The Highlands
2023 Water Quality Report

This Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) has been prepared for your information to comply with a Federal law, which requires that water utilities provide water quality information to customers each year. The information is based on water samples taken before 2023.

This report is a snapshot of the quality of the water that we have provided. Included are details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and state standards.

Some of the 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 (800-426-4791).

Your water is purchased from the City of Seattle.

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 (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 through 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 herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture and residential uses.*
- *Radioactive contaminants, which are naturally occurring.*
- *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 stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems.*

For more information about your water and water system, call Steve Hammon at 206-362-2100.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the Department of Health and EPA prescribes regulations, which limit the amount 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. These regulations require that water systems sample for lead and copper, Inorganic (iron, manganese, etc.), Volatile Organic (gasoline derivatives), radionuclides and Synthetic Organic Chemicals (pesticides) on a regular basis. In addition, we sample for coliform bacteria monthly.

Este informe contiene informacion muy importante sobre su aqua beber. Traduzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

The information attached to this report lists all the drinking water elements that were last detected. The presence of these elements in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk.

		EPA's Allowable Limits		Levels in Cedar Water		Levels in Tolt Water		
Detected Compounds	Units	MCLG	MCL	Average	Range	Average	Range	Typical Sources
Raw Water								
Total Organic Carbon	ppm	NA	TT	0.72	0.39 to 0.97	1.24	1.10 to 1.41	Naturally present in the environment
Finished Water								
Turbidity	NTU	NA	TT	0.35	0.19 to 1.93	0.04	0.02 to 0.24	Soil runoff
Arsenic	ppb	0	10	0.43	0.34 to 0.52	0.28	0.22 to 0.38	Erosion of natural deposits
Barium	ppb	2000	2000	1.26	1.02 to 1.43	1.21	1.14 to 1.30	Erosion of natural deposits
Bromate	ppb	0	10	0.4	ND to 5	ND	ND	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Fluoride	ppm	4	4	0.7	0.6 to 0.8	0.7	0.6 to 0.8	Water additive, which promotes strong teeth
Nitrate	ppm	10	10	0.1	One Sample	0.1	One Sample	Erosion of natural deposits
Total Trihalomethanes	ppb	NA	80	27.22	One Sample			By-products of drinking water chlorination
Haloacetic Acids(5)	ppb	NA	60	27.21	One Sample			

Definitions

MCLG: *Maximum Contaminant Level Goal* - 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.

MCL: *Maximum Contaminant Level* - 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.

MRDL: *Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level* - The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

MRDLG: *Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal* - 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.

TT: *Treatment Technique* - A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

NTU: *Nephelometric Turbidity Unit* - Turbidity is a measure of how clear the water looks. The turbidity MCL that applied to the Cedar supply in 2022 is 5 NTU, and for the Tolt supply it was 0.3 NTU for at least 95% of the samples in a month. 100% of Tolt samples in 2022 were below 0.3 NTU.

NA: *Not Applicable*

ND: *Not Detected*

ppm: *1 part per million = 1 mg/L = 1 milligram per liter*

ppb: *1 part per billion = 1 ug/L = 1 microgram per liter*

1 ppm *=1000 ppb*

Lead and copper monitoring results

Parameter and Units	MCLG	Action Level+	2021 Results*	Homes Exceeding Action Level	Source
Lead, ppb	0	15	2.2-3.8	0 of 50	Corrosion of household plumbing systems
Copper, ppm	1.3	1.3	0.05-0.19	0 of 50	

* 90th Percentile: i.e. 90 percent of the samples were less than the values shown.

\+ The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. The Highlands 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 by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. 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.