

Regional Water Quality Report 2025



As a Clark Public Utilities Water Customer

Your water comes delivered to your home at a fraction of the cost of bottled water. Four gallons of water from your tap cost just a penny, while a single gallon of bottled water from the store can cost upward of \$1.50. And by using tap water, you're saving money and not filling landfills with plastic bottles! This annual report provides details about the water you drink every day as a Clark Public Utilities water customer. The bottom line: **The quality of your water is excellent.**





A Message About Water Quality

As water travels over land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and may pick up substances resulting from human activity or the presence of animals. Substances that may be present in source water include: biological contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria; inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals; pesticides and herbicides; organic chemicals from industrial or petroleum use; and natural or man-made radioactive materials.

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) or visiting epa.gov/safewater.

Since virtually all water used in Clark County is well water, keeping contaminants out of surface water is critical, because those contaminants can eventually make their way into the groundwater that supplies area wells.

Here are some easy things you can do to help prevent groundwater pollution:

- Don't dump motor oil, paint or other toxic materials into storm drains.
- Clean up after your pet and avoid or limit the use of herbicides, pesticides and fertilizers.
- Don't dump yard debris or grass clippings into ravines, ditches or streams.

WATER QUALITY SUMMARY

The Consumer Confidence Report provides relative information the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Washington Department of Health require us to provide information to our customers regarding our ongoing water quality monitoring activities.

The Clark Public Utilities water services team works to provide you with excellent service. If you have questions about any of the information in this report, feel free to contact us for more information.

Our office is located at 8600 NE 117th Avenue in Orchards. The customer service lobby is open weekdays from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. You can also contact us by calling 360-992-8022 or emailing mailbox@clarkpud.com. For after-hours emergencies, call the utility's customer service number anytime, 24 hours a day, seven days a week: 360-992-3000.

If you would prefer a paper copy of this report or need a translated version contact customer service at 360-992-3000 for assistance.

Если вы хотите бумажную копию этого отчёта или нужна переведённая версия, свяжитесь со службой поддержки по телефону 360-992-300

Si prefiere una copia impresa de este informe o necesita una versión traducida, contacte con el servicio de atención al cliente en el 360-992-3000.

The Clark Public Utilities Board of Commissioners meets regularly on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of each month at 9 a.m. Periodically, special meetings or workshops are scheduled in addition or in place of regular meetings.

Please share this information with anyone who drinks this water (*or their guardian*), especially those who may not have received this report directly (*for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses*). You can do this by posting this report in a public place or distributing copies by hand, mail, email, or another method.

WATER UTILITY SERVICES

The Clark Public Utilities water services team works to provide you with excellent service. In addition to providing your water service, our staff can also:

- Provide technical assistance on water quality testing with local laboratories contact information.
- Provide information on, backflow protection devices and many other water-related items.
- Offer advice and suggestions for finding leaks in your water system.
- Provide information on backflow assembly installation and testing for lawn irrigation systems. Without a backflow assembly, your irrigation system could endanger the health of a household, neighborhood or community. Call us at 360-992-8589.

CLARK PUBLIC UTILITIES' REGIONAL WATER SYSTEM COMPLIANCE DATA

Data presented are from the most recent testing done in accordance with regulations.

