

# 2023 Water Quality Report



City of White Salmon  
Consumer Confidence Report  
Reporting year 2023

Photo Credit: Ryan Adam,  
White Salmon Public Works Operator

# Consumer Confidence Report

**The City of White Salmon** is pleased to provide this Water Quality Report for the year 2023 to each person who receives drinking water from the municipal water system. This report is a Summary of the quality of water provided during 2023. The report includes details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to the stringent standards established by the regulatory agencies. The City of White Salmon Water System is regulated by the State of Washington Department of Health (DOH). *Our Water System ID is #96350B*

**SPANISH (Español)** Este reporte continene información muy inportante sobre la calidad de su agua de beber. Traduscalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

## Meter Replacement Program

The City is in the final stages of replacing manual meters with digital meters. The new meters are Master Meter AMI meters. These meters allow the city to radio read the meters with an option to upgrade into a fixed base system. This will help the city and customers detect leaks faster. This year, the City completed installing all residential services and will have all commercial services replace by the end of 2024.

## Other Information

The city monitored its treated water supply for a host of Inorganic Compounds (IOC's) and Synthetic Organic Compounds (SOC's) using laboratories certified by the Washington State Department of Health. This year the public works department experienced turnover for the City Administrator, Public Works Director and Operations Manager (Currently vacant) positions. Due to these complications, the Public Works Staff was unable to submit Nitrate samples for (SO1 & SO3) Buck Creek and Well #1. This is considered a reporting violation. Nitrate samples have been taken at these sites since then and will be considered within compliance for the reporting year 2023. There is no need to be concerned with the safety of the drinking water, all the sources have been treated and disinfected through proper means and methods.

## Water Quality Table

The table on page 3 lists all of the drinking water contaminants detected for Year 2023. The presence of contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table represents monitoring in calendar year 2023. The EPA or the State requires the City to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently.

The following are the samples and quantity taken in 2023.

## Terms & Abbreviations

**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.

**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.

**Action Level (AL):** the concentration of a contaminant which, when exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

**Treatment Technique (TT):** 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 (e.g. chlorine, chloramines, chlorine dioxide) is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

**Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG):** 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.

**Variations and Exemptions:** State or EPA permission not to meet an MCL, an action level, or a treatment technique under certain conditions.

• n/a: not applicable • nd: not detectable at testing limit • ppb: parts per billion or micrograms per liter • ppm: parts per million or milligrams per liter • pCi/l: picocuries per liter (a measure of radiation) • TT: treatment technique

**SRL (State Reporting Level):** The minimum reporting level established by the Washington State Department of Health (DOH).

**90th %ile:** The levels reported for lead and copper represent the 90th percentile of the total number of sites tested. The 90th percentile is equal to or greater than 90% of our lead and copper detections.

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health issue, especially for young children and pregnant women. Lead in drinking water is primarily from components and materials associated with service lines and home plumbing. The City of White Salmon 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 flushing the tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes prior to use. If you are concerned about lead in your water 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/safewater/lead>

