

# THE DISTRICT DISPATCH

Spring 2024 Edition

Annual Water Quality Report and Water Use Efficiency Data Inside



## Happy Retirement to a Community Superstar

The Boards and staff of Manchester Water District and the Port of Manchester would like to congratulate Dennis O'Connell on his retirement that occurred at the end of 2023.

Dennis started with the water district in April of 1995 and has been instrumental in creating the community organization that the District is today. Over the years, he played an important role behind the transformation of the Port's boat launch, Pomeroy Park, and the construction of the District's Banner water tank and shop facility.

As General Manager, Dennis encouraged and set an example for staff on how to lead local government with integrity and responsibility. He accomplished this by making sure staff had fun while learning new skills so they enjoyed coming to work everyday. He could lighten any moment with his smile, sense of humor, and he could tell a good occasional joke.

Dennis will be greatly missed by all who had the chance to work or collaborate with him over the years. Keep an eye out as he will still be around to lend a hand to the community at local events such as the Salmon Bake and Celebrate Manchester.

Thank you Dennis for all the wonderful years you dedicated to the District, Port, and surrounding Manchester Community...  
**Enjoy your retirement, you deserve it!!**



## Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substance (PFAS) Testing

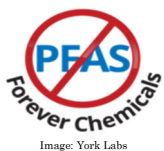


Image: York Labs

You may have heard from various news outlets or District communications, per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances, or PFAS, continue to be a hot topic of discussion of water utilities and consumers across the nation. PFAS chemicals are a large family of human-made chemicals that have been in use since the 1950s to make a wide variety of stain resistant, water resistant, and non-stick consumer products. It is more widely known for its use in certain types of fire fighting foam. Over time, these chemicals have the potential to leach into surface or groundwater supplies affecting water quality and the environment. All the District's water resources come

from groundwater wells and have been tested for PFAS chemicals on multiple occasions in 2023, at the Federal and State level. Testing has occurred two (2) times for the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) as part of the fifth Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR5), and one (1) time for the Washington State Department of Health as part of the District's continued regulatory compliance. Independent laboratory samples have resulted in "Non-Detection (ND)" of PFAS chemicals in all of the District's water sources. Continued testing will occur every three (3) years as mandated by the Department of Health. The District will notify customers of any changes in these results as further testing occurs.

## 2023 Water Quality Report—Water System ID #507002

The Board of Commissioners and staff of Manchester Water District are proud to present the 2023 Consumer Confidence Report. This report includes water quality data that conforms to federal regulations set forth in the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). Under the SDWA, water utilities must provide water quality information to each customer annually. This report demonstrates that ***your drinking water meets or exceeds state and federal drinking water quality standards.***

Manchester Water District was formed in 1942, under Chapter 57 of the Revised Code of Washington, and is located in Port Orchard, Washington. The District is governed by an elected three-member Board of Commissioners and is staffed by eight full-time employees. The District currently serves 3,473 accounts, which represents a population of approximately 10,000 consumers. The distribution system covers approximately 38 miles of water pipe, and in 2023 delivered 219 million gallons of water to customers in the Manchester, Yukon Harbor, South Colby, Harper, and Southworth neighborhoods. To ensure that sufficient water is available during peak demands and to maintain fire protection, the District stores roughly 3.3 million gallons of water in the five reservoirs located through the service area.

Manchester Water District sources water from ten groundwater wells. The deep wells are located throughout the District’s service area. Depending on location, some District customers may receive water from a single source, while others may be supplied by multiple sources. Manchester Water District treats all water with trace amounts of chlorine. This disinfection process is required by the Department of Health to provide a barrier of protection against bacterial growth in the distribution system. Chlorine also helps minimize the effects of hydrogen sulfide that can naturally occur in groundwater sources. Hydrogen sulfide causes what is typically referred to as a “rotten egg smell”. In addition to chlorine, sodium fluoride is added to all District water. District customers voted to add fluoride to their drinking water in 1969, and have repeatedly upheld this decision since that time. District staff works diligently to maintain a fluoride level of .70 parts per million throughout the distribution system.

