East Wenatchee Water District

2022 Water Quality Report

Providing clean, fresh drinking water has been our top commitment to you and your family since 1940.

The Board of Commissioners and the staff at the East Wenatchee Water District would like to reaffirm our promise to you that the quality of drinking water we provide will be an expression of our care for the community we serve. The District has a long history of providing excellent water quality and reliable service to the customers of the Greater East Wenatchee Area and will remain proactive in maintaining pristine water quality that meets or exceeds state and federal standards.

At less than a penny for three gallons, water costs very little compared to its true value.

Water Districts provide water services without imposing property taxes or impacting tax limits and are dedicated to water conservation through rates, metering, consumer education and system efficiencies. With issues of water quality an increasingly common story in the media, we here at the District believe it's important to safeguard the quality and availability of this precious resource.

Your water rates pay for everything it takes to operate our water system, from storage and treatment to delivering the water to your tap. Your water rates also help fund system improvements that ensure we always provide high-quality water.

The East Wenatchee Water District is proud to partner with the EPA's WaterSense Program.

- Look for the WaterSense label when you buy water-using fixtures to save water and money!
- Remember that 1" of water per week is all your lawn needs to stay healthy. To easily determine if your lawn needs to be watered, simply walk across it. If you leave footprints, it's time to water. Don't waste by over-watering!
- Pick low-water plants. When you buy plants, choose plants for immediate beauty and future water savings. Group plants with similar water needs together. Explore Xeriscape for landscaping ideas.
- Mulch-mow your lawn. Set your mower height at 2-inches and leaving the clippings on the lawn. The clippings help retain moisture and you won't need to bag the clippings!
- Water wisely. When you do water, water deeply, but infrequently. Water only during the cooler hours of the day, between 7:00 p.m. and 10:00 a.m. to avoid losing up to half of your water to evaporation.
- Adjust sprinklers to avoid watering the street, driveways and sidewalks. Choose sprinklers with spray patterns that match the shape of your lawn or garden area.

CHECK YOUR METER - Turn off all water-using appliances and fixtures inside and outside your home. Locate the water meter (typically out at the property line in a concrete box. Call us if you're not sure!) Check and record the current meter reading. Wait 10 minutes, without using any water inside or outside the home. While you're waiting check and see if there's a leak detection dial on the meter. It is usually a small red or black triangle that spins if there is water being used and is an indication that there is a leak.

After the 10 minutes, check the meter again and compare readings. If the numbers don't match, you have a leak. The most common culprits are leaking toilets and dripping faucets

TEST YOUR TOILET - Lift the lid off of the tank on the back or your toilet and add 5 to 10 drops of food coloring, or a dye tablet (available at our office) into the tank. Wait 5 minutes and then check the toilet bowl. If you see coloring in the bowl, you have a leak. In most cases, replacing the toilet flapper and/or the filling mechanism will correct the problem.

EDUCATIONAL INFORMATION

As water travels over the surface of land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity. Contaminants that can occur in untreated water include: microbial contaminants such as viruses and bacteria; inorganic contaminants such as salts and metals; pesticides and herbicides; organic chemicals from industrial or petroleum use, and radioactive materials. In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amounts of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health.

THE PURPOSE OF DISINFECTION AND THE RESULTING DISINFECTION BY-PRODUCTS

Drinking water is disinfected with chlorine to destroy bacteria, viruses and Giardia. Inadequate disinfection may lead to acute gastrointestinal illnesses. However, as the disinfectant reacts with naturally occurring organic matter in the water, disinfection by-products are formed. Disinfection by-products have been linked to increased cancer risks from drinking water containing high levels over many years. New drinking water regulations provide a balance between required levels of disinfection and the resulting disinfection by-products. We are pleased to announce that after eight years of extensive monitoring for disinfection by-products throughout our District we have seen results well below any state or federal action levels. We also monitor chlorine residual levels throughout our system daily.

INFORMATION ON LEAD IN DRINKING WATER

Even though lead is not found in District water sources, pipes and plumbing fixtures in buildings can contribute lead to drinking water.