Substance (measuring unit)	Highest Level Allowed (MCL)	Range of Level Detected	MCLG	Typical source of Contaminant
REGULATED AT THE WELL				
Copper (ppm)	1.3 (AL)	ND – 0.02	1.3	Naturally occurring mineral
Fluoride (ppm)	4	ND – 0.23	4	Naturally occurring mineral
Nitrate (ppm)	10	ND – 2.70	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leakage from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Total Trihalomethanes (ppb) 2023	5	ND – 1.4	0	Byproduct of drinking water chlorination
Arsenic (ppb)	10	ND – 4.1	0	Naturally occurring mineral
Gross Alpha (pCi/L)	15	ND – 0.26	0	Erosion of geological deposits
Radium 228 (pCi/L)	5	ND – 0.88	0	Erosion of geological deposits
PFBS (ppt)	345	ND - 2.21	0	Discharge from manufacturing and industrial chemical facilities, use of certain consumer products, occupational exposures, and certain firefighting activities.
PFOS (ppt)	15	ND - 3.99	0	
PFOA (ppt)	10	ND - 3.92	0	
PFHxS (ppt)		ND - 2.56	0	
PFHxA (ppt)		ND - 2.00	0	
HI		0 - 0.257	0	
PFBS (ppt) LRAA		0		
PFOS (ppt) LRAA		0		
PFOA (ppt) LRAA		0		
PFHxS (ppt) LRAA		0		
PFHxA (ppt) LRAA		0		
REGULATED IN THE DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM				
Trihalomethane (ppb)		ND - 13	N/A	Chlorination byproducts
Haloacetic Acids (ppb)		ND - 4.1	N/A	Chlorination byproducts
Trihalomethane Highest quarterly LRAA (ppb)*	80	12.6	N/A	
Haloacetic Acids Highest quarterly LRAA (ppb)*	60	3.1	N/A	
REGULATED AT THE CONSUMERS' TAP (52 residence sampled)				
Lead (ppb) 2025 90th Percentile	15 (AL)	ND - 8.0 3.0	0	Household plumbing
Copper (ppm) 2025 90th Percentile	1.3 (AL)	ND - 0.40 0.143	1.3	Household plumbing
UNREGULATED AT THE WELL				
Manganese (ppm)	not established	ND - 0.04	N/A	Naturally occurring mineral
Iron (ppm)	not established	ND - 0.32	N/A	
Sulfate (ppm)	not established	ND - 5.7	N/A	Naturally occurring mineral
Chloride (ppm)	not established	ND - 53	N/A	Naturally occurring mineral
Total Dissolved Solids (ppm)	not established	ND - 150	N/A	
ADDITIONAL SUBSTANCES OF CUSTOMER INTEREST				
Sodium (ppm)	not regulated	average 9.7	N/A	Occurs naturally in soils
Calcium (ppm)	not regulated	average 21.4	N/A	Occurs naturally in soils
Magnesium (ppm)	not regulated	average 8.2	N/A	Occurs naturally in soils
Hardness (ppm)	not regulated	average 87	N/A	Occurs naturally in soils

* Localized Running Annual Average is the average for the last 4 quarterly sampling events.

Glossary of Terms

Action Level (AL) – The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers additional treatment measures by the public water system.

Contaminant – Any physical, chemical, biological, radiological substance or matter in water.

Hazard Index – The approach that determines the health concerns associated with mixtures of certain PFAS in finished drinking water. Low levels of multiple PFAS that individually would not likely result in adverse health effects may pose health concerns when combined in a mixture. The hazard index MCL represents the maximum level for mixtures of PFxS, PFNA, HFPO-DA, and/or PFBS allowed in water delivered by a public water system. A hazard index greater than 1 requires a system to take action.

Herbicide – Any chemical used to control undesirable vegetation.

Localized Running Annual Average – The average of the past 4 quarterly sampling events

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) – The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG) – The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there are no known or expected risks to health.

NA – Not applicable **ND** – Not detected

Parts Per Billion (ppb) – Unit of measurement. One part per billion is comparable to one penny out of \$10,000,000.

Parts Per Million (ppm) – Unit of measurement. Equivalent to milligrams per liter. One part per million is comparable to one penny out of \$10,000.

Parts Per Trillion (ppt) – Unit of measurement. One part per trillion is comparable to one penny out of \$10,000,000,000.

Picocuries Per Liter (pCi/L) – Unit of measurement for radioactivity.

State Action Level (SAL) – The concentration of a contaminant without an MCL in drinking water established to protect public health and which, if exceeded, triggers activities a water system must take.

WATER SERVICE AREA AND WATER SUPPLY WELLS

Clark Public Utilities gets its water for the main regional water system from 35 ground water wells located throughout the unincorporated areas of Clark County. Wells draw water from the Recent Alluvial Aquifer, Troutdale Aquifer, the deep Sand and Gravel Aquifer and fractured basalt formations.

Water is perhaps Clark County's most valuable natural and economic resource. Our health and the quality of our environment depend on access to clean water.

