Water Quality Report 2022

2022 Water Quality Report

The City of Ridgefield is pleased to present a summary of the quality of water provided to you during 2022. This report contains information about your drinking water as required by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Ridgefield is proud to inform you that our water quality continues to exceed state and federal standards. We are committed to efficiently provide you with a safe and reliable water supply. This report, also called the "Consumer Confidence Report", is produced under regulations established by the Washington State Department of Health. Please contact the Public Works Department at (360) 887-8251 if you have any questions about the information contained in this Water Quality Report.

How Our Drinking Water is Provided

The City of Ridgefield water distribution system consists of approximately 62 miles of distribution lines, one 600,000 gallon reservoir, one 400,000 gallon reservoir, and a 1.0 million gallon reservoir. The City's water system also includes treatment facilities to chlorinate the water, and a filter plant for removal of minerals. A key to maintaining good water quality is effectively managing the water distribution system. It is important for water to remain fresh and retain sufficient chlorine for disinfection. The City strives to keep dead end mains flushed and has a cross-connection control program designed to keep potential contaminants originating in homes and businesses from entering the potable water system.

Ridgefield Water Source

GROUND WELLS: The City of Ridgefield (Public Water System 72400V) has five wells commonly identified as Well Nos. 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, located at Abrams Park & a sixth well located on S 56th Pl, known as the Junction Well. Department of Health Source Numbers are S07, S11, S12, S16, S17.

CLARK PUBLIC UTILITIES: In addition, we purchase water from Clark Public Utilities as a back-up to the City's own water sources. For a copy of their Water Quality Report go to: ***https://www.clarkpublicutilities.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/04/Water-report-for-web-2023.pdf***

TROUTDALE AQUIFER: The groundwater wells pump water from the Troutdale aquifer located at depths between approximately 130 and 170 feet below ground surface. These wells can produce over 2 million gallons of water per day.

WATER TREATMENT: The City voluntarily chlorinates its water supply with 4% sodium hypochlorite solution to effectively kill any pathogenic bacteria. The City does not fluoridate your water.

MODERATELY HARD WATER: The City has moderately hard water (determined by mineral level content) rated at an average of 100 parts per million when last tested. In addition, City water typically contains 55 parts per million silica. While hard water is not a health hazard, it can result in spots or deposits left from tap water that has dried on glass or chrome. A water softener may be added to soften your water; however, a water softener will not remove the silica. Glass and chrome surfaces should be wiped dry to avoid spotting or deposits.

A Message about Water Quality

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 EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791), or https://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water

IMPORTANCE OF WATER CONSERVATION

Using Water Wisely

Water Conservation is something everyone can participate in to help ensure adequate water supply is maintained. The average family uses 200 gallons of water a day. However, peak use can exceed 500 gallons a day due to irrigation use. Every household could do their part by using water more wisely, especially during summer months. The City has implemented a public education outreach program for our citizens to let them know the importance of water conservation. **We request that you water your lawn on odd/even days of the month based on the last digit of your address (odd/even) to reduce daily demands.**

Water Use Efficiency Goal

The City continues to promote water conservation through its tiered rate structures and encourages smart irrigation usage. Ridgefield is in the process of updating our Water System Plan (WSP), which is expected to be completed by the end of 2023. The new WSP will be a collaborative effort with the community, and will update our water efficiency goals as well as steps to capture efficiencies. To view our latest report click here: https://ridgefieldwa.us/government/water-service/

Current Utility Rate Structure

City council recently changed the water utility rate structure to reflect the priority of water conservation. For information on new rates, contact customer service at 360.887.3557 or click on this link: https://ridgefieldwa.us/DocumentCenter/View/996/Water-Rates-Effective-July-1-2023-PDF

Check your Water Consumption

On your water bill paper statement, you can see current and prior year water usage. For information on how to understand your bill graphic, please contact customer service at 360.887.3557 or click here: https://ridgefieldwa.us/DocumentCenter/View/997/Understanding-Your-Bill-PDF

Conservation Tips

Here are some ways you can help us maintain our water use efficiency goals by saving even more water around your house:

- If possible, wait until the dishwasher is full before running a load
- Wash full loads of laundry
- Fix leaky faucets immediately
- Take shorter showers, reduce bath water
- Check toilets for leaks
- Irrigate lawns early before 6am or late after 8pm
- Sweep walkways and driveways
- Install water-efficient toilets, faucets, and showerheads
- Use a hose with a shut-off nozzle
- Contact the city immediately if you suspect a water leak on any public street (360) 887-8251 or after hours (360) 518-8146

In addition, our staff can provide information on:

- The City's Cross Connection Control Program
- Backflow prevention devices
- Detecting and identifying leaks in your water system
- Water conservation rates
- Tips in addressing high or low water pressure problems
- Other water conservation measures

The City of Ridgefield's Public Works Department provides you with excellent and efficient water service. The Public Works Director can be contacted by telephone at (360) 887-8251 and has office hours from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on weekdays. **For after hours emergencies, you can call our emergency pager number at (360) 518-8146.**

Test Results Summary

This table shows the results of our Department of Health required water quality analysis for 2017 through 2022. The state requires us to monitor for certain substances less than once per year because the concentrations of these substances do not change frequently. In these cases, the most recent sample data are included, along with the year in which the sample was taken. The table contains the name of each substance, the highest level allowed by regulation (MCL), the ideal goals for public health (MCLG), the amount detected and the usual sources of contamination. **Note: Values may include negative numbers because the reading is relatively less than a base sample.** We regularly take water samples in order to determine the presence of any radioactive, biological, inorganic, volatile organic or synthetic organic contaminants, including pesticides and herbicides and had no detection for the (number of analytes) tested. Based on all tests, Ridgefield's water is safe.

REGULATED IN THE DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM

Substance (unit)	Ideal Goal (MCLG)	Maximum Level Allowed (MCL)	Range of Level (Low-High) Detected	SRL	Sample Year	Violations	Typical Sources of Contaminant
Total Trihalomethanes (ug/L)	NA	80	ND - 6.31	NA	2022	NO	By-product of disinfection
Haloacetic Acids (ug/L)	NA	60	ND - 3.4	NA	2021	NO	By-product of disinfection
Substance (Unit)	**Ideal Goal (MRDLG)**	**Highest Level Allowed (MRDL)**	**Range of Level (Low-High) Detected**	**SRL**	**Sample Year**	**Violations**	**Typical Sources of Contaminant**
Chlorine (ppm)	4	4	0.21 - 0.81	NA	2022	NO	Additive for disinfectant residual

PRIMARY REGULATED AT THE WELL

Substance (unit)	Ideal Goal (MCLG)	Maximum Level Allowed (MCL)	Range of Level (Low-High) Detected	SRL	Sample Year	Violations	Typical Sources of Contaminant
Arsenic (ppb)	NA	10	1.7 - 1.7	1	2022	NO	Naturally occurring mineral
Chromium (ppb)	100	100	20 - 20	7	2021	NO	Discharge from steel & pulp mill; erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm)	NA	4	0.2 - 0.2	0.2	2017	NO	Erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate-N (ppm)	10	10	0.53- 0.69	0.5	2022	NO	Runoff from fertilizer use

SECONDARY REGULATED AT THE WELL

Substance (unit)	Ideal Goal (MCLG)	Maximum Level Allowed (MCL)	Range of Level (Low-High) Detected	SRL	Sample Year	Violations	Typical Sources of Contaminant
Iron (ppb)	NA	300	ND - 230	100	2021	NO	Leaching from natural deposits; industrial waste
Manganese (ppb)	NA	50	ND - 14	10	2021	NO	Leaching from natural deposits
Chloride (ppm)	NA	250	3.2 - 6.1	20	2022	NO	Erosion of natural deposits
Conductivity (umhos/cm)	NA	700	220 - 240	70	2022	NO	Erosion of natural deposits
Sulfate (ppm)	NA	250	2.2 - 3.5	50	2022	NO	Erosion of natural deposits

ADDITIONAL SUBSTANCES OF CUSTOMER INTEREST

Substance (unit)	Ideal Goal (MCLG)	Maximum Level Allowed MCL)	Range of Level (Low-High) Detected	SRL	Sample Year	Violations	Typical Sources of Contaminant
Calcium (ppm)	NA	NA	20 - 24	0.05	2022	NO	Naturally Occurring
Sodium (ppm)	NA	NA	8.5 - 10	5	2022	NO	Erosion of natural deposits
Hardness (ppm)	NA	NA	86 - 110	10	2022	NO	Erosion of natural deposits
Turbidity (NTU)	NA	NA	0.13 - 0.16	0.1	2022	NO	Erosion of natural deposits