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 at (800) 426-4791.

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 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. 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 at (800) 426-4791.

Manchester Water District Sources of Supply		
Department of Health Source Number	Manchester Water District Name	Approximate Location
S01	Well 1	Manchester Village
S02	Well 2	Manchester Village
S04	Well 4	Bulman Road
S09	Well 9	Sedgwick Road
S10	Well 10	Manchester Heights
S11	Well 11	Manchester Heights
S13	Wells 5 & 8	Sedgwick Road
S14	Wells 6 & 7	Garfield Avenue

A *Source Water Assessment Program (SWAP)* was compiled by the Washington State Department of Health to highlight significant sources of contamination for community water systems in Washington State, if available. An interactive map of the assessment data and Manchester Water District’s susceptibility rating can be found at <https://fortress.wa.gov/doh/swap/index.html>

Manchester Water District Sampling Schedule	
Parameter	Monitoring Schedule
Chlorine Residual	Daily Monitoring
Fluoride Residual	Daily Monitoring
Total Coliform—E Coli	Monthly Monitoring
Lead & Copper	Every 3 Years
Asbestos	Every 9 Years
Total Trihalomethane (THM)	Annual Monitoring
Halo-Acetic Acids (HAA5)	Annual Monitoring
Nitrates	Annual Monitoring
Inorganic Chemicals	Every 9 Years
Volatile Organic Chemicals	Every 6 Years
Herbicides	Every 9 Years
Pesticides	Every 9 Years
Soil Fumigants	Every 3 Years
PFAS	Every 3 Years
Radionuclides	Every 6 Years

Contaminants that may be included 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 & 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.

Listed within this report are the few substances that were detected in Manchester Water District’s most recent set of sampling results. Manchester Water District takes hundreds of samples each year. We have not listed the substances that were tested, but NOT detected. The Department of Health has granted complete waivers for dioxin, endoathal, glyphosate, diquat, and insecticides. While we strive to make this report as user-friendly as possible, we understand that some questions may arise. For additional water quality questions or concerns, please contact General Manager — Tony Lang at (360) 871-0500. There are certified Service Technicians who are more than happy to assist with any questions as well.

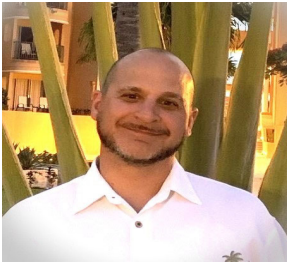
# 2023 Water Quality Analysis

The table below lists all the drinking water contaminants that were detected between January 1 and December 31, 2023. The presence of these contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented represents water quality testing performed during the 2023 calendar year. Washington State requires Manchester Water District to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year. Data that is not from 2023 will be noted with the most recent sample date.

