Water Quality Report 2023

CITY OF RIDGEFIELD WASHINGTON

Ridgefield Drinking Water Quality is Excellent

The City of Ridgefield is pleased to present its annual Water Quality Report. This report contains information about your drinking water as required by the Environmental Protection Agency and is a summary of the test results for water provided to over 15,180 customers in 2023. 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.

64 MILES of distribution lines

6 WELLS pumping groundwater

2 MILLION gallons of storage capacity

All of Ridgefield's drinking water comes from six wells that pump from an underground aquifer. Fresh water is treated and then distributed through a closed, protected and monitored system. The City of Ridgefield's water distribution system is made up of 64 miles of distribution lines and three reservoirs - a 600,000 gallon reservoir, a 400,000 gallon reservoir, and a 1 million gallon reservoir. Treatment facilities include a filter plant for mineral removal and a safe level of chlorination for disinfection.

Effective management of the water distribution system is vital to maintaining high water quality. In addition to regular monitoring of the treatment and distribution of fresh water, the city has a cross-connection control program and regularly flushes dead end water mains to protect against potential contaminants from homes and businesses from entering the potable water system.

Rates paid by water customers support around-the-clock operations and maintenances, as well as ongoing improvements to infrastructure and to the security of our water system.

City of Ridgefield is required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring indicate whether your drinking water meets state and federal requirements. To announce the availability of this electronic report, a message will be included in June's water utility statement to all customers within our service area. Please take time to read about your water.

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, and 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, the city purchases water from Clark Public Utilities as a back-up to our own water sources. Visit their website for a copy of their Water Quality Report: https://www.clarkpublicutilities.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/05/water-report-web-final.pdf

TROUTDALE AQUIFER: Groundwater wells pump 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.

Aquifers

The City of Ridgefield gets all of the water supplied throughout our service area from wells tapping the Troutdale aquifer.

An aquifer is an underground layer of unconsolidated rock or sand that is saturated with usable amounts of water. Aquifers, which store and carry water, form significant natural water supplies. Recharge areas are important to a healthy aquifer. In a recharge area, water is able to seep into the earth and down to the aquifer, helping recharge these vital natural resources.

Importance of Water Conservation

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
2023 Water Consumption

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 finalized and adopted by the fall of 2024. The new WSP will is a collaborative effort with the community, and updates our water efficiency goals as well as steps to capture efficiencies. View our latest report online: https://ridgefieldwa.us/255/water-service

Utility Rate Structure & Your Water Consumption

City council adopted a tiered water utility rate structure in June, 2023 to encourage water conservation. Users that keep water consumption under 3500 cubic feet per two-month cycle will save on their water bills, while those using higher amounts will pay more.

You can check your Water Consumption on your paper statement, or through Online Account Management. On a paper statement, current and prior year usage are shown on a graph on the left-hand side, midway down the bill. The dark black column identifies usage for the previous year, the grey the current year. Online, login and navigate to Usage from the menu. Select the years you would like to view.

Conservation Tips

Wise water use is always recommended, and your conservation efforts are important. Use water wisely to save money and this remarkable resource.

- Install water efficient toilets, faucets, showerheads, and appliances.
- Repair leaky toilets and faucets immediately.
- Use water-saving habits such as washing full loads only, turn off the faucet when you shave or brush your teeth, and take shorter showers.
- Irrigate landscapes early (before 6am) or later (after 8pm) and repair any leaks within your irrigation system as quickly as possible.
- Sweep walkways and driveways instead of using a water hose.
- Prioritize native plants for wildlife and pollinator habitat. Native plants are adapted to the local environment and require less water to establish and maintain.

Test Results Summary

The tables below show the results of our Department of Health required water quality analysis for 2017 through 2023. 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 tables contain 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 - 0.57	NA	2023	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)	Maximum Level Allowed (MRDL)	Range of Level (Low-High) Detected	SRL	Sample Year	Violations	Typical Sources of Contaminant
Chlorine (ppm)	4	4	0.26 - 0.94	NA	2023	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
Gross Alpha (pCil)	NA	15	ND - 0.942	3	2023	NO	Naturally occurring substance
Radium 228 (pCil)	NA	50	0.486 - 0.486	1	2023	NO	Naturally occuring substance
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 (um hos/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	20	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 sites 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	0.0018	2023	Zero of 30	NO	By-product of disinfection
Copper (ppm)	0	1.3	0.78	2023	Zero of 30	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 2023, samples collected from our customers' taps showed that levels of lead and copper are both well below the EPA's action level.

Water Sources and Contaminants

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

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).

