



2012 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

Skyway Water and Sewer District is pleased to present its 2012 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report. This report provides important information about the drinking water you received in 2011. While it might seem technical in nature, we hope that you will take a few minutes to read, learn and understand more about your drinking water — where it comes from, its quality, treatment, quality monitoring and how it compares to federal drinking water standards. The more you know, the greater your confidence will be that the water from your tap is reliable, safe and meets or exceeds the highest standard set for drinking water quality.

Water Quality Information

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) 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 water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800-426-4791).

Last year, your drinking water was monitored 365 days a year and was tested for over 100 compounds. The tests are done before and after treatment and while your water is in the distribution system. The tables in this document show the detected contaminants and compare them to the limits and goals set by the EPA and the State of Washington to ensure your tap water is safe. Please note that your water falls safely within state and federal guidelines for each and every contaminant, significantly below the EPA's levels. The tables list contaminants detected in the most recent required testing in the regional distribution systems unless specific information was collected in the Skyway system. Not listed in these tables are the over 100 other contaminants that were tested for, but not detected, in your drinking water. If you would like a list of the other compounds or if you have other water quality questions, please contact our office.



For more information about drinking water quality, please contact our office or any of the following agencies:

Skyway Water and Sewer District:

Phone: 206-772-7343

Website: www.skywayws.org

State Department of Health (DOH):

Phone: 1-800-521-0323

Website: www.doh.wa.gov/ehp/dw/

Environmental Protection Agency (EPA):

Phone: 1-800-426-4791

Website: www.epa.gov/safewater

Cascade Water Alliance

Phone: 425-453-0930

Website: www.cascadewater.org

City of Renton (Utilities)

Phone: 425-430-7295

Website: <http://rentonwa.gov/government/>

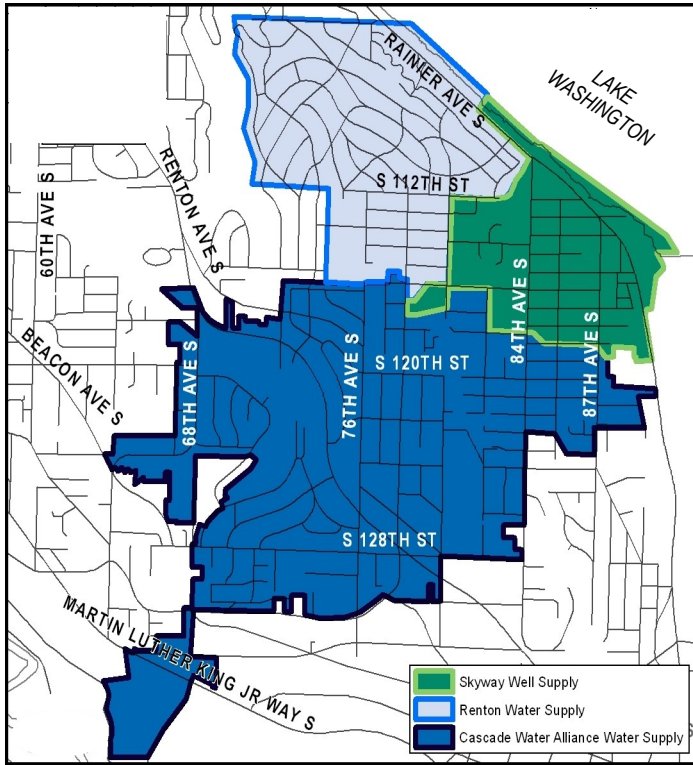


People with Special Concerns

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised 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/Center for Disease Control (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 (800-426-4791).

Water Supply

Skyway Water and Sewer District has three separate sources of water: Cascade Water Alliance (Seattle Public Utilities), City of Renton, and District wells. Depending on where you live, you received water from one or more of these sources in 2011. The map below outlines, by color, the typical supply source for various areas of the District. The table on the following page is shaded to match these same areas.



