

# THE DISTRICT DISPATCH

Spring 2025 Edition

Annual Water Quality Report and Water Use Efficiency Data Inside



## Community Action for Lead & Copper Safety

Manchester Water District will soon begin collecting water samples from selected homes and businesses as part of a regulatory monitoring program directed by the Washington State Department of Health Office of Drinking Water (ODW). This program is designed to ensure that lead and copper levels in the District's drinking water remain within safe limits. Because the District has consistently demonstrated low levels of lead and copper in past results, we are only required to conduct sampling once every three years.

In the coming months, selected households and businesses will receive letters inviting them to participate in this important program. District staff will then hand-deliver sample bottles and detailed instructions to each participating location. To ensure accurate results, participants will be asked to collect a water sample from a kitchen or bathroom faucet after at least six hours of nonuse. Selection criteria include:

- The age of the home
- Location within the water distribution system
- Estimated age and material of plumbing
- Data from the recent Lead Line Inventory

Collected samples will be sent to an independent laboratory for analysis. Test results will be provided to both the participating residents and the State ODW. All water quality test results are available to the public upon request.

Participation is free of charge. By taking part, residents play a key role in helping us monitor and maintain the quality of our community's drinking water. If you have questions about the lead and copper sampling process, please contact the Manchester Water District office. We sincerely thank all who participate in this important public health effort.

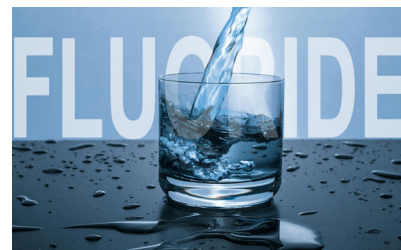


## EPA Revisits Benefits/Risks of Fluoride in Drinking Water

Fluoride is a naturally occurring element found in some water sources, such as groundwater. It is also commonly added to public water systems to help prevent tooth decay. Manchester Water District has been adding fluoride to its water supply since 1969, following approval by local ratepayers. As of early 2025, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) have begun reviewing new scientific research regarding the potential health risks associated with fluoride in drinking water. This review may result in a revision of the current Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL), which is set at 4.0 mg/L.

The District currently maintains fluoride levels at the optimal target of 0.7 mg/L, in line with federal and state health recommendations. The EPA's ongoing evaluation will determine whether changes to existing fluoride guidelines are necessary based on the latest scientific findings.

We will keep our community informed of any updates or changes resulting from this review.



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MANCHESTER, WA 98353  
(360) 871-0500



# Commissioners' Corner

The Board of Commissioners is pleased to announce the completion of Well 5R, located at the District's Sedgwick site. Drilled in 2023, Well 5R replaces two nearby, much shallower wells that ran dry in 2020. The Washington State Department of Health recently issued source approval, and the new well is scheduled to begin serving the District's South Zone during the upcoming winter season.

Additionally, the Board is proud to share that the District has been awarded a low-interest loan from the Public Works Trust Fund to support the construction of the Well 10 Manganese Filtration Project. This funding will allow the District to move forward with the project in late 2025, with completion anticipated in summer 2026.

Both projects represent significant infrastructure investments that will enhance water quality and long-term sustainability in the areas they serve.

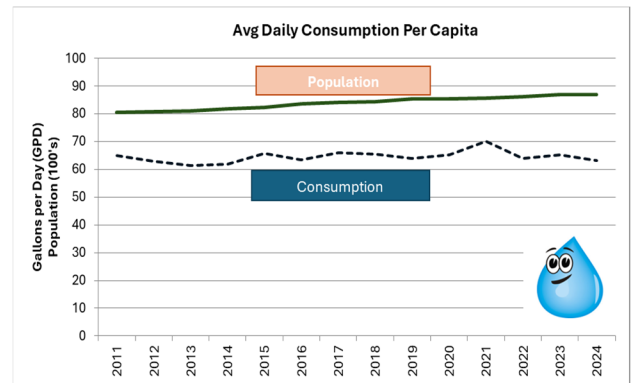


## Water Conservation Trends

According to the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), the average American uses approximately 80-100 gallons of water per day for culinary, sanitary, and other purposes. In comparison, Manchester Water District customers have consistently maintained lower-than-average daily water usage:

- 2022: 64 gallons per person per day (gpcd)
- 2023: 65 gpcd (slight increase)
- 2024: 3,473 accounts billed for 199,901,594 gallons — 63 gpcd, representing a 3.2% decrease from 2023

In 2024, the District produced a total of 219,773,000 gallons of water. Of this, 204,437,555 gallons were classified as authorized consumption (including billing, system flushing, and known water main leaks), resulting in a 7.0% unaccounted for water loss rate. The Washington State Department of Health considers an unaccounted for water loss rate of 10% or less over a three-year average to be acceptable. Manchester Water District's current three-year rolling average stands at 8.1%, well within the acceptable range. The District encourages all customers to remain mindful of this limited and valuable resource and to conserve water whenever possible.



Customers are experiencing great success with Xpress Bill Pay. The service is popular thanks to its efficiency, ease of use, and secure platform.

