



# Water Quality Report for 2023

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Each year, prior to July 1, Crescent Water sends its members a Water Quality Report showing the previous calendar year's water quality. Included are details about where your drinking water comes from and what it contains. Last year we conducted 135 tests for 90 drinking water contaminants. 36 tests were for total coliform.

Our source water is drawn from the Lyre River, one mile downstream from the Lake Crescent outflow. The water enters a settling tank and, when needed, is drawn into the Water Treatment Plant after being injected with chlorine gas. The chlorine kills bacteria cells and inactivates viruses. Before the water leaves the Treatment Plant, it is drawn through filters coated with diatomaceous earth, reducing the turbidity (cloudiness) of the 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. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

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 microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally-occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive materials, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity. Contaminants that may be present in source water treatment it 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 and 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.

To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the Department of Health and EPA prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and the Washington Department of Agriculture regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that must provide the same protection for public health.

## 2023 WATER QUALITY DATA

The table below lists all the drinking water contaminants that were at or above the State Reporting Limit (SRL) during the 2023 calendar year. The presence of these contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table is from testing done Jan 1 – Dec 31, 2023. The state requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once a year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year. Some of the data, though representative of the water quality, is more than one year old.

The Washington State Department of Health reduced the monitoring requirements for Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs), Inorganic Compounds (IOCs), and Synthetic Organic Compounds (SOCs) because the source is not at risk for contamination. The last samples collected for these contaminants were taken on August 10, 2023 for IOCs, April 13, 2023 for VOCs, and were found to meet all applicable standards unless otherwise noted below.

Terms & abbreviations used below:

- **Lead and Copper 90<sup>th</sup> Percentile.** Out of every 10 homes sampled, 9 were at or below this level
- **Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL):** 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 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.
- **mg/L:** milligrams per liter
- **NA:** Not applicable
- **nd:** not detectable at testing limit
- **ppb:** parts per billion
- **ppm:** parts per million
- **State Reporting Level (SRL):** The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, must be reported.
- **Trigger/Action Level (AL):** The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.

**NOTE: If “MCL” or “AL” are not listed, a level has not been established by the state or federal government**

Contaminant	MCL	AL	SRL	Test Result	Date	Typical Source
Dichloroacetic Acid (mg/L)			.0010	.0066	11-13-22	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Trichloroacetic Acid (mg/L)			.0010	.0056	11-13-22	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Haloacetic Acids (mg/L)	.0600	.0450	.0010	.0120	11-13-22	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Chloroform (mg/L)			.0005	.0030	4-17-23	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Bromodichloromethane (mg/L)		-	.0005	.0015	4-17-23	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Dibromochloromethane(mg/L)			.0005	.0086	11-13-22	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Chloride (mg/L)	.250	∞	.0020	.0031	8-10-23	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Sulfate (mg/L)	.250	∞	.0020	.0067	8-10-23	Naturally present in environment
Mercury	.002		.0002	.0003	8-10-23	Naturally present in environment
		∞				
		∞				
		∞				

--Total organic carbon (TOC) has no health effects. However, TOC provides a medium for the formation of disinfection by-products. These by-products include trihalomethanes (THMs) and haloacetic acid (HAAs). Drinking water containing these by-products in excess of the MCL may lead to adverse health effects, liver or kidney problems, or nervous system effects, and may lead to an increased risk of getting cancer

Contaminant	MCL	AL	SRL	Test Result	Date	Typical Source
Total Organic Compounds (TOC) (mg/L)			.70	ND	3-24-23	Naturally present in environment
			.70	ND	4-13-23	
			.70	.91	7-23-23	
			.70	.82	12-23-23	

Contaminant	MCLG	AL	SRL	90 <sup>th</sup> % Result	Date	Samples Exceeding AL	Typical Sources
<b>Lead</b> – Lead at consumers’ tap (mg/L)		.015	.001	ND	8-9-23	0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits

--In 2023 ten houses in the water system were tested for lead. Ranging from the lowest to the highest reading, the 9<sup>th</sup> house (90<sup>th</sup> percentile) tested at not detected (ND). None of the sample houses exceeded the Action Level (AL) of .015.

In Washington State, lead in drinking water comes primarily from materials and components used in household plumbing. The more time water has been sitting in pipes, the more dissolved metals, such as lead, it may contain. Infants and children who drink water containing lead in excess of the action level could experience delays in their physical or mental development. Children could show slight deficits in attention span and learning disabilities. Adults who drink this water over many years could develop kidney problems or high blood pressure.

To help reduce potential exposure to lead—for any drinking water tap that has not been used for 6 hours or more, flush water through the tap until the water is noticeably colder before using for drinking or cooking. You can use the flushed water for watering plants, washing dishes, or general cleaning. Only use water from the cold-water tap for drinking, cooking, and especially for making baby formula. Hot water is likely to contain higher levels of lead. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water is available from EPA’s Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791 or online at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

Contaminant	MCLG	AL	SRL	90 <sup>th</sup> % Result	Date	Samples Exceeding AL	Typical Sources
Copper – (mg/L) Copper at consumers’ tap		1.3	.02	.16	8-9-23	0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits

--In 2023 ten houses in the water system were tested for copper. Ranging from the lowest to the highest reading, the 9<sup>th</sup> house (90<sup>th</sup> percentile) tested at .16 mg/L. 4 houses tested at or lower than the State Reporting Level of .02 mg/L. None of the homes tested at or above the Action Level of 1.3 mg/L.

Copper is an essential nutrient, but some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over many years could suffer liver or kidney damage. People with Wilson’s Disease should consult their personal doctor.

As with Lead, to help reduce potential exposure to copper—for any drinking water tap that has not been used for 6 hours or more, flush water through the tap until the water is noticeably colder before using for drinking or cooking. You can use the flushed water for watering plants, washing dishes, or general cleaning. If you are concerned about copper in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on copper in drinking is available from EPA’s Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791 or online at <http://water.epa.gov/drink/contaminants/basicinformation/copper.cfm>

**Water Conservation/Water Use Efficiency**

Water conservation measures are an important first step in protecting our water supply. Such measures not only save the supply of our water, but can also cut the cost of water treatment. Here are a few suggestions:

**Inside the house:**

- Fix leaking faucets, pipes, toilets, etc.
- Install water-saving devices in faucets, toilets, and appliances. Replace old fixtures with new ones.
- Wash only full loads of laundry.
- Do not use the toilet for trash disposal.
- Soak dishes before washing and run the dishwasher only when full.

**Outside the house:**

- Water the lawn and garden in the early morning or evening and use mulch around plants and shrubs.
- Repair leaks in faucets and hoses. Use water-saving nozzles.
- Use water from a bucket to wash your vehicle. Save the hose for rinsing.

For more information about your water, call 360-928-3128 and ask for Connie Beauvais.

**Connie Beauvais**  
**Manager**

5/8/24