Skyway Well Supply

Two of Skyway’s own protected wells supplied about **13%** of water. An ozone treatment plant removes iron and manganese to improve the taste and clarity of this water, then chlorine is added. This percentage is expected to increase over the next few years as the District expands its well source use.

Renton Water Supply

About **24%** of the District’s water was purchased from the City of Renton. The majority of this source is shallow ground water from the Cedar Valley Aquifer and has been treated with chlorine and fluoride and the addition of sodium hydroxide to make the water less corrosive to pipes and home plumbing.

Cascade Water Alliance Supply

About **63%** of Skyway’s water was purchased from Cascade Water Alliance (CWA), which purchases water from Seattle Public Utilities (SPU). SPU maintains two pristine watersheds: the Cedar River Watershed and the South Fork Tolt River Watershed. Skyway’s SPU supply usually comes from the Cedar River Source. SPU currently treats its water by chlorine and ozone disinfection, fluoridation, and pH adjustment.

Lead and Copper Information

The regional water supplies do not contain lead or copper. It is possible that lead levels at your home may be higher than at other homes in the community as a result of materials used in your home's plumbing. Infants and young children are typically more vulnerable to lead in drinking water than the general population. 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. Skyway Water and Sewer District 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 (800-426-4791) or at www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

| Lead and Copper Sampling (All Sources) | Ideal Goal MCLG | Action Level+ | Results of the 2010 Samplings* | Number of Homes Exceeding Action Level | Typical Sources in Drinking Water |
|--|-----------------|---------------|--------------------------------|--|--|
| Lead, ppb | 0 | 15 | 1.7 | 0 of 20 | Corrosion of household plumbing systems, These samples were collected in homes within the entire service area. |
| Copper, ppm | 1.3 | 1.3 | 0.64 | 0 of 20 | |

+ The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

* 90th Percentile: i.e. 90 percent of the samples were less than the values shown.

2011 Water Quality Sampling Results

| Detected Compounds | Units | MCLG | MCL | Cascade Water Alliance Supply | | Renton Water Supply | | Skyway Well Supply | Typical Sources |
|-------------------------|--------------|----------|---------|---------------------------------------|--------------|---------------------------------------|-----------|---------------------------------------|---|
| | | | | Average | Range | Highest | Range | Average | |
| RAW WATER | | | | | | | | | |
| Total Organic Carbon | ppm | NA | TT | 0.7 | 0.3 - 1.2 | NA | NA | NA | Naturally present in the environment |
| Cryptosporidium | #/100 liters | NA | NA | ND | ND | NA | NA | NA | Naturally present in the environment |
| FINISHED WATER | | | | | | | | | |
| Turbidity | NTU | NA | TT | 0.4 | 0.2 - 2.9 | NA | NA | NA | Soil runoff |
| Barium | ppb | 2000 | 2000 | 1.4 | (one sample) | NA | NA | NA | Erosion of natural deposits. |
| Bromate | ppb | 0 | 10 | ND | ND | NA | NA | ND | Naturally occurring byproduct of ozone water disinfection process |
| Chlorine | ppm | MRDLG =4 | MRDL =4 | Average = 1.03 Range = 0.61 - 1.58 | | Average = 0.80 Range = 0.54 - 1.19 | | Average = 0.94 Range = 0.65 - 1.24 | Water additive used to control microbes |
| Chromium ⁽¹⁾ | ppb | 100 | 100 | 0.2 | (one sample) | NA | NA | NA | Erosion of natural deposits |
| Fluoride | ppm | 4 | 4 | 0.8 | 0.6 - 1.0 | 1.3 | 0.3 - 1.3 | NA | Water additive, which promotes strong teeth |
| Nitrate | ppm | 10 | 10 | 0.09 | (one sample) | 2.1 | 0.3 - 2.1 | 0.92 | Erosion of natural deposits |
| Sodium ⁽²⁾ | ppm | NE | NE | 1.45 | (one sample) | 20 | 8 - 20 | NA | Erosion of natural deposits; water treatment |
| Haloacetic Acids | ppb | NA | 60 | NA | NA | Average = 2.6 Range = 0 - 8.2 | | Average = 15.1 Range = 14.1 - 16.1 | By-product of drinking water chlorination |
| Total Trihalomethanes | ppb | NA | 80 | NA | NA | Average = 8.1 Range = 2.8 - 21.2 | | Average = 31.4 Range = 21.9 - 40.9 | By-product of drinking water chlorination |
| Total Coliform | % | 0 | 5% | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND | Naturally present in the environment |

Definitions of Table Abbreviations

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

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

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.

Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU): Turbidity is a measure of how clear the water looks.

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

ppm: parts per million

ppb: parts per billion

NA: Not Applicable

ND: Not Detected

NE: Not Established

⁽¹⁾ = The value reported reflects naturally occurring total chromium and not hexavalent chromium.

⁽²⁾ = The EPA recommends 20 ppm as a level of concern for people on a sodium-restricted diet. Renton adds sodium hydroxide to prevent corrosion of plumbing. Sodium hypochlorite is added to water from the Maplewood wells for disinfection and to remove naturally occurring ammonia.

Efficient Water Use Continues

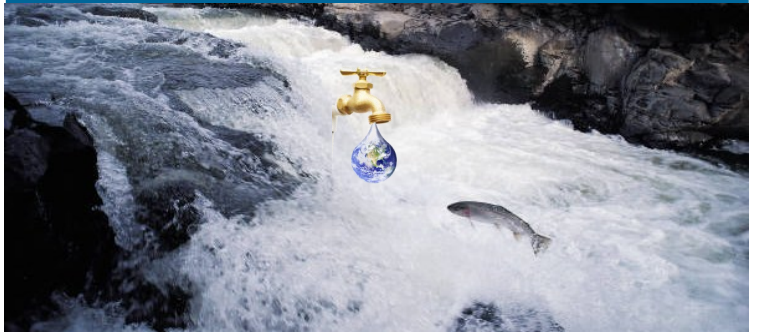
In 2003, the Washington State Legislature passed the Municipal Water Law to address the increasing demand on our state's water resources. This law required all municipal water suppliers to establish efficiency measures aimed at reducing water use and preserving precious water resources. Key elements of the law included planning requirements, distribution system leakage standards and water use efficiency (WUE) goal setting and performance rating.

In 2007, Skyway Water and Sewer District, along with Cascade Water Alliance, identified a water use efficiency goal: To save 14,000 gallons per day every year by 2013. A big round of applause is in order as District customers have already exceeded the 4-year goal. 2011's savings of 6,741 gallons per day brought our 4-year total to 29,705 gallons per day!

If you are looking for ideas how you can help conserve water, check out www.cascadewater.org and click on the Conservation tab. Conservation may be easier than you think.

In 2011, Skyway Water and Sewer District purchased or produced about 215 million gallons of water. As in years prior, the District tracked the uses of this water. In 2011, 90% of the water purchased or produced was used by customers or was used for water quality monitoring, fire fighting, main flushing, and construction purposes. About 10% of water was not sold or used due to water main breaks and other unaccounted for means. While this percentage is on the high side, it is important to note that 2010's percentage was less than 1%, bringing the two year average to 5.5%, within acceptable water loss limits for our industry. The District will be increasing its water use monitoring and leak detection efforts in 2012. We request your help in immediately reporting any observed leaks or use of fire hydrant water by anyone other than the Fire Department.

Conserve water for all to share...



This report contains important information about your drinking water. Have someone translate it for you, or speak with someone who understands it.

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

รายงานนี้มีข้อมูลสำคัญเกี่ยวกับน้ำดื่มของท่านโปรดขอให้บุคคลใด
คนบุคคลหนึ่งแปลข้อความให้ท่าน หรือปรึกษาผู้ที่เข้าใจข้อความนี้



Skyway Water & Sewer District
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The Board of Commissioners meetings are on the second and fourth Tuesdays each month at 6:00 pm at the District office, 6723 124th Street. Please contact us if you have an issue that you would like to discuss or are concerned about at info@skywayws.org or call us at 206-772-7343.