

East Wenatchee Water District

2009 Annual Water Quality Report

We're pleased to provide you with information about our region's most precious resource, drinking water. In 2009 your water, again, met or exceeded all state and federal drinking water standards. This annual water quality report is sent in accordance with the Federal Safe Drinking Water Act. It is also available on our website www.ewwd.org

We Appreciate Your Comments

The East Wenatchee Water District welcomes your questions, concerns and observations. Our Board of Commissioners, Michael T. McCourt, Terry Barnes and G. Brian Egan, meet on the first and third Wednesday of each month at 3:00 p.m. at the District Headquarters. Unless they are in executive session, any meeting of two or three commissioners is open to the public. Our District Manager, Greg Brizendine can be reached by calling (509) 884-3569.

Atención:

Este documento contiene información muy importante con relación a su agua potable. El propósito de este documento es proporcionarle información con respecto a la calidad del agua suministrada por el East Wenatchee Water District (Distrito de Agua). En 2009 el agua suministrada por el distrito cumplió y superó todos los estándares estatales y federales con respecto a la seguridad y la calidad. Si desea obtener más información con respecto a la calidad del agua u otros temas analizados en este documento, favor de llamar al (509) 884-3569.

East Wenatchee Water District
P.O. Box 7190
East Wenatchee, WA 98802

PRSRT STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Wenatchee, WA
PERMIT NO. 1



POSTAL CUSTOMER

The Purpose of Disinfection, and the Resulting Disinfection By-Products

Drinking water is disinfected 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 two years of extensive monitoring for disinfection by-products throughout our District we have seen results well below any state action levels. Chlorination is our only treatment required and we monitor its levels throughout our system daily.

What's In Your Water and What Isn't

The results of monitoring in 2009 are shown in the table below. Water was tested for the presence of many potential contaminants, but only those required are listed in this table. Samples were also taken for the presence of Coliform 30 times from 8 different sample sights each month in 2009. In July of 2009 we had one sample that tested positive for Coliform. Coliform are naturally present in the environment and a test result showing their presence indicates the need for additional sampling. Additional samples were taken to ensure that there were no E. Coli or fecal coliform present. All repeat samples came back negative for E.Coli and fecal coliform.

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.

Substance	MCL	MCLG	Result	Violation	Likely Sources
Nitrate (ppb)	10	10	6.64	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks; sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Gross Alpha (pCi/l)	15	0	ND	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium 228	5	0	ND	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Pesticides		MRL			
Dimethoate		0.70	ND	No	Pesticide application / runoff
Terbufos Sulfone		0.40	ND	No	Pesticide application / runoff
PBDE47		0.30	ND	No	Pesticide application / runoff
PBDE 100		0.50	ND	No	Pesticide application / runoff
PBDE 99		0.90	ND	No	Pesticide application / runoff
2,2',4,4',5,5'-Hexabromobiphenyl		0.70	ND	No	Pesticide application / runoff
PBDE 153		0.80	ND	No	Pesticide application / runoff
Disinfection Byproducts			LRAA		
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs) (ppb)	80	N/A	5.73	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Total Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (ppb)	60	48	0.54	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination

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.

Method Reporting Level: Minimum amount present needed to report

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.

ND: None Detected.

N/A : Not applicable

pCi/L: pico Curies per liter, a measurement used specifically for radionuclides.

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 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. 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 the water poses a health risk. 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 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 website www.epa.gov/safewater. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by contacting the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

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 Cascade St. Water was not used from these sources in 2009.

Customer Information

We have the Direct Payment Plan for your convenience. You may have your water bill withdrawn directly from your checking account at no additional cost and, also for your convenience, we accept credit and debit cards for payment of your water bill.

Senior Citizen & Disabled Person Discount

We still adjust water service charges for low income senior citizens and disabled persons. If you think you may qualify, please stop by the District office and complete the paperwork for your adjustment.

Water Rates For 2010	
Meter Size	Bi-Monthly Rate
3/4 Inch	\$44.00
1 Inch	\$48.50
1 1/2 Inch	\$55.00
2 Inch	\$70.75
3 Inch	\$189.50
4 Inch	\$234.00
Additional Multi-Family Unit	\$35.75
Charge per 100 cubic feet in excess of 1200 = \$1.40	
Senior/Low income Discount for 2009	
Level 1	\$5.00
Level 2	\$9.00
Level 3	\$13.00

Water Conservation

The East Wenatchee Water District adopted the following water savings goals through our Comprehensive Water System Plan and Resolution # 586, adopted Jan. 16, 2008, and states our 6 year conservation goals of:

- Reducing “unaccounted-for” water by 1 percent to 2 percent by 2014.
- Reducing per-connection use by 2 percent to 3 percent by 2014.
- Promote public education and awareness of water conservation issues.

In 2005, when our Comprehensive Plan was completed, our “unaccounted-for” water use was down to 8.34%, which is in contrast to 1996’s high of 17.9%. In 2009 it was 8.8%, which is well within the State’s standard of 10%.

Our water use efficiency has been successful because of our efforts to promote information on water-use efficiency to the public. We include literature in our Consumer Confidence Reports, we have informational brochures on water use efficiency available at our office as well as posted on our web site. Thank you for your continued efforts to conserve!

Every Drip Counts

Leaks are estimated to waste more than 10 percent of indoor water use, driving up water and sewer costs. Conserve water and save money by finding and fixing leaks. It’s easier than you might think! Here are some ideas:

- **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. If you believe your consumption is due to a factor beyond your control, please call the office and we will send out a crew worker to re-read your meter and help you troubleshoot your abnormal water consumption.
- **Test your Toilet-** Lift the lid off of 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.

Tips for a Healthy Lawn and Garden

Outdoor watering savings can lower summer water bills. Smart watering also leads to a healthier lawn and garden because it prevents over-watering, a leading cause of pest and disease problems.

- ***Remember that 1” of water per week is all your lawn needs to stay healthy. 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!***
- ***Improve water penetration by aerating your lawn. If you wish to over-seed, wait until fall.***
- ***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.***
- ***Consider letting your lawn go dormant. Water deeply only twice a month to keep your lawn alive. To prevent runoff, you may need to water a short time, wait a few minutes, and then restart. Be sure to target your water on areas that receive heavy foot traffic - since dormant grass can be damaged by heavy wear.***
- ***Improve your soil. Add compost throughout your planting areas.***
- ***Use soaker hoses or drip irrigation. Repair leaks in faucets and hoses. Use water-saving nozzles.***
- ***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.***
- ***Limit watering periods by setting a timer to remind you when it’s time to turn the water off.***
- ***Install a rain shut off device to prevent watering during rainy periods.***