Parameter	Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL)	Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG)	Potential Sources	Average or Highest Level Detected in Most Recent Samples	Range of Levels Detected in Most Recent Samples	Meets Standards
<b>Sampled in the Distribution System</b>						
<b>Asbestos</b> <i>2019 Sample</i>	7 MFL	7 MFL	Decay of asbestos cement (AC) water mains; Erosion of natural deposits	ND	N/A	YES
<b>Halo-Acetic Acid</b> <i>Monitored Annually</i>	60 ppb	N/A	By-product of drinking water disinfection	5.3 ppb	ND—5.3 ppb	YES
<b>Trihalomethanes</b> <i>Monitored Annually</i>	80 ppb	N/A	By-product of drinking water disinfection	10.0 ppb	ND—10.0 ppb	YES
<b>Chlorine</b> <i>Monitored Daily</i>	4 ppm	4 ppm	Water additive used to control microbes	.48 ppm	.31— .68 ppm	YES
<b>Fluoride</b> <i>Monitored Daily</i>	4 ppm	4 ppm	Water additive to promote dental health	.71 ppm	.46—1.10 ppm	YES
<b>Total Coliform</b> <i>Monitored Routinely</i>	0	0	Naturally occurring organism	<i>No coliform was detected in any of the 120 samples taken in 2023</i>		YES
<b>Sampled at Groundwater Sources</b>						
<b>Nitrates</b> <i>Monitored Annually</i>	10 ppm	10 ppm	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks; Sewage; Erosion of natural deposits	.31 ppm	ND—1.67 ppm	YES
<b>Gross Alpha</b> <i>2022 Sample</i>	15 pCi/L	0	Erosion of natural deposits	3.10 pCi/L	N/A <i>Single Site—No Range</i>	YES
<b>Radium 228</b> <i>2022 Sample</i>	5 pCi/L	0	Erosion of natural deposits	.53 pCi/L	N/A <i>Single Site—No Range</i>	YES
<b>Iron*</b> <i>2022 Sample</i> <i>SMCL</i>	.3 ppm	N/A	Erosion of natural deposits	ND	N/A <i>Single Site—No Range</i>	YES
<b>Manganese*</b> <i>2022 Sample</i> <i>SMCL</i>	.05 ppm	N/A	Leaching from natural deposits	.150 ppm*	N/A <i>Single Site—No Range</i>	YES
<b>Sampled at Customer Taps</b>						
<b>Lead**</b> <i>2022 Sample</i> <i>Action Level</i>	15 ppb	0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits	2.7 ppb <i>90th Percentile</i>	<i>0 sample sites out of 20 exceeded the Action Level</i>	YES
<b>Copper**</b> <i>2022 Sample</i> <i>Action Level</i>	1.3 ppm	1.3 ppm	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits	.17 ppm <i>90th Percentile</i>	<i>0 sample sites out of 20 exceeded the Action Level</i>	YES
<b>Explanation of Terms</b>				<b>Units of Measurement</b>		
<b>MCL</b>	Maximum Contaminant Level—Highest level of a contaminant allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using best available treatment technology.			<b>ppm</b>	Parts per Million	
<b>MCLG</b>	Maximum Contaminant Level Goal—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.			<b>ppb</b>	Parts per Billion	
<b>SMCL</b>	Secondary Maximum Contaminant Level—Secondary Contaminant standards are developed to protect the aesthetic qualities of drinking water and are not health based.			<b>pCi/L</b>	Picocuries per Liter	
<b>Action Level</b>	The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.			<b>MFL</b>	Millions of Fibers per Liter	
<b>Lead &amp; Copper</b> <i>90th Percentile</i>	Specific to Lead & Copper Testing—Out of every 10 homes sampled, 9 were at or below this level.			<b>ND</b>	Not Detected in laboratory samples	
				<b>N/A</b>	Not Applicable	
<b>**A Note about Lead &amp; Copper in Drinking Water from the Environmental Protection Agency</b>				<b>*Iron &amp; Manganese in Drinking Water</b>		
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. Manchester Water District is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in internal plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for 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 can have your water tested by a certified laboratory. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the <i>Safe Drinking Water Hotline</i> , or at <a href="http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead">www.epa.gov/safewater/lead</a>				Iron & Manganese standards are achieved through blending of other drinking water sources.		
				There are no adverse health effects from Iron & Manganese in drinking water at the levels detected. The primary impact of Iron & Manganese in drinking water is aesthetic quality. Elevated levels may cause discoloration in water. This can stain laundry and porcelain fixtures, promote bacterial growth in the distribution system, and in high concentrations customers may notice a metallic taste.		
				Manchester Water District employs various methods to reduce the impact of Iron & Manganese on drinking water quality. This includes, but is not limited to; blending drinking water sources and annually flushing the distribution system.		

