### CITY OF WENATCHEE DRINKING WATER TREATMENT:

Chlorination is the only treatment required for the City of Wenatchee's drinking water. Chlorine is added at the source and acts as disinfectant to protect against harmful levels of bacteria. The chlorine levels are regularly monitored at the source and throughout the water system. During 2022 the average chlorine in the water was 0.25 ppm. In 2022 the lowest value within the system was 0.07 ppm and the highest value was 0.55 ppm. If you are sensitive to the taste or odor of chlorine, try placing a pitcher of tap water in your refrigerator overnight before drinking it, this will allow the chlorine to dissipate.



### WATER USE EFFICIENCY - ANNUAL REPORT SUMMARY

The City of Wenatchee is required to submit an Annual Water Use Efficiency Report to the Washington State Department of Health every year by July 1st. This report provides information about the amount of water the City purchased from the Regional System, how much was sold to customers and how much was lost to leakage.

The City's goal is to reduce distribution system leakage to 10% or less by December 31, 2024. The distribution system leakage for 2022 was calculated to be 19.7% and the resulting 3-year average was 17.9%. We are working to reach this goal by implementing a water loss control plan within our system. The City has known leakage at two of the concrete reservoirs. They are being monitored and work to replace one of the reservoirs is scheduled to begin in 2025.

Based on the public input that was received through outreach efforts, the Wenatchee City Council adopted a customer water usage goal of reducing residential water use to 125 gallons per capita per day by December 31, 2024. At the time that the goal was set the average daily use was 135 gallons per capita per day. Based on the 2022 water use data, the current average daily water use is 133 gallons per capita per day. The City will help our customers reduce this level by providing additional water use efficiency education.

[www.wenatcheewa.gov/government/public-works/water/water-use-efficiency](http://www.wenatcheewa.gov/government/public-works/water/water-use-efficiency)

### RESIDENTIAL WATER USE EFFICIENCY

Water is essential to our health, our communities, our environment, and our economy. As our state population grows, the demand for water will continue to rise. Not only must water systems ensure a safe and clean supply of water, but they also must ensure that there is enough water available to supply their customers every day of the year.

Water is a shared resource. Other uses include agriculture, fish habitat, industry, hydropower, and recreation. All of these uses add up and can put enormous pressure on local water supplies, especially during summer when the demand is highest.

### JULY IS SMART IRRIGATION MONTH!

July is a peak month for outdoor water use and a good time to make sure you're using your irrigation efficiently!

- **Check your system for leaks!** A leaking sprinkler head can waste thousands of gallons of water, costing you money.
- **Direct sprinkler heads away from paved surfaces!** Water hitting the pavement won't make it grow and the runoff from sprinklers carries chemicals, bacteria, sediment, and other pollutants into the stormwater system and the Columbia River. Watering gardens by hand can prevent overspray and direct water to areas that need it the most, this can reduce overwatering and water consumption.
- **Water during the coolest times of day!** Watering when it's hot can result in losing approximately 1/3 of the water you're using to evaporation, causing you to use more water.

Small actions can make a big difference in protecting local water ways from pollution and your water consumption. The Master Gardeners can also provide information on lawn care, irrigating home gardens and planning landscapes that are Eastern Washington friendly. Search for Master Gardeners on the internet or call (509) 667-6540.

### Indoors: Pick a week to check for leaks!

- A leaky toilet can waste 200 gallons of water per day. Fixing the leak will make a noticeable difference to your water bill.
- A faucet or hose dripping at 1 drip per second wastes 2,700 gallons of water every year.
- When you replace appliances look for WaterSense and Energy Star labeled models to save water and electricity.



## WATER QUALITY RESULTS

The following table lists all of the drinking water contaminants that were detected in our water during the 2022 calendar year. The presence of these contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. The table also lists contaminants that were not detected but may be of interest to the consumer.

Substance	Result	Violation	Sample Date	MCL or MRDL	MCLG or MRDLG	Likely Sources
<b>At the Groundwater Source - EPA Regulated</b>						
Fluoride (ppm)	<0.2	No	2019*	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate (ppm)	0.14	No	2022	10	10	Erosion of natural deposits, Runoff from fertilizer use, leaching from septic tanks
Turbidity (NTU)	<0.2	No	2019*	1	N/A	Presence of suspended/colloidal materials
<b>At the Groundwater Source - State Regulated</b>						
Conductivity (umhos/cm)	170	No	2019*	700	700	Erosion of natural deposits
Hardness (mg/L)	73.6	No	2019*	N/A	N/A	Naturally occurring
<b>In the Distribution System</b>						
Total Coliform (# of positive samples)	0	No	2022	1	0	Naturally present in the environment
Fecal Coliform & E. coli (# of positive samples)	0	No	2022	0	0	Human and animal fecal waste
Chlorine (ppm)	0.25	No	2022	4	4	Water additive used to control microbes
<b>In The Distribution System</b>						
	Average Result/Range	Violation	Sample Date	MCL	MCLG	Likely Sources
Total Trihalomethane (ppb)	5.6 4.2 - 5.6	No	2022	80	N/A	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Total Haloacetic Acids - HAA5 (ppb)	ND	No	2022	60	N/A	By-product of drinking water chlorination
<b>At the Customer's Tap</b>						
	90th Percent Value	Violation	Sample Date	Action Level	Number of Sites Sampled	Likely Sources
Copper (ppm)	0.621	No	2020*	1.3	30	Corrosion of household plumbing
Lead (ppb)	2	No	2020*	15	30	Corrosion of household plumbing

\* Samples will be collected in 2023 for reporting in 2024.

