



Water Quality Report for 2020

2020 Consumer Confidence Report

The City of Ridgefield is pleased to present a summary of the quality of water provided to you during 2020. 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. Please contact the Public Works Department at (360) 887-8251 if you have any questions about the information in this Consumer Confidence Report.

Ridgefield Water Source

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. 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/2021/03/Water-Quality-Report-2020.pdf> 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. 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. 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.

Public Works Department



City of Ridgefield Public Works Operations Staff:

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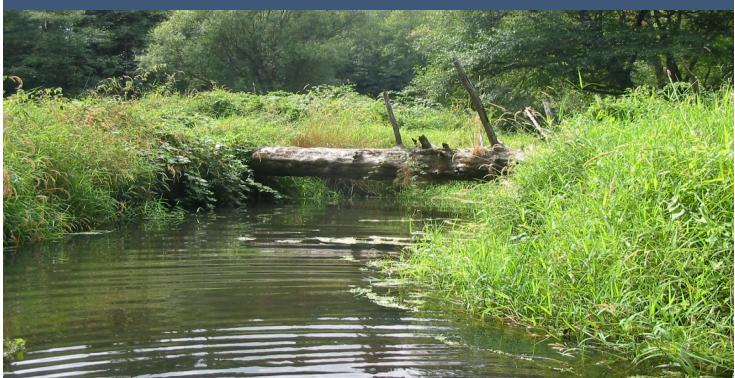
How Our Drinking Water is Provided

The City of Ridgefield water distribution system consists of approximately 58 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.

The public is encouraged to participate in community decisions affecting water quality. City Council meetings are held at 6:30 p.m. on the second and fourth Thursday of each month in the Columbia Assembly/Board Room at the Ridgefield Administrative Civic Center, located at 510 Pioneer St., Ridgefield WA 98642.

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>



People should consider **all stream water and other surface water to be NOT safe for drinking** unless it's first properly treated. Children are most likely to drink from surface water and need to be made aware of this health risk by their parent(s) or guardian(s).

WATER CONSERVATION

Ridgefield is Growing

Continued growth in our area means that our water resources will need to be stretched further to serve new residents, businesses and industries they bring with them. The City must utilize its resources effectively to maintain a reliable water supply to benefit current and future residents and businesses. 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 requests 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 is a very important and non-sustainable resource; the City is asking for your help in reducing your average water consumption and meeting our community goals!



Water Use Efficiency Goal

In 2020, water consumption was 216 gallons per day per ERU compared to 217 gallons per day per ERU in 2019. We are working towards our goal of 191 gallons per ERU by 2022 and maintaining a distribution system leakage and loss below 10-percent. The City continues to promote conservation rate structures and encourages conservation and smart irrigation usage. To view WUE Reports, go to: <https://ridgefieldwa.us/government/water-service/>



The City has implemented a public education outreach program for our citizens to let them know the importance of water conservation. Please visit City Hall or the City's web site <https://ridgefieldwa.us/government/water-service/water-conservation/> to obtain a copy of the current Water Conservation Brochure for additional tips and resources to conserve water and potentially reduce your water bills! Everyone can do their part to help conserve one of our most precious resources!

Conservation Tips

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

- ◆ Run your dishwasher when it is full
- ◆ Wash full loads of laundry
- ◆ Fix leaky faucets immediately
- ◆ Take shorter showers, reduce bath water
- ◆ Check toilets for leaks
- ◆ Irrigate lawns early am or evenings
- ◆ Sweep walkways and driveways
- ◆ Install water-efficient toilets, faucets, and showerheads
- ◆ Use a hose with a shut-off nozzle

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 2020. 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. Based on all tests, Ridgefield's water is safe.

| CONTAMINANTS | EPA's Standards | | Lowest Level Detected | Highest Level Detected | Sample Date | VIOLATIONS | Typical Sources |
|--|-----------------|-------|-----------------------|------------------------|-------------|------------|--|
| | MCLG | MCL | | | | | |
| Trihalomethanes (ug/L) | N/A | 80 | 2.58 | 2.58 | 2017 | No | By-product of drinking water disinfection |
| Haloacetic Acids (ug/L) | N/A | 60 | 21 | 21 | 2019 | No | Typically found in natural environment |
| Inorganic Chemicals - EPA Regulated | | | | | | | |
| Arsenic (ppb) | N/A | 10 | 1.8 | 1.8 | 2019 | No | Discharge from petroleum, refineries, ceramics, solder |
| Chromium (ppb) | 100 | 100 | 20 | 20 | 2017 | No | Discharge from steel and pulp mills; erosion of natural deposits |
| Fluoride (ppm) | 4 | 4 | 0.20 | 0.20 | 2017 | No | Erosion of natural deposits |
| Inorganic Chemicals - Regulated Secondary | | | | | | | |
| Chloride (ppm) | N/A | 250 | 20 | 20 | 2017 | No | Erosion of natural deposits |
| Sulfate (ppm) | N/A | N/A | 50 | 50 | 2017 | No | Erosion of natural deposits |
| Sodium (ppm) | N/A | N/A | 10 | 11 | 2017 | No | Erosion of natural deposits |
| Hardness (ppm) | N/A | N/A | 81 | 83 | 2017 | No | Erosion of natural deposits |
| Conductivity (umhos/cm) | N/A | 700 | 210 | 210 | 2017 | No | Erosion of natural deposits |
| Turbidity (NTU) | N/A | N/A | 0.10 | 0.14 | 2017 | No | Erosion of natural deposits |
| <i>Disinfectant (an additive)</i> | MRDL | MRDLG | Running Average | Range | Sample Date | Violations | Typical Source |
| Free Chlorine Residual | 4 | 4 | 0.5 | 0.2 – 0.9 | 2020 | No | Water additive to control microbes |

Lead and Copper Testing

| CONTAMINANTS | MCLG | AL | Your Water (90th% Tile) | SAMPLE DATE | # of Samples Exceeding the AL | Violations | Typical Sources |
|--------------|------|-------|-------------------------|-------------|-------------------------------|------------|--|
| Lead (ppm) | 0 | 0.015 | 0.0028 | 2020 | Zero out of 30 samples | No | Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits |
| Copper (ppm) | 0 | 1.3 | 0.92 | 2020 | Zero out of 30 samples | No | Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits |

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.

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|--|---|
| Definitions | ppb: parts per billion, ppm: parts per million |
| AL: action level | |
| Umhos/cm: micro Siemen per centimeter | |
| MCLG: maximum containment level goal | |
| MCL: maximum containment level, | |
| Color: color units, | |
| NTUs: nephelometric turbidity units | |
| ND: non detect | |
| MRDL: maximum residential disinfectant level, | |
| MRDLG: maximum residential disinfectant level goal | |
| For complete definitions, see page 5 | |

The table above shows only those contaminants that were detected in the water. 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. For questions, please contact the Public Works Director, Bryan Kast at (360) 887-8251.

Glossary EPA Water Quality Definitions

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 milligrams 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.

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.

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.

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

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

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

N/A: None Applicable.

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.

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 2020 in different areas to test for coliform bacteria. No sample collected during 2020 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.