2023 Water Quality Report

City of Tumwater
Water Resources & Sustainability Department

This report contains important information about your drinking water.

High-tech Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCDA) equipment allows staff to continuosly monitor the status of the production wells and the treatment system. The equipment is monitored 24 hours a day so adjustments can be made promptly if needed.

Drinking Water Quality Report

We know that safe drinking water is important to you and your family. We are pleased to report that the City of Tumwater tap water met all state and federal standards in 2023!

To ensure our drinking water is protected, our staff collect samples daily, all year round, across our water system. Samples are collected from water pipes, wells, and with your assistance, 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 2023 Water Quality results online by visiting www.ci.tumwater.wa.us/WaterQualityReport or by scanning the QR code with your smart phone.

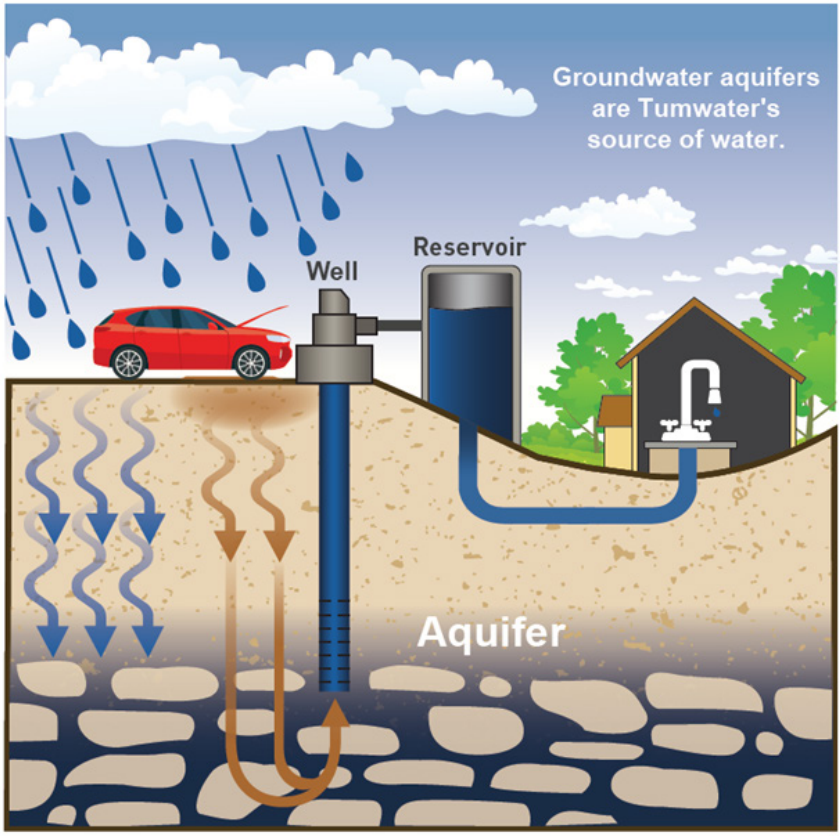
Want a printed copy of the table? No problem! Contact the Water Resources & Sustainability Department.

Protecting Our Water

All our drinking water comes from below ground and is also known as groundwater. Our groundwater can easily become polluted if harmful materials soak through the soil and end up in our aquifers. Businesses and residences that use, store, or dispose of hazardous materials, if not managed properly, have the potential to pollute our water.

The good news is, the City Wellhead Protection Program is designed to proactively protect our drinking water by monitoring land uses around our wells. 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. We also raise awareness through education for businesses and residents.

Computer-modeling is used to map our wellhead protection areas. This technology 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!

