



# 2011 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

Serving our community since 1924

Skyway Water and Sewer District is pleased to present its 2011 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report. This report provides important information about the drinking water you received in 2010. 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.

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](http://www.skywayws.org)

**State Department of Health (DOH):**

Phone: 1-800-521-0323

Website: [www.doh.wa.gov/ehp/dw/](http://www.doh.wa.gov/ehp/dw/)

**Environmental Protection Agency (EPA):**

Phone: 1-800-426-4791

Website: [www.epa.gov/safewater](http://www.epa.gov/safewater)

**Cascade Water Alliance**

Phone: 425-453-0930

Website: [www.cascadewater.org](http://www.cascadewater.org)

**City of Renton (Utilities)**

Phone: 425-430-7295

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

## People with Special Concerns

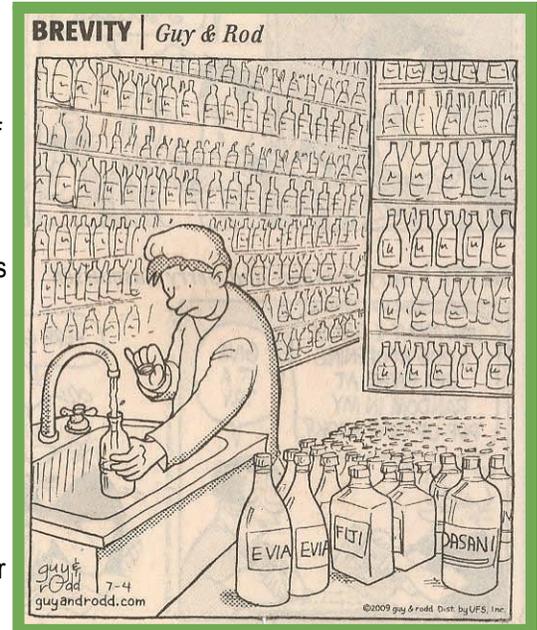
Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants 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 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.

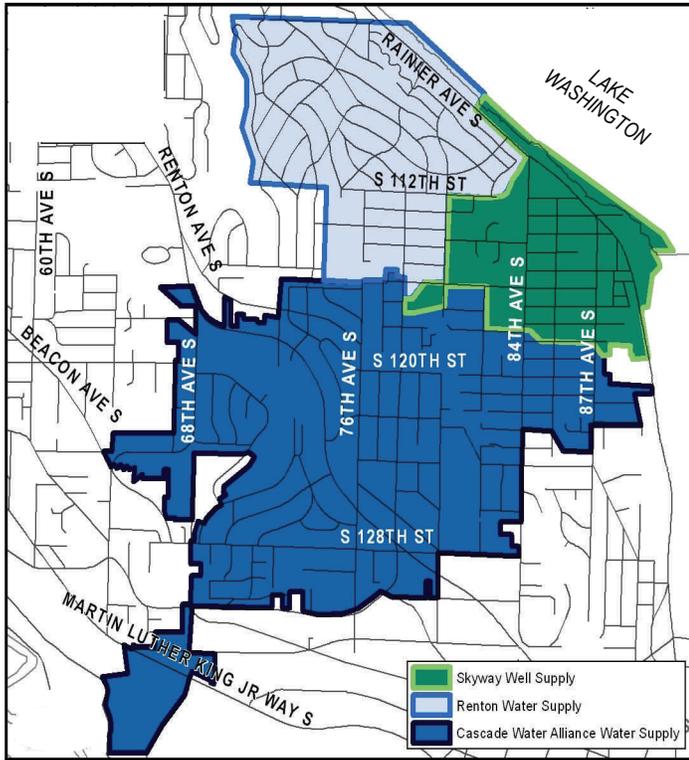


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# Water Supply

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 2010. 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 **11%** 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 **26%** 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](http://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	

# 2010 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	
<b>RAW WATER</b>									
Total Organic Carbon	ppm	NA	TT	0.9	0.4 - 1.8	NA	NA	NA	Naturally present in the environment
Cryptosporidium	#/100 liters	NA	NA	ND	ND	NA	NA	NA	Naturally present in the environment
<b>FINISHED WATER</b>									
Turbidity	NTU	NA	TT	0.4	0.2 - 4.5	NA	NA	NA	Soil runoff
Arsenic	ppb	0	10	0.5	(one sample)	NA	NA	NA	Naturally present in the environment
Barium	ppb	2000	2000	1.8	(one sample)	NA	NA	NA	Naturally present in the environment
Bromate	ppb	0	10	ND	ND	NA	NA	ND	Naturally occurring byproduct of ozone water disinfection process
Chlorine	ppm	MRDLG =4	MRDL =4	Average = 1.14 Range = 0.67 - 1.8		Average = 0.69 Range = 0.42 - 1.13		Average = 0.80 Range = 0.60 - 1.08	Naturally present in the environment
Chromium	ppb	100	100	0.8	(one sample)	NA	NA	NA	Naturally present in the environment
Fluoride	ppm	4	4	0.95	0.7 - 1.1	1.1	0.4 - 1.1	NA	Water additive, which promotes strong teeth
Nitrate	ppm	10	10	0.02	(one sample)	2.2	0.3 - 2.2	1.02	Naturally present in the environment
Sodium <sup>(1)</sup>	ppm	NE	NE	1.9	(one sample)	20	8 - 20	NA	Erosion of natural deposits; water treatment
Haloacetic Acids	ppb	NA	60	NA	NA	Average = 0.77 Range = 0 - 3.0		Average = 12.5 Range = 8.9 - 17.4	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Total Trihalomethanes	ppb	NA	80	NA	NA	Average = 9.95 Range = 4.9 - 20.7		Average = 30.0 Range = 22.3 - 37.3	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

<sup>(1)</sup> = 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.



In 2010, Skyway Water and Sewer District purchased or produced almost 200 million gallons of water. As in years prior, the District tracked the uses of this water. We're pleased to report that in 2010, 99% of water purchased or produced was used by customers or was used for water quality monitoring, fire fighting, main flushing, and construction purposes. Less than 1% of water was lost through leaks, line breaks or other unaccounted for means.

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

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 3-year goal. 2010's savings of 6,903 gallons per day brought our 3-year total to 22,964 gallons per day!

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.

## Water Use Continues to Become More Efficient

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.

รายงานนี้มีข้อมูลสำคัญเกี่ยวกับน้ำดื่มของท่านโปรดขอให้บุคคลในบุคคลหนึ่งแปลข้อความให้ท่าน หรือปรึกษาผู้ที่เข้าใจข้อความนี้



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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](mailto:info@skywayws.org) or call us at 206-772-7343.