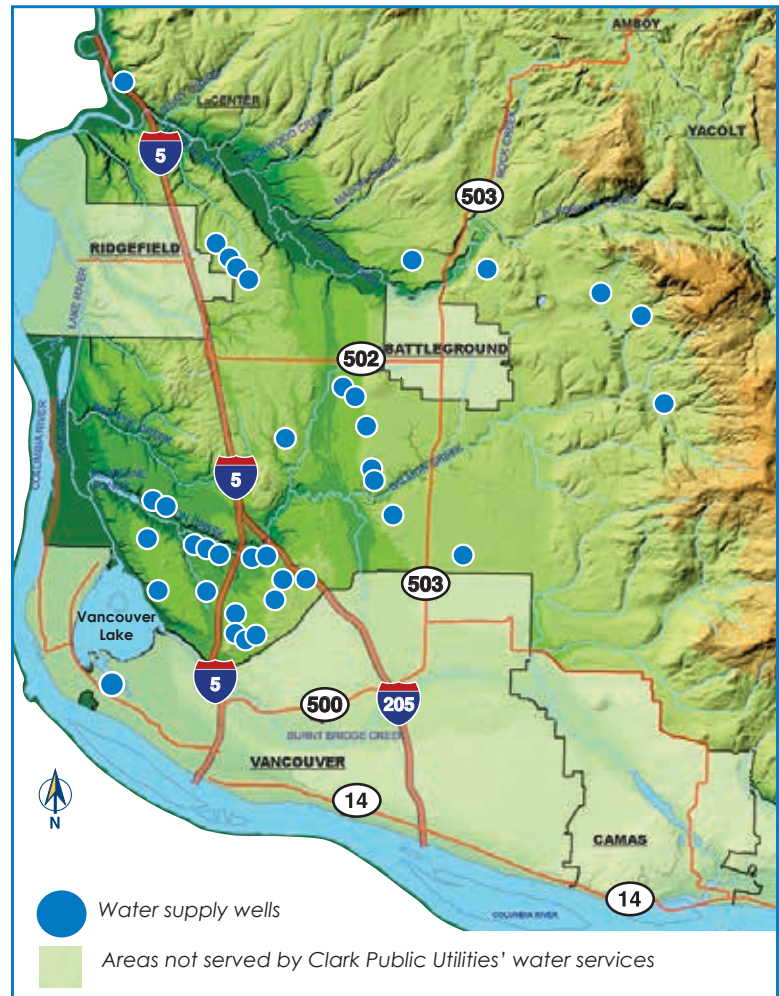
Clark Public Utilities is required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not your drinking water meets health standards. In 2025, one routine total coliform monitoring sample was positive for total coliform. All required follow up samples were satisfactory and one positive sample does not necessarily represent a public health threat.

In November 2025, routine drinking water sampling on Well 10 a backup supply well detected the presence of PFAS below the drinking water standard, referred to as the State Action Level (SAL). Laboratory results are listed in the compliance data section of this report. Well 10 has not had any previous detections for PFAS. It is typically activated only for limited periods when water demand is highest during the summer. When used, the water blends with water from wells without PFAS detections which significantly lowers the likelihood of detecting PFAS in the distribution system. We will continue to test for and respond to PFAS and other contaminants at well 10 and other sites throughout our system. For more detailed information about PFAS visit Drinking Water Systems | Washington State Department of Health or Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) | US EPA.

Our ongoing efforts to provide you with a healthy water supply include:

- Regularly testing all of our wells and distribution system — we do this more frequently than required by the Washington State Department of Health. Last year, we tested 2,560 bacteriological samples, and we were only required to test 1,248.
- Checking water quality weekly at key locations throughout our distribution system.
- Routinely inspecting our above-ground water storage reservoirs.
- Independent laboratory testing for metals, organic compounds, bacteriological and other contaminants.

We keep our water as natural as possible, adding only a trace of chlorine necessary to ensure the water delivered to your home is free of harmful bacteria. We don't add any other chemicals, such as fluoride, to the water you drink.



Special Information

Corrosion of pipes, plumbing fittings and fixtures may cause metals, including lead and copper, to enter drinking water. To assess corrosion of lead and copper, Clark Public Utilities conducts tap sampling for lead and copper at selected sites every 3 years. To review lead tap sampling results contact Clark Public Utilities at (360) 992-8022 or email mailbox@clarkpud.com for details.

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. Clark Public Utilities is responsible for providing high quality drinking water and removing lead pipes, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components in your home. You share the responsibility for protecting yourself and your family from the lead in your home plumbing. You can take responsibility by identifying and removing lead materials within your home plumbing and taking steps to reduce your family's risk.