Inorganic Contaminants	MCL	SRL	RESULTS	Date	Violations	Typical Source of Contaminant	
Nitrate (S04)	10	.50	ND	7-12-23	No	Run off from the use of fertilizer; leaching from septic tank sewage; erosion of natural deposits.	
Inorganic Contaminants	MCL	SRL	RESULTS	Date	Violations	Typical Source of Contaminant	
T.O.C. (S01) Buck Creek Filter #1	N/A	.70	.88	12-13-23	No	Total Organic Carbon (TOC) has no health effects. However, total organic carbon provides a medium for the formation of disinfection by-products. These by-products include trihalomethanes (THM's) and haloacetic acids (HAA's). 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.	
T.O.C. (S01) Buck Creek Filter #2	N/A	.70	.96	12-13-23	No		
T.O.C. (S01) Buck Creek Inlet	N/A	.70	ND	11-21-23	No		
Inorganic Contaminants	MCL	SRL	RESULTS	Date	Violations	Typical Source of Contaminant	
Fecal/total Coliform (S01) Buck Creek Inlet Before entering the treatment plant.  These tests are done to show what the water is like before water treatment is done.	0	1.8	Fecal Total		1-5-23	No	A fecal coliform is a facultatively anaerobic, rod-shaped, gram-negative, non-sporulating bacterium.  Total coliform is a term used to measure the amount of coliform bacteria in water.
			17	350			
			<1.8	49			
			<1.8	17			
			<1.8	<1.8			
			4.5	350			
			<1.8	7.8			
			11	350			
			7.8	54			
			<1.8	280			
13	1600						
11	350						
2	920						
12-13-23	No						
Inorganic Contaminants	MCL	SRL	RESULTS	Date	Violations	Typical Source of Contaminant	
HAA5's (S01, S02, S04)	60	2	8.2	3-19-23	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection.  Indian Lane Test Station	
- Dibromoacetic Acid	N/A	1	ND	3-19-23	No		
- Dichloroacetic Acid	N/A	1	3.3	3-19-23	No		
- Monobromoacetic Acid	N/A	1	ND	3-19-23	No		
- Monochloroacetic Acid	N/A	2	ND	3-19-23	No		
- Trichloroacetic Acid	N/A	1	5.0	3-19-23	No		
Inorganic Contaminants	MCL	SRL	RESULTS	Date	Violations	Typical Source of Contaminant	
TTHM's (S01, S02, S04)	60	.50	6.8	3-19-23	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection.  Indian Lane Test Station	
- Bromodichloromethane	N/A	.50	1.0	3-19-23	No		
- Bromoform	N/A	.50	ND	3-19-23	No		
- Chloroform	N/A	.50	4.5	3-19-23	No		
- Dibromochloromethane	N/A	.50	ND	3-19-23	No		
Inorganic Contaminants	MCL	SRL	RESULTS	Date	Violations	Typical Source of Contaminant	
HAA5's (S01, S03, S04)	60	2	6.7	3-19-23	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection.  Eyre Road Test Station	
- Dibromoacetic Acid	N/A	1	ND	3-19-23	No		
- Dichloroacetic Acid	N/A	1	2.6	3-19-23	No		
- Monobromoacetic Acid	N/A	1	ND	3-19-23	No		
- Monochloroacetic Acid	N/A	2	ND	3-19-23	No		
- Trichloroacetic Acid	N/A	1	4.1	3-19-23	No		
Inorganic Contaminants	MCL	SRL	RESULTS	Date	Violations	Typical Source of Contaminant	
TTHM's (S01, S03, S04)	60	.50	5.5	3-19-23	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection.  Eyre Road Test Station	
- Bromodichloromethane	N/A	.50	1.0	3-19-23	No		
- Bromoform	N/A	.50	ND	3-19-23	No		
- Chloroform	N/A	.50	4.5	3-19-23	No		
- Dibromochloromethane	N/A	.50	ND	3-19-23	No		
Inorganic Contaminants	MCL	SRL	90 <sup>th</sup> %ile	Date	Violations	Typical Source of Contaminant	
Lead:	15	.020	.0050	8-15-22	No	Lead and copper in service lines and household plumbing are the primary drinking water corrosion compounds of concern.	
Inorganic Contaminants	MCL	SRL	90 <sup>th</sup> %ile	Date	Violations	Typical Source of Contaminant	
Copper:	1.3	.0010	.099	8-15-22	No	Lead and copper in service lines and household plumbing are the primary drinking water corrosion compounds of concern.	

## Why are there contaminants in my 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. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791). Drinking water can come from surface water, springs or ground water. As water moves over or through the earth, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material. It can also gather Viruses, Bacteria and inorganic or other contaminants from human or animal activity. Sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, wildlife; inorganic contaminants such as salts and metals from natural or artificial sources, domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or faming pesticides and herbicides; organic chemical contaminants from industrial processes or storage facilities, can all be sources of contamination. In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems.

## Do I need to take special precautions?

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).

## Where does my water come from?

The City of White Salmon takes its water supply from two deep groundwater wells which pump from the Grand Ronde Aquifer and Buck Creek surface source. Productions Wells #1, #2 and Buck Creek have DOH source ID's of SO3, SO4 and SO1 respectively. The well's location is 4 miles north of White Salmon, West of RS141. Buck creek is located 4 miles up Buck Creek Road off SR141. They have a combined capacity of 1,800 gallons per minute (GPM). In 2023 the City's water system produced 318.5 million gallons of water, all of which was disinfected with sodium/ calcium hypochlorite. Both wells have a System Susceptibility rating of "Low".

## How can I get involved?

The City of White Salmon welcomes input on decisions that affect drinking water. Council meetings are the first and third Wednesday of each month 6:00 pm, apart from July and August, which is the first Wednesday of the month at the City Fire Hall Building (119 Church Ave.) Staff may be contacted at (509)493-1133. Additionally view online for scheduled topics.

## Cross Connection Control

The purpose is to determine whether a cross-connection may exist at your home or business. A cross connection is an unprotected or improper connection to a potable water distribution system that may cause contamination or pollution to enter the system. We are responsible for enforcing cross-connection control regulations and ensuring that no contaminants can, under any flow conditions, enter the distribution system. If you have any of the devices listed below, please contact us at (509) 493-1133 Ext: 502 so that we can discuss the issue, and if needed, survey your connection and assist you in isolating it if that is necessary.