Throughout the country, sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs and wells. The City of Ridgefield relies 100% on groundwater. As water travels through aquifers, it dissolves naturally-occurring minerals and can pick up inorganic contaminants, which are naturally occurring, and organic contaminants, such as byproducts of industrial processes. To ensure safe tap water, EPA and Washington Board of Health regulate certain contaminants in public drinking water. All results, shown in this report, meet or are better than required by EPA and Washington State Department of Health.

Bacteriological Testing - The city collected on average a minimum of 20 samples per month in 2023 in different areas to test for coliform bacteria. No sample collected during 2023 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.

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

Find and Fix Leaks Fast

Water is a precious resource. Yet, too often leaks go unchecked, resulting in lost water and higher bills. Here's how to find leaks: Start with your water meter. Make sure no water is being used in or outside your home. Then check the meter's flow indicator, typically shown as a star, triangle or sweeping hand. If the flow indicator is spinning, you likely have a leak.

Outside, look for unusual vegetation growth or moist areas in the lawn or landscaping. Inside, check toilets for leaks by putting a few drops of food color or a dye tablet into the upper water tanks. Wait 30 minutes and do not use or flush. If color appears in the bowl, there is a leak.

If needed, contact a licensed plumber for help with fixing leaks in your home plumbing.

Annual Checkup Required: Backflow and Cross Connection

Backflow is the plumbing term for an unwanted flow of water in the reverse direction. To prevent contamination, a backflow prevention device is required where cross-connections between the public water system and a source containing non-potable water. A backflow prevention device provides a physical barrier to backflow to protect the city's water supply. Common cross connections include irrigation systems, hot tubs, swimming pools or fountains.

The City of Ridgefield's Cross Connection Control Program requires any customer who has a backflow prevention device to test their backflow assemblies annually by a certified backflow assembly tester. As a courtesy, our Public Works Department sends reminder letters when it is time to have your backflow assembly tested.

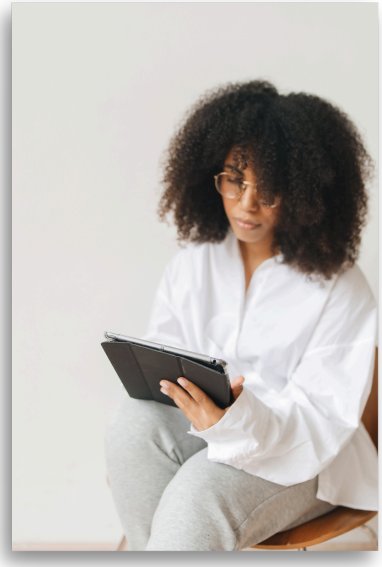
You can find a current list of City Approved and Certified Backflow Testers on our website.

Managing Your Utility Account

You can find everything you need to manage your utility account on our website, RidgefieldWa.us.

- Register for Online Account Management to view and pay your bill, sign up for Auto-Pay and paperless statements.
- Explore Alternative Rate Options such as Low Income Discount Rate and Conservation Rate
- Enroll in Budget Billing to keep utility costs level throughout the year.
- Find tips for identifying water leaks and Leak Adjustment Request.

If you have any questions or need assistance, email utilities@ridgefieldwa.us or call 360-887-3557, option 3.



Terms and Definitions in This Report

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.

EPA: United States Environmental Protection Agency, which enforces the Safe Drinking Water Act

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.

NA: Not Applicable.

ND: Not detected. Indicates that the substance was not found by laboratory analysis.

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

pCil: Picocuries per liter, measure of radioactivity.

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.

SRL: State Reporting Level

ug/L: Mcrograms per Liter

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

WSDOH: Washington State Department of Health, which enforces the Safe Drinking Water Act within the State of Washington.

CONTACT US

Public Works Department
487 S 56th Place
Ridgefield, WA 98642
Weekdays, 7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

General (360) 887-8251
After Hours Emergency (360) 518-8146
city.mail@ridgefieldwa.us
www.RidgefieldWa.us

Utilities Customer Service
510 Pioneer Street, Suite B
(360) 887-3557, option 3
utilities@ridgefieldwa.us

City of Ridgefield Public Works Operations, Engineering and Administrative Staff: Nick Johnson, Ryan Thamert, Steve Theisen, Zack Rader, Grant Williams, Kelly Melroy, Jason Van Dyke, Steven Delgado, Austen Jefferies, Henry Ward, Ryan Smith, Don Webberly, Mike Venne, Derek Smith, Steve Sampson, Laura Loucks, Emily Giles, Corey Crownhart, Kyle Johnson, Julie Swarts, Joshua Nathan, Johnathan Embry, Kim Zurcher, Lisa Marmo, Carlos Urbina, Paul Connell. Not present: Chuck Green, Lisa Blake