Before drinking tap water, flush your pipes for several minutes by running your tap, taking a shower, doing laundry or a load of dishes. You can also use a filter certified by an American National Standards Institute accredited certifier to reduce lead in drinking water. If you are concerned about lead in your water and wish to have your water tested contact Clark Public Utilities at (360) 992-8022 or email mailbox@clarkpud.com for details. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

A service line inventory has been prepared and is available on the Clark Public Utilities website at www.clarkpublicutilities.com/waterquality.

Some 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 or on EPA's website epa.gov/safewater.

WATER USE EFFICIENCY PLAN

As part of municipal water law and in the spirit of conservation and stewardship, Clark Public Utilities implemented a water use efficiency plan in 2008 with an update in 2024. As part of that plan, the following conservation goals were set:

- **Supply-side water conservation goal** — Reduce annual leakage from the water distribution system to 8.5%.
- **Demand-side water conservation goal** — Reduce average residential annual water consumption by a minimum of 1%.

Clark Public Utilities accounts for water within its system by examining supply well and service meter data, and tracking the use of water for non-revenue producing purposes (e.g., water system maintenance and firefighting) and, thereby, determines how much water is lost from leaks in the water system and unauthorized use of water. On our Regional Water System, last year's unaccounted for water leakage was calculated at 6.5%. We continue to improve our operational water usage tracking for water main flushing, water treatment, and work with fire departments to account for their usage of water. We make every effort to ensure efficient use of water supply used for our community. The block rate below reflects the 2026 schedule.

In order to meet production for all customers during high demand months, the block rate was set to correspond closely to average residential usage for higher demand production costs. The blocked rate reflects the increased cost of supplying water to the system during the peak demand periods, when demand for water is typically three times the average over the year.

Block 1: \$1.80 per 100 cubic feet up to 1,000 cubic feet of consumption.

Block 2: \$2.00 per 100 cubic feet from 1,001 to 2,000 cubic feet consumption.

Block 3: \$2.20 per 100 cubic feet for more than 2,000 cubic feet of consumption.

The rates and consumption levels shown are based on a standard $\frac{5}{8}$ x $\frac{3}{4}$ meter. Residential and commercial rate block volumes vary based on meter size (100 cubic feet = 748 gallons).

Many improvements were made to help account for water we produce and deliver. In 2023, we replaced 4,647 water meters with new technology that measures water flow more accurately with the ability to read automatically.

Conservation efforts help maintain a reliable, low cost water supply that benefits current and future residents. Conservation also saves you money, especially in the summer months when water use is high.



Outdoor Conservation

- Water your lawn in the early morning or evening.
- Use a hose with a shut-off nozzle when watering plants or washing your car.
- Place a two- to four-inch layer of mulch around plants and trees to reduce evaporation.
- Install a trickle or drip irrigation system for a slow, steady supply of water to the plant roots.
- Incorporate drought-resistant plants in your landscaping.



Indoor Conservation

- Run your dishwasher only when it's full.
- Wash only full loads of laundry.
- Fix leaky faucets immediately.
- Take shorter showers and use less water in your bath.
- Check toilets for leaks.
- Install water-efficient toilets, faucets and shower heads.



Water Restoration

Clark Public Utilities supports one of the strongest watershed restoration and enhancement efforts in the state. We sponsor and participate in many projects to improve and protect our water quality, restore streams, enhance fish populations and educate children and adults alike about habitat and watershed stewardship. Since 1992, our Stream Team volunteers have planted more than one million trees to restore over 500 acres of land along 19 miles of stream length.



FAST FACTS ABOUT YOUR WATER UTILITY



- **History**

Utility formed in 1950; one of the 10 largest water utilities in the state.

- **Customers**

41,000 homes and businesses

- **Service area**

220 square miles, including most unincorporated parts of Clark County, the city of La Center and the town of Yacolt

- **Distribution lines**

883 miles

- **Gallons per day per residential connection**

253 gallons

- **Monthly rates**

The Clark Public Utilities board of commissioners adopted block rate structure adjustment beginning in 2026. The adjustment will fund projects to improve water service to our communities.



Learn more at clarkpublicutilities.com or 360-992-3000