- Boiler/ Radiant heater (water heaters not included)
- Underground lawn sprinkler system
- Pool or hot tub (whirlpool tubs not included)
- Additional source(s) of water on the property (well, spring, or river)
- Decorative pond
- Watering trough

*“Water is life, and clean water means health”*

**– Audrey Hepburn**

## Water Conservation Tips

Did you know that the average U.S. household uses approximately 400 gallons of water per day or 100 gallons per person per day? Luckily, there are many low-cost and no-cost ways to conserve water. Small changes can make a big difference – try one today and soon it will become second nature.

- Take short showers. A 5-minute shower uses 4 to 5 gallons of water compared to up to 50 gallons for a bath.
- Shut off water while brushing your teeth, washing your hair and shaving and save up to 500 gallons a month.
- Use a water-efficient showerhead. They're inexpensive, easy to install, and can save you up to 750 gallons a month.
- Run your clothes washer and dishwasher only when they are full. You can save up to 1,000 gallons a month.
- Water plants only when necessary.
- Fix leaky toilets and faucets. Faucet washers are inexpensive and take only a few minutes to replace. To check your toilet for a leak, place a few drops of food coloring in the tank and wait. If it seeps into the toilet bowl without flushing, you have a leak. Fixing it or replacing it with a new, more efficient model can save up to 1,000 gallons a month.
- Adjust sprinklers so only your lawn is watered. Apply water only as fast as the soil can absorb it and during the cooler parts of the day to reduce evaporation.
- Teach your kids about water conservation to ensure a future generation that uses water wisely. Make it a family effort to reduce next month's water bill!
- Visit [www.epa.gov/watersense](http://www.epa.gov/watersense) for more information.

## Source Water Protection Tips

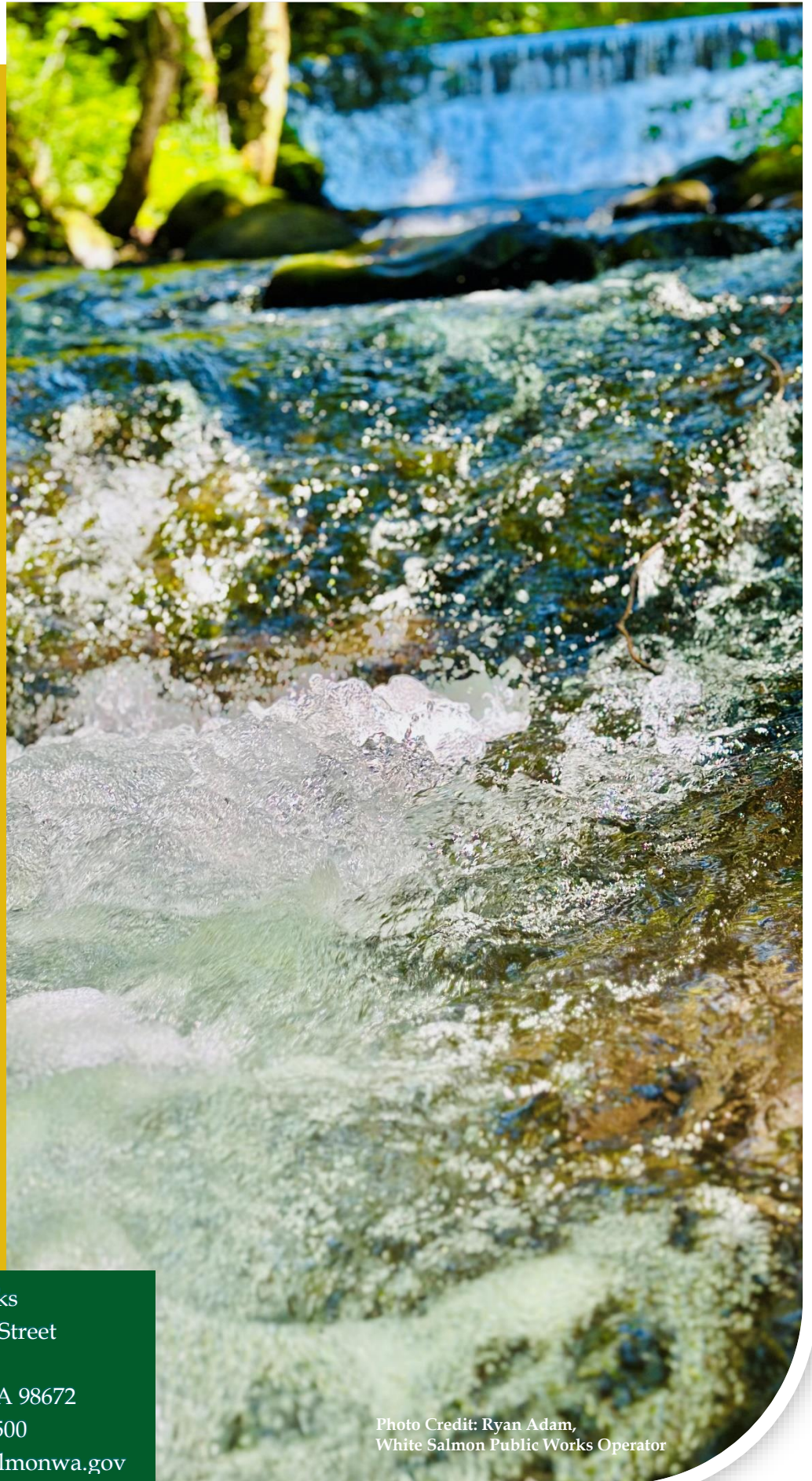
Protection of drinking water is everyone's responsibility. You can help protect your community's drinking water source in several ways:

