

Consumer Confidence Report

2019

En Español: Este informe contiene información importante sobre la calidad de su agua potable. Debe ser traducido por alguien que habla bien Inglés. Si tiene alguna pregunta acerca de este informe puede comunicarse con el Departamento de Obras Públicas en Sunnyside 509-837-5206 durante las horas normales de oficina.

The City of Sunnyside is pleased to present our annual Consumer Confidence Report. This report contains important information about our drinking water quality and keeps our customers up to date on what is happening with the Water Division. We have dedicated ourselves to producing drinking water that meets all state and federal standards. As new challenges to drinking water safety emerge, we remain vigilant in meeting the goals of source water protection, water conservation, and community education while continuing to serve the needs of all our water users. We encourage you to stay informed about your drinking water by reading this report.

Drinking Water Source & Treatment

The City currently has seven Wells in use, in addition to one standby Well, located all throughout the city. These Wells are relatively deep and the water we receive from them meets all state and federal standards. Chlorine is used for disinfection. Residual chlorine levels in the distribution system are checked on a daily basis to ensure that the amount of chlorine utilized is effective while remaining at the safe levels determined by the EPA. We also test for several different contaminants each year. In the event that any test exceeded the maximum contaminant levels set by the EPA, the appropriate public notification would be issued immediately.

How to Interpret this Report

Although this report may seem overwhelming, it contains valuable information for water users. In order to alleviate confusion and/or concern as you review the supplied information, terms and units have been defined. The word "contaminant" is used throughout this document to describe anything detected in the drinking water supply. This term is commonly used in the drinking water industry and should not necessarily invite concern, for all drinking water contains trace amounts of minerals and other substances. The purpose of this report is to provide you with an understanding and perspective enabling you to make informed decisions about your drinking water. Units used to measure contaminants in drinking water are parts per million (ppm) or parts per billion (ppb). To gain a perspective on this measurement, imagine one billion (1,000,000,000) blue jelly beans. Now imagine that one of these jelly beans is red. The amount of red jelly beans in relation to blue ones would be 1 ppb, or 1/1,000,000,000. This example works the same way in respect to ppm as well. As you read this report, be sure and keep these figures and definitions in mind. This will assist you in interpreting what you are reading and empower you as a water customer.

2019 System Improvements

Revitalization of the Skyline Reservoir, the City's 65-year-old water tank atop Harrison Hill, has been completed. The tallest of Sunnyside's tanks, and containing one million gallons of water, has been reinforced and updated aesthetically.

The project took over two years but the functional monument has been restored beyond its original glory. Improvements included new seismic anchors, piping, valves, an overflow pond, radio system, and scaling equipment like ladders and railings. The approximate cost is about \$1.3 million dollars, significantly below the projected cost for replacing it all together. To top it off the structure received a refreshing paint job after around 70 years. The 110-foot water tower is now prepared to effectively and safely serve our community well into the future.

Before



After

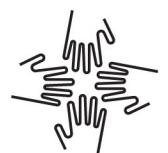


Water Use Efficiency Update

The Water Use Efficiency (WUE) program was designed and implemented by the Washington Department of Health to "help use water efficiently to help meet future needs, operate successfully within financial, managerial and technical constraints, and to continue to deliver safe and reliable water." Our goal within the WUE program is to be able to account for 90% of the water we produce. In 2019, we were able to account for 94% of the water we produced! We will continue to be diligent in identifying and addressing any areas of water waste and ask you to do the same. Thank you for helping to make our WUE program a success!



Residents with questions or input on water issues may attend City Council meetings on the second and fourth Monday of each month at 6:30 PM at the Law & Justice Center. The agenda is posted on the City website at www.ci.sunnyside.wa.us.



GET INVOLVED

2019 WATER QUALITY DATA TABLE

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regulates the frequency of sampling for various contaminants. The data presented in this table is from testing conducted in 2019. The table may also include any other results within the last five years for analyses that were not required in the year 2019.

Contaminants (units)	MCLG	MCL	Range Low-High or Result	Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
Inorganic Contaminants						
Nitrate (ppm)	10	10	ND - 2.06	Mar - Nov 2019	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.
Arsenic (ppb)	0	10	1 - 8.1	Sep - Nov 2019	No*	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronics production wastes.
Radiological Contaminants						
Gross Alpha (pCi/L)	0	15	7.37	May 2018	No	Naturally occurring radioactive elements emit alpha particles as they decay.
Gross Beta (pCi/L)	0	4 mrem/year	4.43	Oct 2017	No	Naturally occurring radioactive elements emit beta particles as they decay.
Lead and Copper						
	MCLG	AL	90th Percentile			
Lead (ppb) 30 samples	0	15	ND - 6	Jul 2019	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Copper (ppm) 30 samples	1.3	1.3	ND - 0.131	Jul 2019	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits

TERMS & ABBREVIATIONS

AL: Action Level. The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.

Contaminant: A word used to describe anything detected in the drinking water supply. This commonly-used term should not necessarily invite concern, as all drinking water contains trace amounts of minerals and other substances.

MCL: Maximum Contaminant Level. The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water.

n/a: not applicable.

ND: Not Detected: Lab analysis indicates that the contaminant is not present or not detectable with the best available technology.

ppb: Parts per billion, or micrograms per liter.

ppm: Parts per million, or milligrams per liter.

pCi/L: Picocuries per liter

Range: The lowest (minimum) amount of contaminant detected and the highest (maximum) amount detected during a sample period.

90th percentile: Out of the 30 homes sampled, 27 were at or below this level.

The Effect of Lead In Drinking Water

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 Sunnyside 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 800-426-4791 or on their website www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.



A Note About Arsenic*

Very low levels of arsenic, which have not exceeded EPA standards, have been detected in the City of Sunnyside's drinking water supply. To exceed the MCL of 10ppb it is the average of 4 consecutive quarters. There is a slight chance that some people who drink water containing low levels of arsenic over many years could develop circulatory disease, cancer or other health problems. Most types of cancer and circulatory disease are due to factors other than exposure to arsenic. EPA standards balance the current understanding of arsenic's health effects against the cost of removing arsenic from drinking water.

**If you have questions
about this report or your
drinking water, call:**

Shane Fisher,
Sunnyside Public Works Director
509-837-5206
Washington Department of Health
509-456-3115
EPA Hotline
800-426-4791

Important Health Information

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least trace amounts of some "contaminants". The presence of these do not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons, such as persons 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. Environmental Protection Agency/Centers for Disease Control (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.