



2023 WATER QUALITY REPORT

Skykomish Consumer Confidence Report
with testing data from the 2023 calendar year.

Published June 25, 2024



A GREAT NORTHERN TOWN



Where does my water come from?

The Town of Skykomish Water Supply has three water wells, Wells 1, 2, and 3. (Well 1 has been inactive since 1994). The two active wells, Well No. 2 and Well No. 3 both have a capacity of 350 gallons per minute (gpm). The Town currently is served by a single reservoir, located off East Old Cascade Hwy. This reservoir has an operating volume of approximately 220,000 gallons.

Blended Samples:

Blending refers to the mixing of water from both Well 2 and Well 3. This is the water that is delivered to customers; your drinking water.

Because blended water is the water delivered to your tap, the Health Department has instructed the us to collect blended water for sample submission.

What is this report about?

We are pleased to present to you this year's Annual Quality Water Report. This report is designed to inform you about the quality water and services we deliver to you every day. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water. This report shows our water quality and what it means.

What's happening in our water system

This past year during the Big Freeze in January we saw a record number (in recent history) of customers with pipe freeze breaks which required water shut-offs to the property, and water damage which required mitigation and repair. Most property owners were able to get help from their insurance. It's also a reminder to take the nice summer months to make sure our pipes are insulated and protected from these occasional severe cold spells. Long term weather patterns seem to indicate more such extreme weather events in the future, so it's best to be prepared. The Town is also still in the process of updating it's Water Plan so that we may begin to systematically upgrade parts of the system that require it.

**During 2023,
your water met
all State and
Federal Drinking
Water Standards.**

Testing Results:

In this report you will find a link to copies of all water quality testing and results required by Washington State Department of Health for the year 2023. These records can be provided upon request.

The Town of Skykomish Water System routinely monitors for constituents in the drinking water according to Federal and State law. This report details the results of all Coliform monitoring for the period of January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023. All drinking water, even bottled water, can be expected to contain at least small amounts of some constituents. It is important to remember the presence of these constituents does not necessarily pose a health risk. On page 3 is an outline of testing:

Samples

The Town of Skykomish routinely monitors for constituents in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. The data table shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1st to December 31st, 2023. As water travels over the land or underground, it can pick up substances or contaminants such as microbes, inorganic and organic chemicals, and radioactive substances. All drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some constituents. It's important to remember that the presence of these constituents does not necessarily pose a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at: 1-800-426-4791.

2023 Town of Skykomish Water Distribution							
Contaminant (test year)	Average*	Range of Levels Detected	Unit of Measure	MCL MRDL	Likely Source of Contamination	SDRL MRDLG	Violation Y/N
Test panel (* Average for Lead & Copper is the 90th Percentile)							
Asbestos (2020)		0.115	mfl(2)	7	Naturally occurring in rocks and soil	0.2	N
Copper (2023)	0.02	ND to 0.02	mg/l	1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits	0.02	N
Gross Alpha (2021)		Less than	pCi/L	3	Naturally occurring in rocks and soil	3	N
Herbicides (2020)		less than	µg/l	varies	Surface water run off	varies	N
Lead (2023)	0.0013	ND to 0.0017	mg/l	0.015	Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits	0.001	N
Nitrate/Nitrite (2023)		Less than	mg/l	10	Surface water run off	0.5	N
PFAS (2023)		Less than	ng/l	4	Man-made chemicals	2	N
Radium 228 (2021)		0.913	pCi/L	5	Naturally occurring in rocks and soil	1	N
VOC (2022)		less than	µg/l	varies	Surface water run off	varies	N
Total Coliform (2023)	12 samples	Absent					N

Explanations

Your Drinking water currently meets the EPA's revised drinking water standard for arsenic. However, it does contain low levels of arsenic. There is a small chance that some people who drink water containing low levels of arsenic for many years could develop circulatory disease, cancer, or other health problems. Most types of cancer and circulatory diseases are due to factors other than exposure to arsenic. The EPA's standard balances the current understanding of arsenic's health effects against the cost of removing arsenic from drinking water.

We're proud that your drinking water meets or exceeds all Federal and State requirements. We have learned through our monitoring and testing that some constituents have been detected. The EPA has determined that your water IS SAFE at these levels.

In our continuing efforts to maintain a safe and dependable water supply it may be necessary to make improvements in your City water system. The costs of these improvements may be reflected in the rate structure. Rate adjustments may be necessary in order to address these improvements.

Vulnerable Citizens

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised 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 microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline. 800-426-4791

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua de beber. Tradúzcalo ó hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

Definitions:

Below you will find many terms and abbreviations you might not be familiar with. To help you better understand these terms, we've provided the following definitions:

Non-Detects (ND) - laboratory analysis indicates that the constituent is not present.

Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/l) - one part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in \$10,000.

Parts per billion (ppb) or Micrograms per liter (µg/l) - one part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000.

State Detection Reporting Level - (SDRL) the minimum reportable detection of an analyte as established by Dept. Of Health, if exceeded, triggers reporting, treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

Lead and Copper

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Lead and Copper Rule requires Skykomish Water to collect special samples for lead and copper every three years; the last samples were collected in 2020. Lead and Copper were not detected at reporting levels in the source water but was detected in low levels in private households; the source of lead and copper comes from the leaching of lead and copper used in household plumbing fixtures.

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 water utility 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 <http://www.epa.gov/lead>.

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) - (mandatory language) The `Maximum Allowed` (MCL) is 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 Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL) - (mandatory language) 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.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG) - (mandatory language) 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.

Not Applicable (NA)

***MCL's are set at very stringent levels. The MCL's are set such that out of every 10,000 or 1,000,000 people (depends upon how the MCL was developed) drinking 2 liters of water every day for a lifetime, only 1 of those people may experience the described health effect.*

Where can I find out more?

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact Jeremy Carrol at Town Hall or Rich Norris, WDM at 425-238-4649. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. Please consider attending any of our regularly scheduled council meetings.

Town of Skykomish
119 4th Street North
Skykomish WA 98288
360-677-2388

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Other Resources:

Washington Department of Health
Northwest Drinking Water Operations
20425 72nd Ave. South-Building 2 Suite 310
Kent, WA 98032
Main phone: 253-395-6750
Fax: 253-395-6760

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Office of Ground Water & Drinking Water
(800) 426-4791
www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water