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 may be leached into the line.

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. Information on lead in drinking water is available from EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at **1-800-426-4791** or **www.epa.gov/safewater/lead**

If you're concerned or think you may have lead in your home's pipes or water fixtures, you can test for lead using a home test kit. These inexpensive kits are available online and at most major hardware stores.

If you find that you have lead in your home's water, there are some steps that you can take to begin limiting your exposure.

Drink cold water. If water has not been used for a few hours, run the cold water for two minutes before using. Replace faucets and indoor plumbing with "lead-free" components. Hire a plumber to replace your lead service lines with copper ones.

Why Tap Water is Better than Bottled (and not just in an emergency)

Four Reasons to Stop Buying Bottled Water:

1. The COVID-19 virus has not been detected in tap water. Standard procedures for tap water filtration, disinfection, and treatment removes or inactivates the virus.
2. Each year, 17 million barrels of oil are used to produce the plastic for bottled water (equivalent to 340 million gallons of gasoline).
3. Only 1 in 5 of these plastic water bottles gets recycled.
4. Bottled water is much more expensive than tap water.

Tap water is the safest, most environmentally sound, and least expensive way to remain hydrated.

YOUR WATER IS SAFE FROM COVID-19

The EPA recommends that Americans continue to use and drink tap water as usual. According to the World Health Organization and the Center for Disease Control, "the virus that causes Covid-19 has not been detected in drinking water supplies."

Conventional water treatment methods that use disinfection, as is the case with our water, should remove or inactivate the virus that causes Covid-19. According to the World Health Organization water, sanitation and hygienic conditions are essential for protecting human health during infectious disease outbreaks and we take pride in providing you these essential services.

You may contact us during normal business hours by phone at **(509) 884-3569.**

WHERE OUR WATER COMES FROM

East Wenatchee Water District, System #218005. Your water comes from a groundwater source called the East Bank Aquifer. Located in Douglas County near Rocky Reach Dam, the aquifer is tapped by four wells drilled 200 feet in depth. The water from the East Bank Aquifer is of excellent quality and quantity and is capable of supplying an estimated 240 million gallons per day. The district also has two other seasonal groundwater sources that can be used if needed: Wells 4 & 5 located off Rock Island Road, and Well 7 located off of Cascade St. Water is not currently used from these sources.

SOURCE PROTECTION INFORMATION

The Department of Health has Source Water Assessment Program (SWAP) data compiled for all community Public Water Systems in Washington. SWAP data for the East Wenatchee Water District is available online at:
http://www.doh.wa.gov/ehp/dw/sw/assessment.htm
Simply enter our system name and **ID # 218005** for access.

DEFINITIONS:

LRAA: Locational running annual average.
ppb: Parts of contaminant per billion parts of water, also the same as micrograms per liter.
ppm: Parts of contaminant per million parts of water, also the same as milligrams per liter.
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.
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 Residual Disinfectant Level or MRDL: The highest level of disinfectant allowed in drinking water.
N/A: Not analyzed
NTU: Nephelometric Turbidity Unit

WHAT'S IN YOUR WATER AND WHAT ISN'T

The results of the most recent monitoring including that in 2022 are shown in the table below. Water was tested for the presence of potential contaminants, but only those required based on their detection are listed.
Samples were also taken monthly for the presence of Coliform 30 times from 8 different sample sights in 2022. Coliform are naturally present in the environment and a test result showing their presence simply indicates the need for additional sampling. Last year there were no unsatisfactory samples.
State and Federal regulations dictate which contaminants the district must test for and how often. Not all compounds are tested for every year. The results presented represent the most current data for the source and the water system. All results are representative of a raw water temperature of 47.7F°

