



This report contains important information about your drinking water.



Water Quality Report

Drinking Water Quality Report

We know safe drinking water is important to you and your family. We are pleased to report your drinking water met all state and federal standards in 2022!

To ensure your drinking water is protected, we collect samples almost every single day, all year round across our water system. Samples are collected from water pipes, wells, and with your assistance for special programs, in homes throughout the City.

Tumwater continues to provide clean, safe, and reliable drinking water to our community, year after year.

You can view the complete 2022 Water Quality Report online by visiting www.ci.tumwater.wa.us/WaterQualityReport or by scanning the QR code with your mobile phone.



Want a print copy of the table? No problem! Contact the Water Resources & Sustainability Department.

The City monitors and tests drinking water extensively throughout the year. Your drinking water met all state and local drinking water standards and continues to be of excellent quality.



Lead & Copper Sampling

Every three years, the City is required by the Washington Department of Health (DOH) to collect water samples from customers' water taps for lead and copper testing. The City continues to meet all standards for lead and copper testing and qualify for the reduced monitoring program.

The sampling program this year received an overwhelming response from our customers with 138 households providing water samples for analysis. We are grateful for the support, as customer participation is critical to help utility staff understand how well treatment is working.

Table 1: Compliance Samples for Lead and Copper

Contaminant	Units	Action Level	2022 Compliance Sample Result ¹	Number of Samples	Samples Exceeding Action Level
Copper	ppb	1,300	166	30	0
Lead	ppd	15	8.6	30	1

¹ Compliance Sample Result is the 90th percentile sample per WAC 26-290-300

Out of the 138 homes sampled, only one had a lead result over the action level. Higher lead levels are likely due to older plumbing in the home containing lead and water sitting in the pipes for more than 12 hours.

Visit our website for more information about the lead and copper monitoring program: www.ci.tumwater.wa.us/LeadandCopper

Stream Team

The City is an integral member of the Regional Environmental Education Partnership (REEP), focusing on development of educational materials to address stormwater pollution, and reducing our impacts on the environment by raising awareness and changing how we go about our daily lives.

REEP brings together each jurisdiction to create a seasonal quarterly newsletter that highlights Stream Team programs and activities to help improve overall water quality in our region, through education and hands-on science opportunities. Find out more about upcoming events or sign up for the newsletter on the Stream Team website.

www.streamteam.info





Water Utility

Your Drinking Water

Your drinking water comes from 12 groundwater wells located in the Bush, Palermo, and Port wellfields. The water produced by these wells come from underground aquifers, made of layers porous rock and sediment composed of sand, gravel, and clay. These layers act as a sponge, holding water that soaks into the ground and storing high-quality water that needs little treatment.

To protect your health and improve water quality, your drinking water is disinfected using sodium hypochlorite, a material similar to chlorine, to destroy bacteria, parasites, and viruses. Air is also pumped into the water at our treatment facilities through a process called aeration. Aeration removes volatile organic compounds to protect public health and raises pH levels to make the water less corrosive to pipes and reduce the number of minerals, metals, and other substances that may be naturally dissolved in the water.

In addition to the samples collected by City staff almost every day, we also use sensors to monitor your water 24/7 to ensure your water remains clean and safe until it arrives in your home.

Protecting Our Water

All of our drinking water comes from right beneath our feet. Our groundwater can easily become dirty if harmful materials soak through the soil and end up in our aquifers. Places that use, store, or dispose of hazardous materials, if not managed properly, all have a chance to pollute our water.

The good news is, the City Wellhead Protection Program is designed to protect our drinking water by monitoring land uses in wellhead areas. A wellhead protection area is the area surrounding each well in the water system. Because of the potential to impact our drinking water, we work with businesses that handle hazardous materials to ensure they are managed appropriately, and raise awareness through education for businesses and residents.

Another tool we use is computer-modeling, focused on our wellhead protection areas. Computer modeling helps show us how long it may take for a spill to reach the wells that produce our drinking water. By mapping these areas and working with the community, we help to ensure our drinking water is protected for years to come!

PFAS (Polyfluoroalkyl Substances)

Polyfluoroalkyl Substances, or PFAS, are a large family of human-made chemicals used to make a wide variety of stain-resistant, water-resistant, and non-stick consumer products. They are often referred to as “forever chemicals” because they stay in the environment for a very long time.

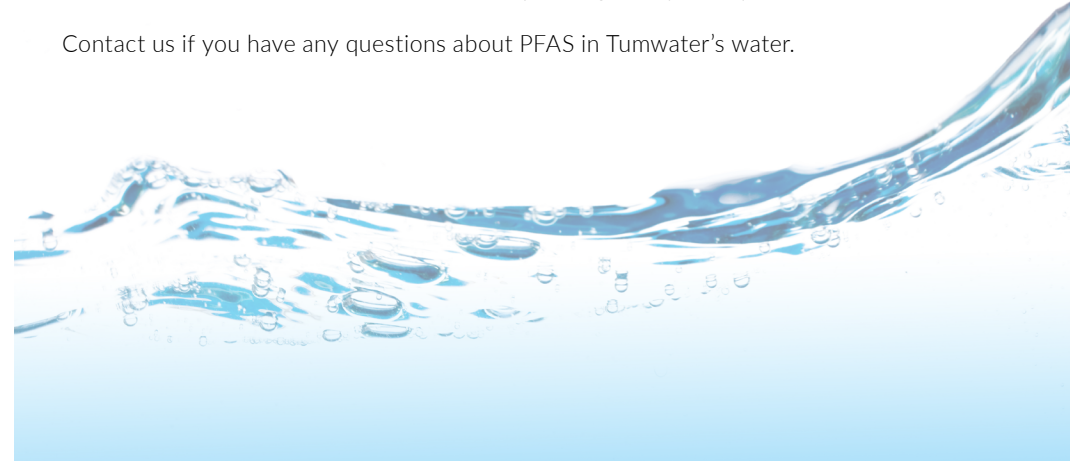
The City tested all water sources last year, as shown in Table 2 below. Only the Palermo Wellfield had a measureable detection for PFBS (Perfluorobutane sulfonate), which was well below the State Action Level. No further action is necessary or required at this time. As we continue to learn about PFAS in drinking water, we will continue to monitor all our sources and develop treatment strategies when warranted.

