

This information presents the 2019 Annual Water Quality Report. The City of Bainbridge Island is pleased to advise you that your water system is in compliance with all state and federal water quality regulations. In this annual report, you will find important information about your water system as well as the results of all testing that has been completed from January 1 through December 31, 2019.

If you have any questions or would like additional information, please call the Public Works Operations and Maintenance Division at 206-842-1212. We welcome your questions and encourage community involvement. Community involvement is important to protecting our water resources. Information on City meetings is available on the City's website. The City's website address is www.bainbridgewa.gov.

Source of your Drinking Water

Last year the City of Bainbridge Island Rockaway Beach Water System produced 7,156,000 gallons of water to supply 70 customers along Rockaway Beach Drive. The water supply is provided by a deep well that taps an aquifer over 500 feet below the ground surface. At the well site, the water passes through a filtration system to remove trace amounts of iron and manganese. Next, the water is treated with small amounts of chlorine and fluoride. Chlorine provides a disinfectant residual to maintain a barrier against potentially harmful microorganisms. Fluoride is added to promote dental health. Because of the favorable geologic formation tapped by the well, the state has determined the well has a moderate susceptibility to contamination. A wellhead protection plan and an active cross-connection control program help protect the water system from contamination.

Sources of Contaminants

Sources of drinking water (both tap and bottled) include springs, rivers, lakes, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animal or human activity.

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

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 Bainbridge Island 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 www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

Special Precautions

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Individuals who are immune-compromised, those undergoing chemotherapy, organ transplant patients, 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 healthcare providers. United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)/Centers 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 Water Drinking Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

Water Use Efficiency

The City encourages water use efficiency in several ways including meter testing, customer leak checks, and an inclined block rate structure. Water Use Efficiency goals were adopted during a public forum on December 15, 2015. The goals are: 1) To reduce the water system's Equivalent Residential Unit (ERU) value by one percent annually, and 2) To maintain Distribution System Leakage (DSL) levels under 7.8 percent as calculated on a 3-year rolling average.

- Goal 1 was not met. Annual average water use per single family residence (ERU) has changed as follows: 2015 – 232 gpd, 2016 – 209 gpd, 2017 – 211 gpd, 2018 – 262 gpd, and 2019 – 242.
- Goal 2 was not met. DSL as calculated on a 3-year rolling average was 9.2 percent in 2019 which is above the goal of 7.8 percent.

For more information go to <https://fortress.wa.gov/doh/eh/portal/odw/wue/default.aspx>.

Water Quality Data Table

This table shows only those compounds that were detected above the state reporting level. Although all the substances listed here are under the Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) set by the EPA, we feel it is important you know exactly what was detected and how much of the substance was present in the water. The state requires us to monitor for certain substances less than once per year because the concentration of these substances does not change frequently. In these cases, the most recent sample results collected within the last five years are included.

Regulated at the Water Source and Distribution System

| Compound | Year Tested | MCL | MCLG | Highest Reported Detection Range | Highest Results | Meets Standard | Potential Sources |
|-----------------------------|-------------|----------|-----------|----------------------------------|-----------------|-------------------|---|
| Arsenic (ppb) | 2019 | 10 | 0 | -- | 3 | Yes | Erosion of natural deposits. Runoff from orchards; glass and electronic production. |
| Chlorine Residual (ppm) | 2019 | 4.0 MRDL | 4.0 MRDLG | 0.03 – 1.3 | 1.0 Ave | No ⁽¹⁾ | Water additive used to control microbes. |
| Fluoride (ppm) | 2019 | 4.0 | 4.0 | 0.2 – 0.9 | 0.7 Ave | No ⁽²⁾ | Water additive to promote dental health. |
| Total Trihalomethanes (ppb) | 2017 | 80 | NA | -- | 6 | Yes | Byproduct of chlorine disinfection. |
| Radium 228 (pCi/l) | 2016 | 5 | 0 | -- | 0.6 | Yes | Erosion of natural deposits. |

1) 8/13/19 – Chlorine residual in one distribution sample measured below the standard of 0.2 ppm.

2) 5/28/19 – Feed pump failure caused fluoride residual to fall below 0.5 ppm standard.

Regulated at the Customer Tap

| Compound | Year Tested | AL | MCLG | Sites Above AL/Total Sites | 90th Percentile Results | Meets Standard | Potential Sources |
|--------------|-------------|-----|------|----------------------------|-------------------------|----------------|---|
| Lead (ppb) | 2019 | 15 | 0 | 0/6 | 2 | Yes | Corrosion of household plumbing. Erosion of natural deposits. |
| Copper (ppm) | 2019 | 1.3 | 1.3 | 0/6 | 0.08 | Yes | Corrosion of household plumbing. Erosion of natural deposits. |

Definition of Terms

AL (Action Level): The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, then triggers treatment or other requirements that a drinking water supplier must follow.

MCL (Maximum Contaminant Level): The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to what is called the Maximum Contamination Level Goal (MCLG) as possible.

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

MRDL (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level): 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.

MRDLG (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal): 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.

PPM (Parts per million): Equals one part of liquid per million parts of liquid.

PPB (Parts per billion): Equals one part of liquid per billion parts of liquid.

pCi/l (Picocuries per liter): A measure of radioactivity.

Treatment Technique (TT): A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.