Not all compounds are tested every year. State and Federal regulations dictate which contaminants the City must test for and how often. The results presented above represent the most current data for the source and the water system.

All testing was performed by state certified laboratories. The City meets or exceeds the testing frequency required.

In 2020 the source water was tested for 60 volatile organic chemicals, such as solvents and petroleum products. None of these potential contaminants were detected in the drinking water.

### DEFINITIONS FOR THE TABLE

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

**Lead and Copper 90th Percentile:** Out of every 10 homes sampled, 9 were at or below this level.

**Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL):** The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. Maximum Contaminant Levels 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 risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

**Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL):** 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.

### Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG):

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.

**N/A:** Not applicable.

**ND:** Not Detected

**NTU:** Stands for Nephelometric Turbidity Unit which is the unit of measure for the clarity of water.

**ppb:** Parts of contaminant per billion parts of water, also the same as micrograms per liter.

**ppm:** Parts of contaminant per million parts of water, also the same as milligrams per liter.

**Umhos/cm:** micromhos per centimeter, the unit of measure for the ability of water to carry an electric current.

## GENERAL WATER QUALITY INFORMATION

As water travels over the surface of land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity. Contaminants that can occur in untreated water include: microbial contaminants such as viruses and bacteria; inorganic contaminants such as salts and metals; pesticides and herbicides; organic chemicals from industrial or petroleum use, and radioactive materials. In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain 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 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 contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the 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)

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 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 the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791) or on EPA's web site at [www.epa.gov/safewater](http://www.epa.gov/safewater).



## OUR WATER

The City of Wenatchee monitors for lead and copper following the Department of Health requirements. The size of our system dictates that 30 homes are tested every 3 years. The homes selected for testing are the most vulnerable to lead and copper corrosion. Our last round of sampling was in September 2020. All samples were well below the action level for both lead and copper. For the latest results please see the data table included in this report. If you have questions about the City's drinking water please call us at (509) 888-3235.

## INFORMATION ABOUT LEAD

Exposure to lead in drinking water can cause serious health effects in all age groups. Infants and children can have decreases in IQ and attention span. Lead exposure can lead to new learning and behavior problems or exacerbate existing learning and behavior problems. The children of women who are exposed to lead before or during pregnancy can have increased risk of these adverse health effects. Adults can have increased risks of heart disease, high blood pressure, kidney or nervous system problems. In Washington State, lead in drinking water comes primarily from materials and components used in household plumbing. The more time water has been sitting in pipes, the more dissolved metals, such as lead, it may contain.

### To help reduce potential exposure to lead:

For any drinking water tap that has not been used for 6 hours or more, flush water through the tap until the water is noticeably colder before using for drinking or cooking. You can use the flushed water for watering plants, washing dishes, or general cleaning.

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 water tested. Information on lead in drinking water is available from EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791 or online at [www.epa.gov/safewater/lead](http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead).

The Washington State Department of Health has additional information on how to reduce your exposure to lead in drinking water on their web site. [www.doh.wa.gov](http://www.doh.wa.gov) (CommunityandEnvironment/DrinkingWater/Contaminants/Lead)

### Other potential sources of lead:

- Soil - especially in areas that were previously orchards, lead dust can be tracked indoors.
- Paint - Older homes may have lead paint. Lead paint was banned from commercial use in 1978. It is especially a problem when the paint is peeling, cracked, or chipped and during renovations.



## WHAT YOU PAY FOR YOUR WATER

### 2022 Water Service Charges

For Single Family Residence, Duplex and Multi-Family

Meter size	Monthly Minimum Charge	Consumption Rate (per 100 Cubic Feet*)
¾"	\$20.77	\$3.36
1"	\$36.95	\$3.36
1 ½"	\$62.75	\$3.36

\* 100 Cubic Feet is equal to 748 gallons

## BY COMPARISON:

100 cubic feet of bottled water (at \$3.36/20 oz.) would cost \$16,084.

## DID YOU KNOW?

If a family of four replaces its older, inefficient toilets with new WaterSense toilets, it could save more than 16,000 gallons per year and \$2,000 in water and wastewater bills over the lifetime of the toilets.

One of the simplest ways to save both water and energy is to install water-efficient plumbing fixtures. This will save you money on your water and energy bills-it takes less energy to heat less water.