Table 2: 2022 PFAS Testing Results

			Unit of Measure	PFOA	PFOS	PFNA	PFHxS	PFBS
WSDOH SALs			ng/L	10	15	9	65	345
Source Number	Wellfield	Collection Date						
2	Palermo	5/5/2022	ng/L	<2	<2	<2	<2	5.3
2	Palermo	7/27/2022*	ng/L	<2	<2	<2	<2	5.56
14	Bush	1/25/2022	ng/L	<2	<2	<2	<2	<2
15	Airport	5/5/2022	ng/L	<2	<2	<2	<2	<2
23	Airport	1/25/2022	ng/L	<2	<2	<2	<2	<2
21,22	Airport	1/25/2022	ng/L	<2	<2	<2	<2	<2

**Follow up testing as required by DOH to confirm detection.*

Contact us if you have any questions about PFAS in Tumwater’s water.





Sanitary Sewer

Occasionally, sewer lines get blocked by debris and force sewage to flow above ground, usually through sewer maintenance hole covers. These events are better known as Sanitary Sewer Overflows (SSOs). SSOs are rare, typically affect a small area, and can be cleaned up easily if caught early. While these incidents don't occur frequently, when they do, it creates a hazard to human and environmental health. The good news is you can help by following these easy tips!

When in doubt, throw it out!

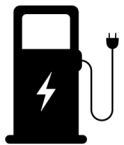
A big cause of SSOs are from products that shouldn't be flushed down the toilet.

Block the FOG to prevent a clog!

Fats, oils, and grease (FOGs) should always be thrown away, never washed down your sink. Place FOGs into an empty can and place it in the trash.

Sustainability

In 2021, the City adopted the Thurston Climate Mitigation Plan and the Urban Forestry Management Plan. These plans contain more than 200 actions the City is working on to improve environmental conditions in our community. To date, the City has made some significant strides, as noted below:



Installed 6 electric vehicle (EV) chargers to support future City fleet vehicles

Hired the first City Sustainability Coordinator

Began work with the Department of Enterprise Services to complete an Energy & Water Audit of City facilities and infrastructure



Replaced ~900 light fixtures with LEDs at Tumwater Timberland Library

Improved outreach for the Heritage Tree program and designated one new tree

Installed 4.85 kW of Solar panels at two water facilities



Passed an Anti-Idle Policy for City fleet vehicles to reduce fuel consumption and tailpipe emissions

Piloted compost and recycling collection at Brewery Park Falls Fest

Stormwater



Stormwater is rain and snow melt that runs off rooftops, paved streets and highways, parking lots and landscapes. As it runs off, it picks up pollution like oil, fertilizers, pesticides, soil, trash, and animal waste. While there are some treatment systems in the City, most stormwater is not treated before it flows directly into wetlands, streams, lakes, and marine waters.

Stormwater management is regulated under the Clean Water Act, which requires cities to manage their roads, construction sites, and private and public stormwater systems, in order to help prevent pollutants from entering waters. The City coordinates its efforts through the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit, first issued to the City in 2007, by the Washington Department of Ecology, and renewed every five years.

Compliance with the NPDES permit is intended to reduce the amount of pollutants that enter the stormwater system through best management practices applied to new and existing developments and most municipal operations. Active compliance involves collaboration by several City departments covering activities such as site plan review, short-, mid-, and long-range planning, transportation engineering, education and outreach, stewardship, operations and maintenance, and spill response.

A detailed plan for how the City manages stormwater can be found in the Stormwater Management Program Plan on our website.

Education & Outreach

We continue to make advancements in our efforts toward habitat conservation, restoration, education and engagement for our community.

Education and outreach come in many forms and are focused on topics that align with reducing stormwater pollution through managing pet waste, showcasing the benefits of natural yard care practices, limiting pesticide use, keeping cars clean, and offering opportunities to engage in stream, habitat, and wetland restoration projects.

Thank you to our regional partners!

Thurston County

City of Lacey

City of Olympia

South Sound Green

Pacific Educational Institute

One Water E-Newsletter

The Water Resources & Sustainability Department will be releasing a quarterly e-newsletter called One Water starting in the fall of 2023. One Water will include topics related to drinking water, waste water, stormwater, conservation and habitat management, volunteer opportunities, and information about incentives to help with water conservation efforts.



Scan the QR code and visit our e-news registration form.

Save Water, Save Money!

The City offers rebates and incentives to help you save water, time, and money!

- Free indoor and outdoor water savings incentives, including low flow fixtures, leak detection tablets, hose nozzles, meters, repair kits, and moisture gauges
- Indoor and outdoor device and appliance rebates for homes & businesses up to \$200!

www.ci.tumwater.wa.us/RebatesandIncentives

Contact Us

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