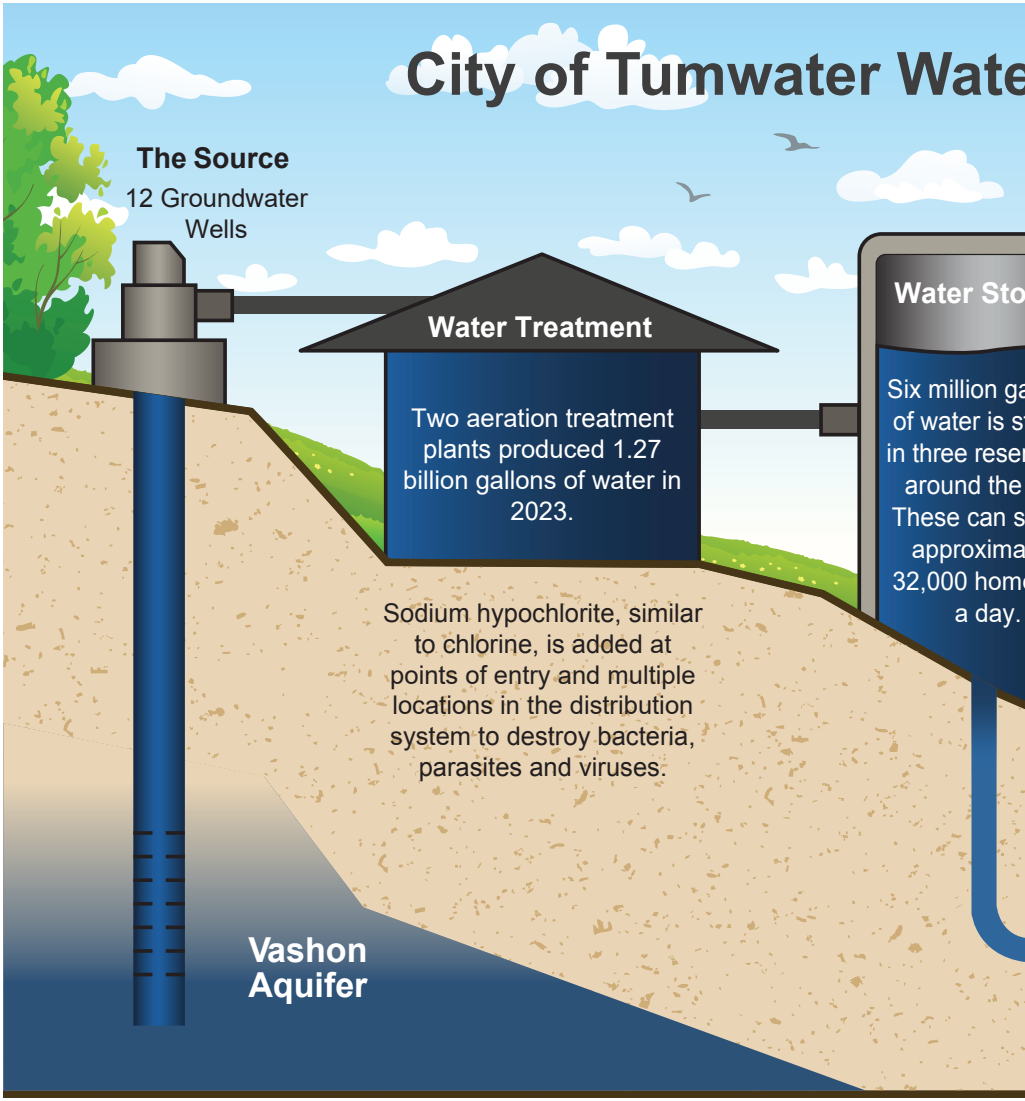


Tumwater Drinking Water

Our drinking water comes from 12 groundwater wells located in the Bush, Palermo, and
made of layers of porous rock and sediment composed of sand, gravel, and clay. These

Our water is already high quality from the ground and requires minimal treatment. The Cit
to chlorine, and is added to destroy bacteria, parasites, and viruses. Aeration is the proce
making the water less corrosive to pipes.

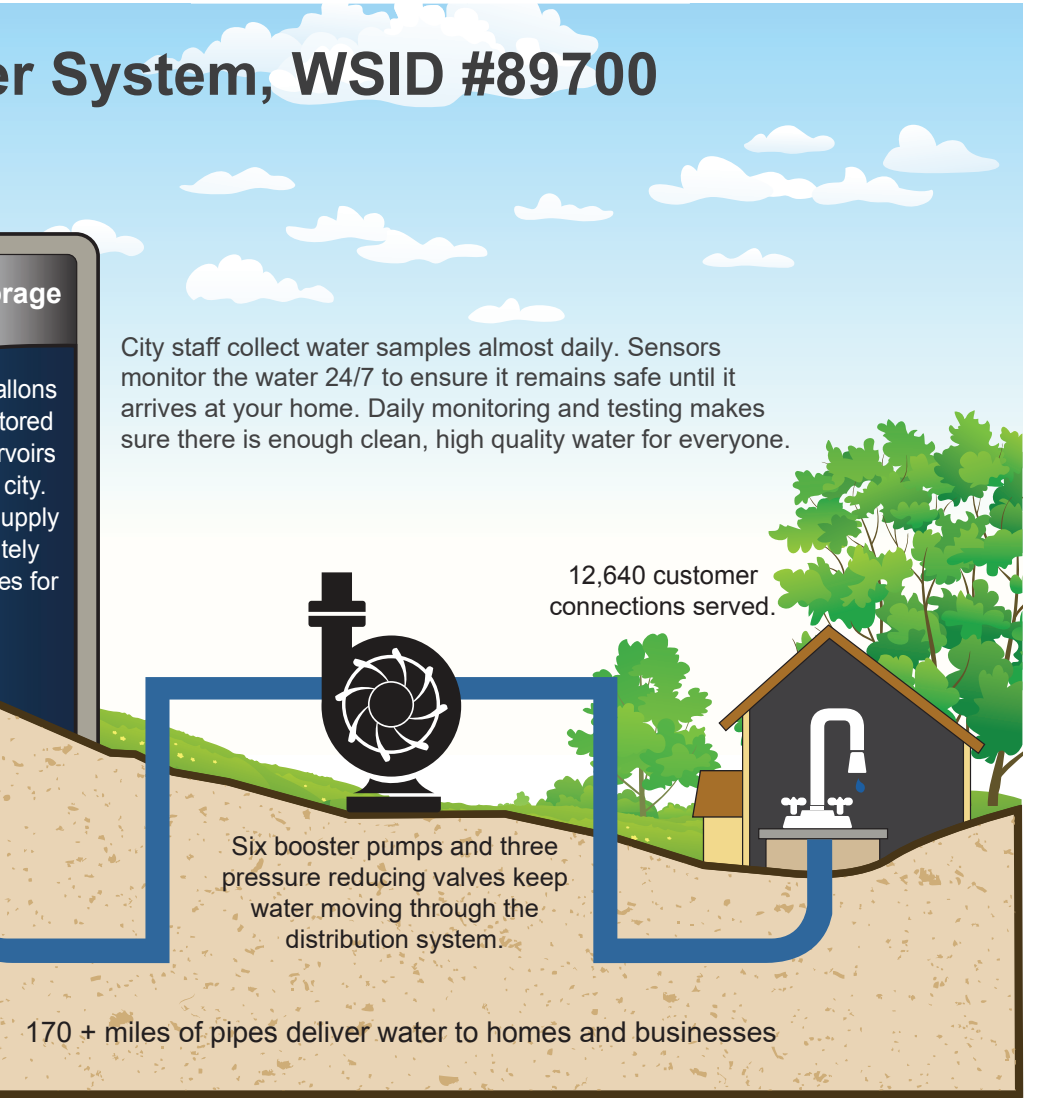
**Did you know? The sand and gravel making up our aquifers were deposited by g
of the Fraser Glaciation.**



