

# WATER QUALITY

Log used in original Sumner water lines (no longer in use).

## WATER QUALITY

We are proud to report that Sumner's water is clean and safe. Our water is in full compliance with the standards of both the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Dept of Health.

## WHERE OUR WATER BEGINS

Your primary water supply comes from springs on the east hill. There are three spring fields: Sumner Springs, Crystal/County Springs and Elhi Springs. To meet peak demand in the summer, the City also uses three wells: West Well, South Well and Dieringer Well.

## EPA'S HOTLINE

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).

## ORGANIC CHEMICALS

We test for organic chemicals to ensure our water meets stringent water quality standards. In 2016, tests for volatile organic chemicals (VOCs) as well as for herbicides or pesticides all showed no detection. *For a full copy of the report, call 253-299-5740.*

## UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS

In addition, we follow the EPA's regulations for monitoring unregulated contaminants. This helps the EPA Administrator decide whether or not to regulate these contaminants in the future.

## WATER USE EFFICIENCY PERFORMANCE

Total water produced - 574,500,000 gallons  
Authorized Consumption - 493,600,000 gallons  
Distribution System Leakage (DSL) - 80,900,000 gal, 14.1% of total; 3 yr average DSL percent - 13%

## ABOUT LEAD

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, especially older faucets. The City of Sumner is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, and there are no known lead pipes in service lines. However, we 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. You may also 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 <http://www.epa.gov/safe-water/lead>. The Tacoma-Pierce County Dept of Health has also warned that residents are much more likely to be exposed to lead in old paint than through water.

## CHLORINE

Sumner takes chlorine residual samples every business day from County and Sumner Springs in order to measure proper dosage rates. Every month, we take ten water samples from various points in our water system. We send these to an independently certified lab to test for bacteria.

## CONTACT US & GET INVOLVED

### To report a problem

Public Works Dept., 253-299-5740

or report online at [www.sumnerwa.gov](http://www.sumnerwa.gov) with the Report a Problem option

### For more information

NSF International: 1-877-8NSF-HELP, [www.nsf.org](http://www.nsf.org)

To get involved, attend City Council meetings: schedules and agendas are posted online at [www.ci.sumner.wa.us](http://www.ci.sumner.wa.us). You can watch meetings on Pierce County TV, online or Comcast On Demand.



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## SAMPLING RESULTS

This table shows water quality from the most recent round of testing done in accordance with the regulations. Washington State Dept of Health reduced Sumner's monitoring requirements for organics and inorganics because our source is not at risk of contamination.

Substance (unit of measure)	Year Sampled	MCL*	Range Detected	Violation	Typical Source
<b>REGULATED SUBSTANCES</b>					
Arsenic (ppb)	2016	0.01	<0.001 – 0.003	No	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards or glass/electronics production wastes
Asbestos (mf/l)	2010	7	<0.129	No	Decay of asbestos cement water mains and erosion of natural deposits
Nitrates (ppm)	2016	10	<0.2 – 2.7	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks; sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Total Trihalomethanes (ppm)	2016	0.08	0.0024	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Haloacidic Acids (ppm)	2016	0.0060	Not detected	No	Occurs when naturally-produced organic and inorganic materials react with disinfectants, chlorine and chloramine
Copper (ppm)	2016	1.3	0.12–0.87	No	Corrosion of household plumbing and natural deposits
Lead (ppm)	2016	0.015	<0.001 –0.004	No	Corrosion of household plumbing including lead pipes, solder, faucets, valves and brass components; lead-based paint, contaminated dust
Gross Alpha (pCi)	2016	15	Not detected	No	Occurs naturally in certain rocks
Radium (pCi)	2016	228	Not detected	No	Occurs naturally in certain rock types

\*Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL): 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 treatment technology. Maximum Contaminant Level Goal or MCLG: the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety. \*\* Department of Health contacted and determined no further action required. pCi: picoCuries per liter PPB: parts per billion, one part substance per billion parts water PPM: parts per million, one part substance per million parts water mf/l: million fibers per liter >10 microns

## MORE 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 (1-800-426-4791).

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 that may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, or wildlife.
- **Inorganic contaminants**, such as salts and metals, which can occur naturally 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 various 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. They can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems.
- **Radioactive contaminants**, which can occur naturally or result from oil and gas production and mining activities.

To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the 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 the Washington Department of Agriculture regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that must provide the same protection for public health. Source Water Assessment Program (SWAP) data is available at <http://www.doh.wa.gov/CommunityandEnvironment/DrinkingWater/SourceWater/Assessment.aspx>

Substance (unit of measure)	Year Sampled	MCL*	Range Detected	Typical Source
<b>SECONDARY SUBSTANCES</b> If above MCL, these may cause unpleasant effects—such as color, taste, odor—rather than adverse health effects				
Chloride (ppm)	2016	250	3	Runoff/leaching of natural deposits
Iron (ppm)	2016	0.3	0.3	Leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
Manganese (ppm)	2016	0.05	0.02	Leaching from natural deposits
Sulfate (ppm)	2016	250	4	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes