



## CARLSBORG WATER DISTRICT WATER QUALITY REPORT FOR 2023 (DOH #003070)

### ***Dear Water Customer:***

We are pleased to present this year's Annual Water Quality Report (Consumer Confidence Report) as required by the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). We want to keep you informed about the excellent water and services you have been receiving over the past year. Our goal is and always has been, to provide to you a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. *Informed customers are our best allies in maintaining safe drinking water!*

### ***How can I get involved?***

We encourage public interest and participation in our community's decisions affecting drinking water. Regular meetings with the District's Board of Commissioners are held every other Monday either at our Main Office (104 Hooker Rd. Sequim WA) or virtually via Zoom at 1:30 p.m. The public is welcome. You may also learn more about PUD #1 of Clallam County by accessing our website at [www.clallampud.net](http://www.clallampud.net), or by calling 360-452-9771 or toll free at 1-800-542-7859.

### ***Where does my water come from?***

The Carlsborg Water District is supplied groundwater pumped from a single 177-foot deep well (S01) and pump station, up to two 150,000-gallon reservoirs. The water is chlorinated at the well head, after which it is available upon demand.

### ***Description of Water Treatment Process***

Your water is treated by disinfection. Disinfection involves the addition of chlorine or other disinfectant to kill dangerous bacteria and microorganisms that may be in the water. Disinfection is considered to be one of the major public health advances of the 20th century.

### ***Source Water Protection Tips***

Protection of drinking water is everyone's responsibility. You can help protect your community's drinking water source in several ways:

- Eliminate excess use of lawn and garden fertilizers and pesticides - they contain hazardous chemicals that can reach your drinking water source.
- Pick up after your pets.
- If you have your own septic system, properly maintain your system to reduce leaching to water sources.
- Dispose of chemicals properly; take used motor oil to a recycling center.

### ***Monitoring Results***

**Total Coliform Bacteria:** Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially harmful, bacteria may be present. Coliform bacteria were detected in one routine monthly sample in 2023. The sampling site was resampled and additional samples were collected from taps upstream and downstream of the original site as well as from the source of supply in accordance with the District's Coliform Monitoring Plan, the EPA's Revised Total Coliform Rule and the EPA's Ground Water Rule. All repeat and additional sample test results were satisfactory.

**Hardness:** Hardness is a natural characteristic of water caused by dissolved calcium and magnesium, which can

interfere with the sudsing action of soap. The US Geological Society classifications show 0-60 mg/L as soft, while anything greater than 200 mg/L is very hard. A sample taken in 2016 showed 167.0 mg/L or 9.76 grains/gallon. Fluoride: The District does not add fluoride to this water system. Fluoride is a natural substance found in varying degrees in almost all water supplies.

### **Water Quality Data Table**

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The table below lists all of the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the calendar year of this report. Although many more contaminants were tested, only those substances listed below were found in your water. All sources of drinking water contain some naturally occurring contaminants. At low levels, these substances are generally not harmful in our drinking water. Removing all contaminants would be extremely expensive, and in most cases, would not provide increased protection of public health. A few naturally occurring minerals may actually improve the taste of drinking water and have nutritional value at low levels. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table is from testing done in the calendar year of the report. The EPA or the State requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not vary significantly from year to year, or the system is not considered vulnerable to this type of contamination. As such, some of our data, though representative, may be more than one year old. In this table you will find terms and abbreviations that might not be familiar to you. To help you better understand these terms, we have provided the definitions below the table.

Contaminants	MCLG or MRDLG	MCL, TT, or MRDL	Detect In Your Water	Range		Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
				Low	High			
<b>Disinfectants &amp; Disinfection By-Products</b>								
(There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants)								
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (ppb)	NA	60	3.3	NA	NA	2023	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
TTHMs [Total Trihalomethanes] (ppb)	NA	80	13	NA	NA	2023	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
<b>Inorganic Contaminants</b>								
Barium (ppm)	2	2	.0137	NA	NA	2023	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Chromium (ppb)	100	100	2.9	NA	NA	2023	No	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; Erosion of natural deposits
Copper - source water (ppm)	NA		.0217	NA	NA	2023	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate [measured as Nitrogen] (ppm)	10	10	7.41	NA	NA	2023	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Sodium (ppm)	NA		8.5	NA	NA	2023	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching

Inorganic Contaminants							
Contaminants	MCLG	AL	90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile (10 samples)	Sample Date	# Samples Exceeding AL	Exceeds AL	Typical Source
Copper - action level at consumer taps (ppm)	1.3	1.3	0.905	2023	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Lead - action level at consumer taps (ppb)	0	15	1.2	2023	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits

**PFAS In Drinking Water** The District collected samples in accordance with WA Department of Health (DOH) Office of Drinking Water requirements in 2023 to test public water sources for a chemicals called per and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), also known as “forever chemicals”. Developed for their water resistance and stability, PFAS are found in non-stick cookware, clothing, carpets, personal care products, etc. Prolonged exposure to certain PFAS could lead to increased cholesterol, high blood pressure, reduced birth weights and decreased vaccine response in infants, kidney and testicular cancer, liver enzyme dysfunction according to the Center for Disease Control. Only trace amounts of one of these chemicals (see table below) were detected from this system’s source in concentrations measured in parts per trillion (ppt); sample test results for all other PFAS chemicals were **ND – not detected**. This sample test result was significantly below proposed state and federal regulatory levels at the time of the sampling. The new rule establishing MCL’s for PFAS compounds was released by the EPA in April 2024; the sample test result below is also well below MCL’s established under the Final EPA PFAS Rule.

Per and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS)	MCLG	SAL	Detect In Your Water	Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
Perfluorobutanesulfonic Acid (PFBS)	0	345* ppt	3.98 ppt	2023	No	Wastewater discharge, runoff from landfills, fire extinguishing foam, electronics, textiles, food, packaging, etc.

\*SAL at time of sampling.

**Secondary Regulated Water Quality Data Table** (These standards are developed to protect the aesthetic qualities of drinking water and are not health based.)

Contaminants	State MCL	Your Water	Violation	Typical Source
Chloride	250 mg/L	17.2 mg/L	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Electrical Conductivity	700 uS/cm	436 uS/cm	No	Measure ability of material or dissolved solids to convey an electric current
Hardness as Calcium Carbonate	N/A	212 mg/L	No	Weathering of various rocks and soil
Nickel	N/A	.002 mg/L	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Sulfate	250 mg/L	136 mg/L	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Total Dissolved Solids (TDS)	500 mg/L	281 mg/L	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Zinc	5 mg/L	.005 mg/L	No	Erosion of natural deposits

Unit Descriptions	
Term	Definition
ppm	ppm: parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/L)
ppb	ppb: parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (µg/L)
ppt	ppt: parts per trillion, or nanograms per liter (ng/L)
uS/cm	uS/cm: Microsiemens per centimeter
NA	NA: not applicable
ND	ND: Not detected
NR	NR: Monitoring not required, but recommended.
Important Drinking Water Definitions	
Term	Definition
MCLG	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	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.
TT	TT: Treatment Technique: A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
SAL	SAL: State Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant set by Washington State Department of Health Office of Drinking Water, which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
AL	AL: Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
Variances and Exemptions	Variances and Exemptions: State or EPA permission not to meet an MCL or a treatment technique under certain conditions.
MRDLG	MRDLG: Maximum residual disinfection 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.
MRDL	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.
MNR	MNR: Monitored Not Regulated
MPL	MPL: State Assigned Maximum Permissible Level

### ***Why are there contaminants in my drinking water?***

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 (1-800-426-4791).

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised 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 (1-800-426-4791).

### **Partners in Conservation**

Water is essential to every dimension of life, yet less than 1 percent of the Earth’s water supply is fit and available for human consumption. As demand for water continues to increase, every drop of water is becoming more important than ever before.

The DOH has adopted a rule that establishes water use efficiency (WUE) requirements for all municipal water suppliers. Water use efficiency will help us conserve water for the environment and future generations. It will also enhance public health by improving water system efficiency and reliability.

A few primary elements of this rule include improving operational efficiency; evaluating and reporting water production and usage; and reducing water leaks both on the distribution side and the customer side of the water system. The table below lists production amounts vs. purchased/authorized usage and the percentage of the unaccounted-for or probable system leakage. The goal is to reduce unaccounted-for water to 10% or less of the total water produced.

Distribution System Leakage Summary 2023 (in millions of gallons: 1 cubic foot = 7.48 gallons)	
Total Water Produced – Annual Volume	22.25
Total Water Purchased and Authorized Usage – Annual Volume	22.30
Distribution Unaccounted-for or System Leakage – Percent	11.79

Together we can keep the percentage to 10% or less, and save water and money in the process! Here are some tips to work towards this goal *and* to be more water efficient:

- If you see an odd wet spot in a normally dry area, call the PUD.
- Someone other than the Fire Dept. or PUD using a fire hydrant, call the PUD.
- Turn off the tap when brushing your teeth, washing, shaving, or cleaning fruits and vegetables.
- Check every faucet inside and outside your home for leaks; a slow drip can waste 15 to 20 gallons a day. Fix it and you could save up to 6,000 gallons a year.
- Take short showers - a 5 minute shower uses 4 to 5 gallons of water compared to up to 50 gallons for a bath.
- Use a water-efficient showerhead. They're inexpensive, easy to install, and can save you up to 750 gallons a month.
- Check your toilets for leaks by putting a few drops of food coloring in the tank. Watch for a few minutes to see if the color shows up in the bowl. Fixing it or replacing it with a new, more efficient model can save up to 1,000 gallons a month.
- Use your water meter to detect hidden leaks. Simply turn off all taps and water using appliances. Write down the numbers across the face of the meter. Then check the water meter after 30 minutes. If the numbers increased at all, you have a leak.
- Teach your kids about water conservation to ensure a future generation that uses water wisely. Make it a family effort to reduce next month's water bill!
- Ask your local nursery about landscaping with native plants.
- For deep root and drought tolerance, water your plants deeply, but less often.
- Water wasted is water lost. For more information, go to these web-sites:  
[www.wateruseitwisely.com](http://www.wateruseitwisely.com)   [www.h2ouse.org](http://www.h2ouse.org)   [www.epa.gov/watersense](http://www.epa.gov/watersense)

### ***Variance and Exemptions***

The Port Angeles Composite water system has received waivers for reduced monitoring either at certain sources or in the distribution system of the following contaminants:

Complete Inorganics (IOC)

Volatile Organics (VOC)

Herbicides

Pesticides

Soil Fumigants

### ***Additional Information for Lead***

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 District 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>.

### ***Additional Information for Disinfection Byproducts***

***Haloacetic Acids (HAA)***- Some people who drink water containing haloacetic acids in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

***TTHMs [Total Trihalomethanes]***- Some people who drink water containing trihalomethanes in excess of the MCL over many years may experience problems with their liver, kidneys, or central nervous systems, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

### ***Additional Information for Nitrate***

Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 10 ppm is a health risk for infants of less than six months of age. High nitrate levels in drinking water can cause blue baby syndrome. Nitrate levels may rise quickly for short periods of time because of rainfall or agricultural activity. If you are caring for an infant, you should ask for advice from your health care provider.

### ***Source water assessment and its availability***

The sources of drinking water (both tap water 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 naturally-occurring minerals and in some cases radioactive material and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity. The DOH has completed a source water assessment for this system based on the amount or depth of the confining layer above the wells, and rated this water source as high for the susceptibility to potential sources of contamination. More information can be found on the DOH website: <https://fortress.wa.gov/doh/eh/dw/swap/maps/>

**For more information please contact:**

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