

WHITWORTH WATER DISTRICT - CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT - 2024

Providing our customers with a cost effective supply of safe and dependable water for generations to come



WHITWORTH
WATER DISTRICT

17401 N. Newport Road
Mead, WA 99021
www.whitworthwater.com
Public Water System Number: 96601Y

Tim Murrell - General Manager
509-466-0550
Email: Tim@whitworthwater.com

Bob Wirtz - Water Quality Specialist
509-466-7511
Email: Bob@whitworthwater.com

Board of Commissioner's Meetings
are held the first and third Thursday
of each month

What is a Consumer Confidence Report?

The Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) is an annual water quality report required to be provided to the customers of public water systems. The primary purpose of the CCR is to summarize water quality data that Whitworth Water District (District) collects and reports on over the past 12 months. It also includes information on water quality compliance, source water supply and efficiency, and educational resources.

The CCR provides customers with information on where their water comes from and what is required to deliver potable water to the Districts homes and businesses. The CCR also informs customers of what contaminants, if any, are in their drinking water and to what level they were observed. Further details provide federal guidelines on limits and if there were any violations in the past calendar year. Reporting this information allows the customer to make informed decisions about their drinking water.

Whitworth Water District is proud to provide customers with a cost effective supply of safe and dependable water for generations to come. The reporting period for this report is from January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024.

HISTORIC WATER DEMANDS AND DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM LEAKAGE FOR 2022-2024



Distribution System Leakage

Whitworth Water is required to calculate its distribution system leakage (DSL) annually based on a Washington State Department of Health directive. Their water use efficiency directive establishes a 10% or less distribution system loss based on a 3-year rolling average.

The Districts average for the last three years is 7.43%, which puts us below the requisite 10% for the twentieth year in a row.

The graph to the left shows the historic water demands of gallons consumed and the DSL for the last 3 years.

WATER USE EFFICIENCY

Since 1998, water purveyors in Washington have been mandated to reduce the water use of their customers, with the current District goal set at an average of 3,752 cubic feet per household per month. Only our customers can assist us in achieving these goals, which is why Whitworth Water encourages customers to implement effective water conservation strategies, both inside the house and out.

The District has met its water use efficiency goals in 21 of the past 25 years. We look forward to meeting our goal of 3,752 cubic feet per household this year with the continued effort from our customers to help us promote our conservation efforts.

For more information regarding ways to save water, visit our website regularly at <https://whitworthwater.com/conservation/>, follow us on Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, or search "water conservation tips" in your web browser.

2024 STATISTICS

New meters installed	50
Hydrants Repaired/Replaced	60
Meters Repaired/Replaced	866
Service Location Requests	2,286
Water pumped (in gallons)	3,770,562,000
Unaccounted Water (DSL)	8.04%

GENERAL STATISTICS—Update below

Number of Services	10,825
Booster Stations	15
Total District Wells	14
Reservoirs (15,945,000 gal)	12
Mains installed (Total)	299.16 miles

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SOURCE TYPE: 14 Wells, Spokane Valley Rathdrum Prairie Aquifer, Little Spokane River Aquifer
WATER HARDNESS: 200 ppm Average
MCL = Maximum Contaminant Level - The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water.
MCLG = Maximum Contaminant Level Goal - The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLG's allow for a margin of safety.
TT = Treatment Technique - A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.



IOC = Inorganic Chemicals **mg/L =** Milligrams per liter = 1 ppm (parts per million) **pCi/L =** Picouries per liter
VOC = Volatile Organic Chemicals **ug/L =** Micrograms per liter = 1 ppb (parts per billion) **ND =** Not detected above quantifiable limits
< = Less than **AL =** Action Level

District Source Water Testing

Contaminant	2024 District Highest Amount Detected	EPA Most Stringent Standard (MCL)	MCLG	Complies With Standard	Possible Source
Nitrate - IOC	2.80 mg/L	10 mg/L	10	Yes	Runoff from fertilizer use; septic tank leaching sewage; erosion of natural deposits.
Arsenic -IOC	3.3 ug/L	10 ug/L	0	Yes	Erosion of natural deposits, runoff from orchards, glass and electronic production wastes.
Radium 228	.194 pCi/L	5 pCi/L	0	Yes	Erosion of natural deposits
Gross Alpha	1.23 pCi/L	15 pCi/L	0	Yes	Erosion of natural deposits
VOC	.63 ug/L	5 ug/L	0	Yes	Dry cleaning solvent and metal degreaser