d Port wellfields. The water produced by these wells comes from underground aquifers, layers act as a sponge, holding water that soaks into the ground.

y treats through chlorination and aeration. Chlorination uses sodium hypochlorite, similar ess of pumping air into the water. This removes organic compounds and changes the pH

glaciers around 16,000 years ago. This glacial event was called the Vashon Stade



2023 Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Sampling

Operations staff perform daily sampling of our drinking water to ensure it is delivered to our customers clean and safe. In 2023 they took over 850 samples!

In addition to our routine sampling, every five years the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) chooses 30 different unregulated contaminants for water systems to test for in drinking water. These are chemicals that have been seen in the environment and may be found in water. This required sampling is to determine how widespread the chemicals are and the potential risk for our communities. For 2023-24, EPA's focus was on 29 PFAS, or "forever chemicals", and lithium.

The City recently completed the 2023 EPA sampling, detecting only Perfluorobutane sulfonic acid (PFBS). PFBS is a chemical that has been in use since 2002 in the manufacturing of water and stain repellant materials, firefighting foam (not currently used by Tumwater Fire Department), and food packaging products, to name a few. PFBS replaced another forever chemical called perfluorooctane sulfonic acid, or PFOS, that had been in use since the 1950's.

Forever chemical research suggests that exposure can lead to negative health effects. More research continues to better understand the health risks. However, our current concentration of PFBS is 53 times lower than the level requiring treatment by Washington State Department of Health and over 300 times lower than the EPA's level of concern. Tumwater is fortunate to have great water quality.

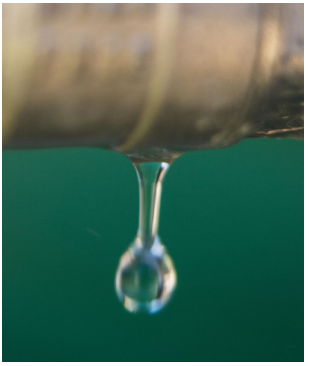
Water Conservation

Water conservation is one of the easiest ways to not only save precious water, but also money. By conserving water in homes and businesses, the City pumps and treats less water. It also saves time between costly expansions of our water system such as new wells, treatment plants, and storage facilities.

One of our City conservation goals is to reduce residential water use by three percent every year - that's five gallons per day per household. One of the best ways to save water at home is to reduce landscape and lawn irrigation.

Spotlight on Aeration

Your water quality crews have a lot of fun at their work! These aeration balls at towers located at the Bush and Palermo wellfields must be replaced every 10 years. In 2023, over 123,000 balls were replaced at the Bush tower.



What does five gallons look like?

- A three-minute shower.
- A garden hose running for about 36 seconds.
- A faucet dripping every two seconds for an entire day.
- A sprinkler head spraying for one minute.

One Water E-Newsletter

The Water Resources & Sustainability Department releases a quarterly e-newsletter called One Water. This newsletter includes topics related to drinking water, wastewater, stormwater, conservation and habitat management, volunteer opportunities, sustainability, 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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