Sign up and take advantage of features like:

- Making and scheduling payments
- Checking balance due
- Setting up paperless billing options
- Email and text message notifications
- Automatic and one-time payment options
- A free mobile app for smartphones and devices

# xpress BILL PAY

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

### Manchester Water District Board of Commissioners

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

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.

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

### 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



# 2024 Water Quality Report—Water System ID #507002

The Board of Commissioners and staff of Manchester Water District are proud to present the 2024 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 3,488 accounts, which represents a population of approximately 10,000 consumers. The distribution system covers approximately 38 miles of water pipe, and in 2024 delivered 204 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 nine 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 Washington State Department of Health (DOH) 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 the District's produced well water. District customers voted to add fluoride to their drinking water in 1969, and have repeatedly upheld this decision since that time. District staff work diligently to maintain fluoride levels of .70 parts per million throughout the distribution system in accordance with the U.S Public Health Service and DOH recommended concentration levels.

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 (Wells)		
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
S14	Wells 6 & 7	Garfield Avenue
S15	Well 5R	Sedgwick Road

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>

Contaminants that may be included in source water include:

<b>Microbial Contaminants</b>	Such as viruses, parasites, and bacteria that may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, or wildlife.
<b>Inorganic Contaminants</b>	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.
<b>Pesticides &amp; Herbicides</b>	Which may come from various sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses.
<b>Organic Chemical Contaminants</b>	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.
<b>Radioactive Contaminants</b>	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, endosulfan, 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. The District employs certified Service Technicians who are more than happy to assist with any questions as well.

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
PFAS	Every 3 Years
Soil Fumigants	Every 3 Years
Radionuclides	Every 6 Years

## 2024 Water Quality Analysis

The table below lists all the drinking water contaminants that were detected between January 1 and December 31, 2024. 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 2024 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 2024 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
Sampled in the Distribution System						
Asbestos <i>2019 Sample</i>	7 MFL	7 MFL	Decay of asbestos cement (AC) water mains; Erosion of natural deposits	ND	N/A	YES
Halo-Acetic Acid <i>Monitored Annually</i>	60 ppb	N/A	By-product of drinking water disinfection	6.5 ppb	ND—6.5 ppb	YES
Trihalomethanes <i>Monitored Annually</i>	80 ppb	N/A	By-product of drinking water disinfection	12.0 ppb	ND—12.0 ppb	YES
Chlorine <i>Monitored Daily</i>	4 ppm	4 ppm	Water additive used to control microbes	.54 ppm	.20—1.2 ppm	YES
Fluoride <i>Monitored Daily</i>	4 ppm	4 ppm	Water additive to promote dental health; erosion of natural deposits	.67 ppm	.35—.92 ppm	YES
Total Coliform <i>Monitored Routinely</i>	0	0	Naturally occurring organism	No coliform was detected in any of the 120 samples taken in 2024		YES
Sampled at Groundwater Sources						
Nitrates <i>Monitored Annually</i>	10 ppm	10 ppm	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks; Sewage; Erosion of natural deposits	.31 ppm	ND—2.4 ppm	YES
Gross Alpha <i>2024 Sample</i>	15 pCi/L	0	Erosion of natural deposits	1.40 pCi/L	1.15—1.40 pCi/L	YES
Radium 228 <i>2024 Sample</i>	5 pCi/L	0	Erosion of natural deposits	.360 pCi/L	.350—.360 pCi/L	YES
Iron* <i>2024 Sample</i> <i>SMCL</i>	.3 ppm	N/A	Erosion of natural deposits	ND	N/A <i>Single Site—No Range</i>	YES
Manganese* <i>2024 Sample</i> <i>SMCL</i>	.05 ppm	N/A	Leaching from natural deposits	.120 ppm	N/A <i>Single Site—No Range</i>	YES
Sampled at Customer Taps						
Lead** <i>2022 Sample</i>	15 ppb <i>Action Level</i>	0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits	2.7 ppb <i>90th Percentile</i>	0 sample sites out of 20 exceeded the Action Level	YES
Copper** <i>2022 Sample</i>	1.3 ppm <i>Action Level</i>	1.3 ppm	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits	.17 ppm <i>90th Percentile</i>	0 sample sites out of 20 exceeded the Action Level	YES

Explanation of Terms		Units of Measurement	
<b>MCL</b>	<b>Maximum Contaminant Level</b> —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>	<b>Maximum Contaminant Level Goal</b> —The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there	<b>ppb</b>	Parts per Billion
<b>SMCL</b>	<b>Secondary Maximum Contaminant Level</b> —Secondary Contaminant standards are developed to	<b>pCi/L</b>	Picocuries per Liter
<b>Action Level</b>	The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements	<b>MFL</b>	Millions of Fibers per Liter
<b>Lead &amp; Copper</b> <i>90th Percentile</i>	<b>Specific to Lead &amp; Copper Testing</b> —Ex. Out of every 10 homes sampled, 9 were at or below this level.	<b>ND</b>	Not Detected in laboratory samples
<b>**A Note about Lead &amp; Copper in Drinking Water from the Environmental Protection Agency</b>		<b>N/A</b>	Not Applicable
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>		<b>*Iron &amp; Manganese in Drinking Water</b>	
		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.	