# General Manager Update!!

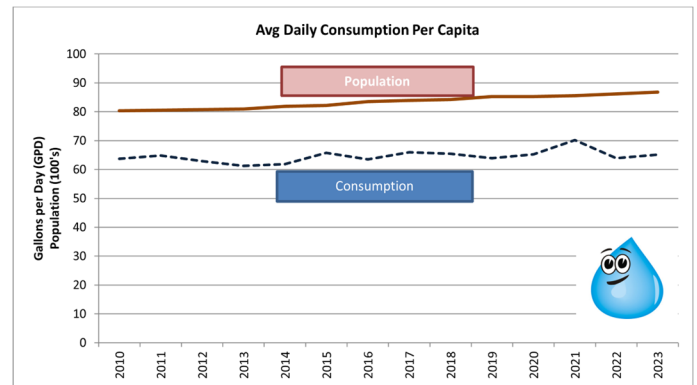
In August of 2023, a new General Manager was welcomed to the District to replace retiring General Manager - Dennis O'Connell. Tony Lang comes from the City of Port Orchard where he served the community in many different capacities through his career at the city. He was originally hired in the Public Works Department as a meter reader for the city in 2011 and progressed through various roles within the organization until his departure in 2023. He also served as



the Sewer System Coordinator, Public Works Foreman, Operations Manager, and concluded his employment as the Public Works Director. Tony grew up in Port Orchard, graduated from South Kitsap High School, and then went on to attend Pacific Lutheran University, Washington State University, and Olympic College. He has a Bachelor of Applied Science in Organizational Leadership and Technical Management and brings a wide range of experience to the team operationally as well as administratively. We welcome our customers and community to drop-in to the office to meet Tony, or if you have any questions. **Welcome to the team, Tony!!**

## Water Conservation Trends

According to the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), the average American consumes approximately 80-100 gallons of water per day (gpd) for culinary, sanitary, and other uses. In 2021, Manchester Water District billed 3,422 accounts for 219,030,227 gallons consumed, or an average daily consumption of 70 gpd per capita. In 2022, this figure dropped to 64 gpd among District customers. In 2023, the District billed 3,473 accounts for 206,490,352 gallons, or an average daily consumption of 65 gpd. This is a 1.5-percent increase in per capita consumption over 2022 data. In 2023, the District produced 236,939,167 gallons of water with a calculated authorized consumption (billing, flushing, water main leaks, etc.) equaling 219,177,380 gallons. This resulted in a 7.5-percent unaccounted-for-production total in 2023. According to the Department of Health, 10-percent or less unaccounted for water production over a 3-year average is considered acceptable. The District's current 3-year rolling annual average is 8.6-percent. We encourage customers to be mindful of this precious natural resource and conserve whenever possible.



## Payment Options

Customers are finding great success using Xpress Bill Pay for making and scheduling payments, checking their balance due, and setting up paperless billing options. The efficiency and ease of the service, along with the security of Xpress Bill Pay has proven to be a popular option among customers. Xpress Bill Pay has options for email and text message notifications, automatic and one-time payments, as well as a free app for your phone or mobile device.

For more information, please contact the office or visit [www.manchesterwater.org](http://www.manchesterwater.org).



### Manchester Water District Board of Commissioners

Steve Pedersen <b>Chairman</b>	James Strode <b>Secretary</b>	Robert Ballard <b>Commissioner</b>
	General Manager—Tony Lang	

The Manchester Water District Board of Commissioners meet on the second Tuesday of every month at 5:30 PM. Meetings are held at the Field Operations Workshop at 2082 Spring Street, unless otherwise posted. Meetings are open to everyone, and public participation is encouraged.

### Water Efficient Appliance Rebates

Manchester Water District offers rebate incentives for customers who have purchased new, water-efficient appliances. If you have purchased a water-efficient toilet, washing machine, and/or dishwasher in the past six months—you may be eligible for a rebate up to \$50!! For more information, please contact (360) 871-0500, or click on the “Forms” tab at [www.manchesterwater.org](http://www.manchesterwater.org)



Manchester Water District Administrative Office Location & Hours  
8185 E Daniels Loop, Suite 111 Port Orchard, WA 98366  
Monday through Friday, 8:00 AM—4:30 PM