ANALYTES	DETECTED LEVEL	UNIT	MCLG	MCL	COMPLY	LIKELY SOURCES
EPA REGULATED						
Arsenic	<0.001	**ppb**	0.002	0.01	**Yes**	Erosion of natural deposits and orchard run off
Barium	0.021	**ppm**	0.1	2	**Yes**	Erosion of natural deposits and drilling wastes
Nitrite - N	<0.05	**ppm**	0.5	1	**Yes**	Erosion of natural deposits, animal waste
Nitrate - N	0.14	**ppm**	0.5	10	**Yes**	Erosion of natural deposits, septic, fertilizer
Total Nitrate/Nitrite	0.16	**ppm**	0.5	10	**Yes**	Erosion of natural deposits, septic, fertilizer
EPA REGULATED (Secondary)						
Iron	0.002	**ppm**	0.1		**Yes**	Naturally occurring
Manganese	<0.005	**ppm**	0.01		**Yes**	Naturally occurring
Chloride	1.09	**ppm**	20		**Yes**	Naturally occurring
Sulfate	10.2	**ppm**	10		**Yes**	Naturally occurring
Sodium	2.48	**ppm**	5		**Yes**	Naturally occurring
Hardness	73.6	**ppm**	10		**Yes**	Erosion of calcium and mineral deposits
Turbidity	<0.025	**NTU**	0.3		**Yes**	Soil erosion
Total Dissolved Solids	97.0	**ppm**	150		**Yes**	Erosion of solids
Pesticides						
Dimethoate	NA	**ppm**		0.70	**Yes**	
Terbufos Sulfone	NA	**ppm**		0.40	**Yes**	
PBDE47	NA	**ppm**		0.30	**Yes**	
PBDE 100	NA	**ppm**		0.50	**Yes**	
PBDE 99	NA	**ppm**		0.90	**Yes**	
2,2',4,4',5,5'-Hexabromobiphenyl	NA	**ppm**		0.70	**Yes**	
PBDE 153	NA	**ppm**		0.80	**Yes**	
FROM THE TAP	**RANGE**				**90th Percentile**	
Lead	<0.0002 to 0.0083	**ppb**	0	15	**0.0018**	Plumbing corrosion, erosion of natural deposits
Copper	0.017 to 0.07	**ppm**	1.3	1.3	**0.552**	Plumbing corrosion, erosion of natural deposits
DISINFECTION BY-PRODUCTS						
Total Trihalomethane	5.6 LRAA	**ppb**	N/A	N/A	**Yes**	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Total Haloacetic Acid	1.174 LRAA	**ppb**	48	60	**Yes**	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Chlorine Residual	0.31 Avg.	**ppm**	MRDL=4	MRDL=4	**Yes**	Measure of remaining disinfectants

Easily Pay Your Bill Online

SIGN UP FOR AUTO PAY!!!!

The District has made it easy and safe to pay your bill online and go paperless. Visit our website at www.ewwd.org and click the credit card symbol in the top right corner and follow the prompts to register your account.

Once you are registered, you can sign up for auto pay, go paperless, view billing history and water consumption for several years.

2023 Monthly Water Rates	
Monthly Fee - Base	
5/8" Meter	$42
1" Meter	$47
1.5" Meter	$54
2" Meter	$69
3" Meter	$185
4" Meter	$228
Consumption Rate per ccf* (*100 Cu. Ft.)	
Single Family Up to 6 ccf	$1.90
Single Family Over 6 ccf	$2.60
Multi-Family	$3.60
Commercial	$3.60
Industrial	$3.60
Irrigation	$5.00
Senior and Low-Income Discount	
Discount Level 1	($15.00)

SENIOR CITIZEN & DISABLED PERSON DISCOUNT

We still adjust water service charges for low-income senior citizens and disabled persons. The maximum annual income is $40,000 , you must be a property owner, and you must be exempt from a portion of your property tax through Douglas County. If you think you may qualify, please stop by the District office and complete the paperwork for your adjustment.

Billing will be sent to all customers on the 15th of each month, due by the 5th of the following month.

To view the 2023-2026 rates, visit our rates page.

In 2022, the East Wenatchee Water District made changes to:

Customer Classifications - Rates - Billing Cycles

These changes will provide customers with the following benefits:

- Customers will pay a monthly meter fee, and only pay for actual water used
- Earlier identification of system leaks
- Conservation: conserving water saves you money

The East Wenatchee Water District recognizes the following customer classifications:

Residential Customers - Dwellings that are individual structures located on the same parcel, each served by an individual meter.

Multi-Family Customers - 2,3, & 4 dwelling units with service provided through a single meter. One meter serves all units.

Commercial Customers - All customers that do not fall under other classes are considered commercial. This also includes, but is not limited to: Multi live/work structures, apartment buildings (greater than 4 units combined total of all structures), manufactured home parks, condominium associations, and non-Industrial businesses.

Industrial Customers - Non-residential customers with business activities that are similar to the following: manufacturing or processing facilities that have high water use, or other factors that differentiate usage in regards to system impacts.

Irrigation Customers - A service solely to provide water for non-domestic, non-commercial, and non-industrial use that may reflect significant unique water impacts to the system. This includes, but is not limited to: irrigation systems, parks, fields, homeowner's association common areas, fill stations, and golf courses. Usage is typically pronounced in the summer months.

Private Fireline - A service that is solely to supply water for private fire suppression.

Interested In Conserving Water?

The East Wenatchee Water District is focused on water conservation and encourages customers to learn more. A few small changes can make a big difference and may provide a cost-savings benefit. In addition to saving money on your utility bill, water conservation helps prevent water pollution in nearby lakes, rivers, and local watersheds.

Saving water at home can be achieved at very little cost. A few simple changes can make a big difference:

Toilets

To cut down on water waste, put an inch or two of sand or pebbles inside each of two plastic bottles. Fill the bottles with water, screw the lids on, and put them in your toilet tank, safely away from the operating mechanisms. Or buy an inexpensive tank bank or float booster. This may save ten or more gallons of water per day.

Laundry

With clothes washers, avoid the permanent-press cycle, which uses an added 5 gallons (20 liters) for the extra rinse. For partial loads, adjust water levels to match the size of the load. Inexpensive water-saving low-flow showerheads or restrictors are easy to install and can have a big impact on your monthly bill.

Sink

Turn off the water after you wet your toothbrush while brushing your teeth. Just wet your brush and fill a glass for mouth rinsing.

Check for Leaks

Read the house water meter before and after a two-hour period when no water is being used. If the meter does not read exactly the same, there is a leak.

Watering

Be mindful of overwatering. It's easy to use too much domestic water when irrigating yards and landscape. Overwatering your lawn can suffocate grass and stunt root growth.

The mission of the District is to provide high-quality, safe, and reliable drinking water as well as excellent customer service while effectively managing the District's infrastructure to provide a cost-effective, reliable water system for today and future generations.

The East Wenatchee Water District (EWWD) is a Special Purpose District located in Douglas County. Established in 1940, the municipal corporation provides domestic drinking water to just over 10,000 metered accounts.

The mission of the Board of Commissioners and the employees of the East Wenatchee Water District is to provide safe and reliable drinking water as well as excellent customer service while effectively managing the District's infrastructure to provide a cost-effective, reliable water system, for today and for future generations.

As we have all experienced the past several years, starting with the pandemic, things can change rapidly. This has led to many adversities and has challenged the economic structure to which we are accustomed; and providing a level of affordable service has been extremely important as we continue to move forward. The implementation of a new rate structure design has allowed the District to meet its planning objectives; increasing resource efficiency. The current rates and customer classifications have been established to keep customer costs as low as possible while ensuring the continued maintenance and replacement of the water delivery system's infrastructure. Rates by customer classification can be found at: www.ewwd.org

As we look into the near future with "Capital Replacements Projects" being a critical way to restore existing water systems as they reach the end of their useful lives, we need to be diligent by demonstrating and providing the best planning model to serve a growing population.

Fostering unique partnerships and working within the ideology of cost-savings by working together, project expenditures have been minimized. The ability to work effectively with both private and public partners involving mutually beneficial projects, has been, and will continue to be, an essential priority in keeping costs down.

Moving into the future with customer input, working closely with our constituents, and providing a healthy financial plan that benefits the District's current and future customers is of utmost importance. By working together to facilitate relationships, the East Wenatchee Water District's commissioners and employees are looking forward to creating a successful future.