LEAD AND COPPER *(Tap water samples were collected for lead and copper analyses from sample sights throughout the city.)*

Substance (unit)	MCLG	AL	Your Water (90th % Tie)	Sample Year	# of Samples Exceeding the AL	Violations	Typical Sources of Contaminant
Lead (ppm)	0	0.015	0.0028	2020	Zero out of 30 samples	NO	By-product of disinfection
Copper (ppm)	0	1.3	0.92	2020	Zero out of 30 samples	NO	By-product of disinfection

The City is required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis, including lead and copper. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not your drinking water meets health standards. In 2020, samples collected from our customers' taps showed that levels of lead and copper are both well below the EPA's action level.

See next page for definitions

Glossary EPA Water Quality Definitions

"I take my job seriously because water is life."

Meet Julie,
our water quality technician,
collecting water from a water sample station.

ppb: parts per billion. Equivalent to microgram per liter (ug/L) unit of measure. One part per billion is comparable to one penny out of $10,000,000.

ppm: parts per million. Equivalent to millagrams per liter (mg/L) unit of measure. One part per million is comparable to one penny out of $10,000,000.

Umhos/cm: Micro Sieman per centimeter. A measure of electrical conductance.

AL: Action Level. The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers additional treatment by the public system.

Color: Color Units. A unit used to measure color.

NA: None Applicable.

ND: Non Detect. Indicates that the substance was not found by laboratory analysis.

NTU: Nephelometric Turbidity Units. A measure of water clarity.

MCL: Maximum Contaminant Level. 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 technology.

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

MRDL: Maximum Residual Disinfectant level. The highest level of disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of disinfectant is necessary for microbial contaminants.

MRDLG: Maximum Residual Disinfectant Goal. The level of 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.

SRL: State Reporting Level

ug/L: Mcrograms per Liter

Water Sources and Contaminants

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled 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, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

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, and farming; **Pesticides and herbicides,** which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses; **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; and **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, the Department of Health (DOH) and the Environmental Protection Agency (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. The Department of Health (DOH) has compiled a source water assessment program (SWAP) data for all community water systems in Washington. Please contact the Public Works Director at 360-887-8251 if you would like additional information in this regard.

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. The City of Ridgefield is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in the plumbing components in your home. 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 (1-800-426-4791) or https://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water

Special Information: 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 or website as listed above.

Bacteriological Testing - The City collected on average a minimum of 15 samples per month in 2021 in different areas to test for coliform bacteria. No sample collected during 2021 showed any indication of bacteriological growth. The City also collects samples from new construction sites, new exploratory sample points, or when there is any question pertaining to water quality.

City of Ridgefield Public Works Operations, Engineering and Administrative Staff

The Public Works Department oversees the design, construction, operation, and maintenance of all City-owned public infrastructure. This includes: Streets, sidewalks, water utility, stormwater system, parks, trails, open space and city cemetery.

City of Ridgefield Public Works Operations, Engineering and Administrative Staff:

Jason Van Dyke, Chuck Green, Don Webberley, Zach Rader, Frank Schmidt, Grant Williams, Ryan Thamert, Harrison Hanna, Mike Venne, Kelly Melroy, Kyle Johnson, Steve Theisen, Nick Johnson, Scott Brunson, Austen Jefferies, Derek Smith, Josh Johnson, Laura Loucks, Galina Burley, Kim Zurcher, Holly Naramore, James Barhitte, Johnathan Embry, Julie Swarts, Joshua Nathan, Paul Connell, Lisa Blake.

Contact Us!

Public Works Department
487 S 56th Place
Ridgefield, WA 98642
www.ridgefieldwa.us
city.mail@ridgefieldwa.us

Hours - (weekdays) 7:00 a.m.– 4:30 p.m.
Closed 12:00 p.m.—1:00 p.m.

General (360) 887-8251
After Hours Emergency (360) 518-8146

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