

***Your 2022 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report  
Glacier Springs Water System, Whatcom County, ID# 27755***

We're pleased to present to you this Annual Water Quality Report for calendar year 2021. This is designed to inform you about the quality of water and services we deliver to you every day. The Department of Health calls these *Consumer Confidence Reports*. These will be distributed annually prior to June 30. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve and protect our water resources. If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact **Larry Watts at 360-510-3843 or email [info@glaciersprings.org](mailto:info@glaciersprings.org)**.

**Where does my water come from?**

Our water source is a sanitarily developed groundwater spring that feeds two storage tanks and the distribution system by gravity. This spring source is located on DNR property leased to Glacier Springs.

**Are there contaminants in my drinking water?**

Glacier Springs Water System routinely monitors for contaminants in your drinking water in accordance with the Water Quality Monitoring Schedule (WQMS) generated by WSDOH. A total of 12 different contaminants were monitored in samples taken throughout the distribution system. The table shown on page 3 indicates that, of the contaminants tested for, ***none were detected during the period of January 1<sup>st</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2021.***

Your water is tested monthly for the presence of coliform bacteria. The presence of coliform bacteria is an indicator that there may be a breach in our system and a possible health risk. When coliform is detected, the sample is further tested for E-coli and fecal coliform. To date, no E-coli or fecal coliform has been detected. You can rest assured that our system is fully compliant with DOH regulations and water quality monitoring, and our water is very safe. We will submit a comprehensive summary and report at our Annual General Meeting (AGM) in October 2022. If at any time in the future sample tests should indicate a potential health risk to our customers, a detailed notice with instructions will be distributed to all full-time customers.

**Contaminants in 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).

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 infections 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 material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

Contaminants that may be present in source water 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 storm water 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 storm water 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 storm water runoff, and septic systems.

**Radioactive contaminants**, which can occur naturally or result from oil and gas production and mining activities.

**Lead:** 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. Elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially in pregnant women and young children. 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>.

**Nitrate:** Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 10 ppm is a health risk for infants of less than six months of age. High nitrate levels in drinking water can cause blue baby syndrome. Nitrate levels may rise quickly for short periods of time because of rainfall or agricultural activity. If you are caring for an infant, you should ask for advice from your health care provider.

### **How can I get involved?**

We want our members to be informed about their water utility. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled board meetings. Names and contact information of board members is maintained at <http://glaciersprings.org/board-of-directors/>

### **Water Quality Test Data**

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.

In the table below you will find terms and abbreviations you might not be familiar with. To help you better understand these terms we've provided the following definitions:

- **Maximum Contaminant Level or 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 or 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.
- **ND** – not detected

## TEST RESULTS

Contaminant	Violations Y/N	Level	Units of Measure	MCLG	MCL	Sample Date	Likely Source of Contamination
Total Coliform	N	ND	/100ml	ND	ND	monthly	surface water contamination
Nitrates	N	ND	mg/L	5	10	5/18/21	commercial fertilizer
<b>PCBs/Toxaphene</b>							
Toxaphene	N	ND	ug/L	1	3	7/9/21	
Chlordane, Technical	N	ND	ug/L	0.2	2	7/9/21	
<b>EPA Unregulated</b>							
Aroclor 1221	N	ND	ug/L	20		7/9/21	
Aroclor 1232	N	ND	ug/L	0.5		7/9/21	
Aroclor 1242	N	ND	ug/L	0.3		7/9/21	
Aroclor 1248	N	ND	ug/L	0.1		7/9/21	
Aroclor 1254	N	ND	ug/L	0.1		7/9/21	
Aroclor 1260	N	ND	ug/L	0.2		7/9/21	
Aroclor 1016	N	ND	ug/L	0.08		7/9/21	
PCBs (Total Aroclors)	N	ND	ug/L	0.2	0.5	7/9/21	

### ***Microbiological Contaminants:***

*Total Coliform. Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially harmful, bacteria may be present.*

*The Total Coliform Rule requires water systems to meet a stricter limit for coliform bacteria. Coliform bacteria are usually harmless, but their presence in water can be an indication of disease-causing bacteria. When coliform bacteria are found, special follow-up tests are done to determine if harmful bacteria are present in the water supply. If this limit is exceeded, the water supplier must notify the public by direct delivery and/or the most effective means available.*