

# Glacier Springs Water System

## 2022 Water Quality Report

Glacier Springs Water System is pleased to present to you its Annual Water Quality Report for calendar year 2022. This report explains where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and State Standards. Our goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact James Klessig at (360) 599-9594 or email [info@glaciersprings.org](mailto:info@glaciersprings.org).

Este informe contiene informacion muy importante sobre su agua beber. Traduzcalo o hablo alguien que lo entienda bien. (Translated: This report contains very important information about your drinking water. Translate it, or speak it, with someone who understands it well.)

**YOUR WATER SOURCE:** 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.

**MESSAGE FROM THE EPA:** Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants doesn't necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immune-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 for infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (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 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 and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.
- Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban storm-water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining or farming.
- Pesticides and herbicide, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, 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, and can, also, come from gas station, urban storm-water runoff, and septic tank systems.
- Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe, EPA prescribes regulations, which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health.

**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 DATA

The table below lists the drinking water substances that we detected during the 2022 calendar year unless otherwise noted. Substances that were below the State Reporting Limit (SRL), or were Not Detected (ND), are generally not included in this table. The presence of substances in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. The EPA or the State requires us to monitor for certain substances less than once per year because the concentrations of these substances do not change frequently.

#### SAMPLED FOR AT THE SOURCE

| Inorganic Substances | MCL | MCLG | Our Water | Range of Detections | Sample Date | In Compliance ? | Typical Source Of Substance   |
|----------------------|-----|------|-----------|---------------------|-------------|-----------------|---|
| Nitrate (ppm)        | 10  | 10   | ND        | NA                  | 5/10/2022   | Yes             | Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits |

#### SAMPLED FOR AT THE DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM OR THE CONSUMER TAP

| Type of Substance | MCL    | MCLG | Our Water | Range of Detections                                  | Sample Date | In Compliance ? | Typical Source Of Substance   |
|-------------------|--------|------|-----------|--|-------------|-----------------|---|
| Copper (ppm)      | AL=1.3 | 1.3  | 0.04365   | 0.0184 - 0.436<br>0 out of 5 samples exceeded the AL | 6/20/2022   | Yes             | Corrosion of house hold plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits |
| Lead (ppb)        | AL=15  | 0    | 1.2       | ND - 1.3<br>0 out of 5 samples exceeded the AL       | 6/20/2022   | Yes             | Corrosion of house hold plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits |

\*Lead and Copper 90th Percentile: Out of every 10 homes sampled, 9 were at or below this level. 5 Lead & Copper samples were collected in 2022, 0 samples exceeded the Action Level for Copper, 0 samples exceeded the Action Level for Lead.

#### SECONDARY\* AND OTHER TESTING

| Type of Substance       | SMCL | MCLG | Our Water | Range of Detections | Sample Date | In Compliance ? | Typical Source Of Substance   |
|-------------------------|------|------|-----------|---------------------|-------------|-----------------|---|
| Sodium (ppm)            | NA   | NA   | 6.4       | NA                  | 5/3/2020    | Yes             | Naturally present in the environment  |
| Hardness (ppm)          | NA   | NA   | 52.4      | NA                  | 5/3/2020    | Yes             | Refers to the calcium carbonate content of water (a naturally occurring mineral). |
| Conductivity (umhos/cm) | 700  | NA   | 126       | NA                  | 5/3/2020    | Yes             | A measure of the ability of water to carry an electric current.                   |

\*National Secondary Drinking Water Regulations are non-enforceable guidelines regarding substances that may cause cosmetic effects or aesthetic effects (such as taste, odor, or color) in drinking water and are not health based. EPA recommends secondary standards to water systems but does not require systems to comply.

#### WATER QUALITY TABLE DEFINITIONS:

**NA** (Not applicable), **ppm**: (parts per million) **ppb** (parts per billion) **pci** (picocuries per liter) **NTU**: (Nephelometric Turbidity Units) **MCL**: Maximum Contaminant Level: The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs (Maximum Contaminant Level Goals) as feasible using the best available treatment technology. **MCLG**: Maximum Contaminant Level Goal The level of a contaminate in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety. **AL**: Action Level; The concentration of a contaminate which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow. **MRDL** Maximum residual disinfectant level. **MRDLG**: Maximum residual disinfectant level goal. **SMCL**: Secondary Maximum Contaminant Level. These standards are developed to protect the aesthetic qualities of drinking water and are not health based. **ND**: Not Detected **SRL**: (State Reporting Level) The minimum reporting level required by Washington State Department of Health (DOH).

**ABOUT NITRATES:** Nitrates-N in drinking water 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 your health care provider. (Please note we are below the MCL level of 10 ppm. See water quality data table on page 2)

**COPPER:** Copper is an essential nutrient, but some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over a relatively short period of time could experience gastrointestinal distress. 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.

**LEAD:** Infants and young children are typically more vulnerable to lead in drinking water than the general population. It is possible that lead levels at your home may be higher than in other homes in the community as a result 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 have your water tested and flush your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using tap water. Additional information is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

**LEAD AND COPPER SAMPLING:** The sampling technique used for lead and copper monitoring requires us to take samples from five individual homes receiving water from our system. As you can see in the table above the levels of lead and copper can change dramatically from home to home depending on the materials used in construction. Homes with lead and copper present in their plumbing system are at greater risk of having elevated lead and copper levels in their water. The only way to know the amount of lead and copper in your household water is to have your water tested by a certified laboratory. For the name of a certified drinking water laboratory, call the Office of Drinking Water at 1-800-521-0323

**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.

**WATER CONSERVATION GOAL:** As a result of Washington State’s 2007 Water Use Efficiency Rule (WUE Rule) our water system has adopted a water use efficiency goal. The WUE Rule requires that the association’s goal be re-established at a minimum of every six years, and that progress towards the goal be reported annually to the State and to the association’s members. Our goal is to “Reduce the amount of water lost to leaks during our fiscal year 2017 by 10 gallons per day.”

#### Water Conservation Ideas

- Shorten your shower by a minute or two and you will save up to 150 gallons per month.
- Put food coloring in your toilet tank. If it seeps into the toilet bowl without flushing, you have a leak. Fixing it can save up to 1,000 gallons a month.
- Use a water-efficient showerhead. They are inexpensive, easy to install, and can save you up to 750 gallons a month.
- Make sure there are water-saving aerators on all your faucets.
- Turn off the water while you shave and save up to 300 gallons a month.

We encourage you to be aware of water leaks on or around your property and report them to the water system by contacting James Klessig at (360) 599-9594 or email [info@glaciersprings.org](mailto:info@glaciersprings.org).

**Glacier Springs Water System**  
PO Box 126  
Maple Falls, WA 98266  
(360) 599-9594  
[info@glaciersprings.org](mailto:info@glaciersprings.org)



EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline  
1-800-426-4791