- Eliminate excess use of lawn and garden fertilizers and pesticides – they contain hazardous chemicals that can reach your drinking water source.
- Pick up after your pets.
- If you have your own septic system, properly maintain your system to reduce leaching to water sources or consider connecting to a public sewer system.
- Dispose of chemicals properly; take used motor oil to a recycling center.
- Volunteer in your community. Find a watershed or wellhead protection organization in your community and volunteer to help. If there are no active groups, consider starting one. Use EPA's Adopt Your Watershed to locate groups in your community or visit the Watershed Information Network's How to Start a Watershed Team.
- Organize a storm drain stenciling project with your local government or water supplier. Stencil a message next to the street drain reminding people "Dump No Waste - Drains to River" or "Protect Your Water." Produce and distribute a flyer for households to remind residents that storm drains dump directly into your local water body.

*"We never know the worth of water until the well is dry."* - Thomas Fuller

Contact Name: Andrew Dirks  
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PO Box 2139  
White Salmon, WA 98672  
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E-Mail: [andrewd@whitesalmonwa.gov](mailto:andrewd@whitesalmonwa.gov)

Photo Credit: Ryan Adam,  
White Salmon Public Works Operator





# CITY OF WHITE SALMON

## PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

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April 30, 2024

Treatment Technique Violation

Throughout 2023, the City of White Salmon experienced turnover in key positions, including City Administrator, Public Works Director, and Operations Manager (currently vacant). As a result, the Public Works Staff missed sampling for nitrates at two of its source water locations, Buck Creek (S01) and Well #1 (S03). Consequently, the City is unable to report nitrate levels in the water for 2023. Historically, there have been no failures in nitrate sampling at these sites. The required nitrate samples have been taken at all source water sites for 2024.

There is no need to be concerned about the safety of the drinking water. All sources have been properly treated and disinfected using appropriate methods.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "AD", is placed over a light blue rectangular background.

Andrew Dirks

Public Works Director





# Chemical Monitoring Violation

331-691 • June 2022

## Notice to Water System Users

We The City of White Salmon Water System, I.D. 96350B, located in Klickitat County, are required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring indicate whether or not your drinking water meets health standards. We did not meet our monitoring requirements for the chemicals listed below for the specified time period, and therefore cannot be sure of the quality of your drinking water at that time.

Chemical Contaminant	Required From	Required To
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nitrate	1.1.2023	12.31.2023
<input type="checkbox"/> Lead and Copper		
<input type="checkbox"/> Total Trihalomethanes		
<input type="checkbox"/> Haloacetic Acids		
<input type="checkbox"/> Bromate		
<input type="checkbox"/> Arsenic		
<input type="checkbox"/> Complete Inorganic Contaminants (IOCs)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Volatile Organic Contaminants (VOCs)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Pesticides		
<input type="checkbox"/> Herbicides		
<input type="checkbox"/> Other		

At this time:

- Our required samples for each contaminant listed above have been collected for this monitoring period.
- We will collect samples in the future as required.
- Other information for customers.

For more information, contact the owner or operator Andrew Dirks at phone 509-493-1133 EXT 500.

This notice is sent to you by City of White Salmon Water System on Click or tap to enter a date..

### Chemical Monitoring Public Notice Certification Form

This section must be completed by the water system. Signature below indicates notice contained all required elements.

#### Complete the following items (check all that apply):

- Notice mailed to all water customers on Pick Date.
- Notice hand delivered to all water customers on Pick Date.
- Notice included in annual Consumer Confidence Report (attach copy).
- Notice posted at on Pick Date.

**(By Department Approval Only)**

Public Works Director

7/1/2024

Signature of owner or operator

Position

Date

#### Send copy of completed notification and certification to

Office of Drinking Water, Water Quality Section  
 PO Box 47822  
 Olympia, WA 98504-7822  
 FAX (360)236-2252



To request this document in another format, call 1-800-525-0127. Deaf or hard of hearing customers, please call 711 (Washington Relay) or email [civil.rights@doh.wa.gov](mailto:civil.rights@doh.wa.gov).