

Consumer Confidence Report

Annual report on water quality for 2020

As part of the federal Safe Drinking Water Act of 1996, the United States Environmental Protection Agency requires water utilities to provide their customers with a water quality report annually from Parkland Light and Water Company, PWS ID 66200U.

Where Does Your Water Come From?

Our water is pumped from several aquifer levels of the Clover/Chambers Creek Basin as it flows to Puget Sound.

The company owns 12 wells, which range from 30 to 630 feet deep. Stored water is kept in five above-ground water storage tanks. Two are ground-level tanks, one is an elevated tank and two are standpipes. These tanks can store 5.6 million gallons of water.

The water system is operated by gravity distribution and supplies ample fire protection throughout the PL&W Co. service area, and also provides the daily domestic and commercial needs of the community.

What is Added to My Water and Why?

As water is pumped from wells, chlorine is added as a disinfectant to protect you from possible disease-causing microorganisms. The amount of chlorine used is the minimum necessary to maintain detectable levels of the disinfectant throughout the water distribution system.

Some wells produce slightly acidic water. Where this occurs, sodium hydroxide is added to the water to raise the pH level and reduce the slightly corrosive nature of the water before it gets to you, the consumer.

Where Do Contaminants Come From?

As water travels over the surface of the land and filters down through the ground, it may pick up substances in the earth. These may be there naturally, as the result of the presence of animals or from human activity.

Inadequately treated drinking water may contain disease-causing organisms. These organisms include bacteria, viruses, and parasites, which can cause symptoms such as nausea, cramps, diarrhea and associated headaches. The water may also contain inorganic constituents, such as salts and metals; pesticides and herbicides; organic chemicals from industrial or petroleum use; or naturally occurring radioactive materials or minerals.

Some of these contaminants are harmless but make the water unappealing. Others could make consumers ill.

More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 800-426-4791 or PL&W Co. at 253-531-5666. ■



How To Read Test Results on Page 28

In the table on Page 28, you will find many unfamiliar terms and abbreviations. To help you better understand these terms, here are some definitions:

- ▶ MFL: Million fibers per liter of asbestos fibers longer than 10 micrometers.
- ▶ Non-Detects (ND): Laboratory analysis indicates the contaminant is not present.
- ▶ Parts per million (ppm) or milligrams per liter (mg/L): One part per million.
- ▶ Parts per billion (ppb) or micrograms per liter (ug/L): One part per billion.
- ▶ Parts per trillion (ppt): One part per trillion.
- ▶ Picocuries per liter (pCi/L): A measure of radioactivity in water.
- ▶ Action level (AL): The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements for a water system.
- ▶ Maximum contaminant level (MCL): The highest level of a contaminant allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to MCLGs (see below) as feasible, using the best available treatment technology. MCLs are set at stringent levels. To understand the possible health effects described for many regulated constituents, a person would have to drink two liters of water every day at the MCL level for a lifetime to have a one-in-a-million chance of having the described health effect.
- ▶ Maximum contaminant level goal (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.
- ▶ Treatment Technique (TT): is a required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
- ▶ Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL): 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.
- ▶ MRDL Goal (MRDLG): The level of 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.

PARKLAND LIGHT & WATER

Consumer Confidence Water Report

More information on Page 25

PL&W Co. has a Well Head Protection Program available from our office that provides more information, such as potential sources of contamination. PL&W Co. is pleased to report that our drinking water is safe and meets federal and state requirements.

If you have any questions or want to learn more about this report, visit www.plw.coop or contact Water Superintendent Dale Budzinski at 253-531-5666, Monday through Thursday, 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility.

PL&W Co. routinely monitors for contaminants in your drinking water according to federal and state laws. This table shows the results of monitoring for the period of January 1, 2016, to December 31, 2020. UCMR 4 and PFAS sampling were done in 2019. Visit www.plw.coop to view test results.

Test Results

Contaminant and Range Found	Violation Yes/No	Level Detected	Unit of Measure	MCLG	MCL	Likely source of Contamination
Microbiological Contaminants						
Total coliform bacteria	No	0	15 samples biweekly	0	0	Naturally present in environment
Fecal coliform and E. Coli	No	0	15 samples biweekly	0	0	Human and animal feces
Inorganic Contaminants						
Arsenic ND 0.003	2019	No	0.003 ppm	0.01	0.01	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; runoff from glass and electronics production
Asbestos ND 0.12	2019	No	0.12 MFL	7	7	Decay of asbestos cement water mains; erosion of natural deposits
Chlorine 0.41-1.50	2020	No	1.50 ppm	1.2	4	Water additive to control microbes
Copper <0.02-0.57	2020	No	0.57 ppm	1.3	AL=1.1	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Lead <0.001-0.0028	2020	No	0.0028 ppm	0.015	AL=.015	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate <0.2-2.48	2020	No	2.48 ppm	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks; sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Iron <0.1	2019	No	ND mg/L	N/A	0.3	Erosion of natural deposits
Manganese <0.01	2019	No	ND mg/L	N/A	0.05	Erosion of natural deposits
Volatile Organic Contaminants						
HAA's 6.14-8.38	2020	No	8.38 ppb	60	60	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
TTHM 7.70-13.4	2020	No	13.4 ppb	80	80	Byproduct of drinking water chlorination

Tests Find No Violations

As you can see by the table, PL&W Co.'s system had no violations. We are proud your drinking water meets or exceeds all federal and state requirements.

We have learned through our monitoring and testing that some contaminants have been detected. The Environmental Protection Agency has determined your water is safe at these levels.

Infants and young children are typically more vulnerable than the general population to lead in drinking water. Lead levels at your home may be higher than at other homes in the community because of materials used in your home's plumbing.

If you are concerned about elevated lead levels in your home's water, you may wish to contact a local lab to have your water tested. Flushing your tap for 30 seconds to two minutes before using the tap water greatly reduces the intake of lead.

Additional information is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 800-426-4791.

In our continuing effort to maintain a safe and dependable water supply, it may be necessary to improve the water system. The costs of these improvements may be reflected in the rate structure. Rate adjustments may be necessary to address some improvements.

We at PL&W Co. work around the clock to provide top-quality water to every tap. We ask that all of our customers help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community, our way of life and our children's future. Water quality testing for Well No. 10 has been waived while the pump has been removed due to maintenance and request for transferring the water rights.

PL&WCo. Delivers

As your water provider, we constantly monitor your water to make sure it is safe and available 24-hours a day, seven days a week. We make sure there is an adequate

supply of water to meet community needs.

We carefully treat water to remove any potentially harmful contaminants. We disinfect water to make sure it is safe when it reaches your faucet. We maintain an elaborate underground network of mains and pipes to get it there.

We deliver more than water. We deliver public health, fire protection, support for the economy and the overall quality of life we enjoy. Our job is to ensure your water keeps flowing not only today, but also well into the future. It is all part of our commitment to serve you and everyone in our community.

Please call our office if you have questions.

Drinking Water

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.

Get more information about contaminants and potential health effects 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 those with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, people 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 from their health care providers about drinking water.

EPA/Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines on ways to decrease risk of infection by cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline. ■

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Faucet Water Use By the Numbers

Standard Home

- ▶ Typical faucet flow rates (gallons per minute): 1.2
- ▶ Average faucet gallons per person per day: 9.2
- ▶ Average minutes of faucet use per person per day: 8.4

Conserving Home

- ▶ Typical faucet flow rates: 1.0
- ▶ Average faucet gallons per person per day: 8.0
- ▶ Average minutes of faucet use per person per day: 8.9