District Distribution System Testing

Contaminant	District Units	District MCLG	District MCL	District 90 th Percentile	District High	# of Sites Exceeding AL	Possible Source
Lead (Tested 30 at risk homes in 2024) Next Testing 2027	ug/L	0	AL=15	1.5	1.01	0	Lead based products used in service lines and home plumbing during World War II through 1988.
Contaminant	District Units	District MCLG	District MCL	District 90 th Percentile	District High	# of Sites Exceeding AL	Possible Source
Copper (Tested 30 at risk homes in 2024) Next Testing 2027	mg/L	0	AL=1.3	0	0.0388	0	Copper based products used in service lines and home plumbing.

The above information is provided to notify you of the results of our water quality monitoring in 2024. Where a level was detected, the compound was well below federal regulations established by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Drinking 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 health effects can be obtained by visiting their website at www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water.

Water Samples - 2024

<u>Types of Samples</u>	<u>No. Taken</u>	<u>Cost</u>
Bacteriological	500	\$ 20,000
Volatile Organic	5	\$ 1,500
Nitrates	14	\$ 630
IOC	1	\$ 530
PFAS	6	\$ 3,450
UCMR5	8	\$ 5,920



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Compounds that may be present in water include the following:

- Organic** Synthetic and volatile compounds that are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production. These can also come from gas station and urban storm runoff, and septic systems.
- Inorganic** Salts and metals that are either naturally occurring or result from urban storm runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharge, oil and gas production, mining, and farming.
- Pesticides/ Herbicides** From agricultural and storm water runoff and domestic uses.
- Biological** Viruses and bacteria occurring from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, feedlots and backflow in a public system.
- Radioactive** Naturally occurring; also result of gas and oil production and mining activities.

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).

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised people 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. Elevated drinking water lead levels can cause serious health risks for pregnant women and young children. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA and CDC guidelines for appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by cryptosporidium and other microbiological contaminants are available by visiting the Safe Drinking Water website at www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water. You may also contact our Water Quality Specialist at (509) 466-7511 for more information on Whitworth Water District’s water.

To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the Washington State Department of Health and EPA prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Washington Department of Agriculture regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that must provide the same protection for public health.

EPA Lead Statement:

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause 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. Whitworth Water 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 or at <https://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

PFAS - Everyone is talking about it! Many of our customers are hearing about “forever” chemicals, also known as PFAS. These chemicals come from products which are used to repel water, resist stains, grease and even smother fires such as perfluorooctanesulfonic acid (PFOS) and perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA). These products can be found in well-known items such as fire-fighting foam, carpet, clothing, packaging and cookware. Recent studies are indicating exposure to PFOS and PFOA may result in adverse health effects in people.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Act (EPA) started regulating PFOS/PFOA in 2024. In 2022, Washington State has become the first State in the nation to create action levels for PFOS/PFOA. Whitworth Water District (District) starting testing for these substances in 2023.

In 2024, the District had detections of these chemicals at two wells, which was below the state’s action level for 2024. The District is implementing updated testing and monitoring procedures for PFOS and PFOA contaminants. We continue to prioritize the safety of our water with our continued effort to work with State agencies in providing timely and accurate information to our customers. More information is available to our customers at the state [Department of Health’s PFAS in Drinking Water Dashboard](#), or by calling the District Office at (509) 466-0550.

2024 PFOS & PFOA TESTING RESULTS			
Compound	Well 8A1 <small>(1014 E Parkhill)</small>	Well 8A2 <small>(1014 E Parkhill)</small>	State Action Level
PFOA	3.34 pp/trillion	5.68 pp/trillion	10 pp/trillion
PFOS	3.26 pp/trillion	5.05 pp/trillion	15 pp/trillion

