

# Green Island Hills Community Association

## Water Quality Report 2021

### WA State DOH System ID #00429N Green Island Hills Water Assn

#### Consumer Confidence Report for the Year 2021

Water & Wastewater Services, LLC is pleased to present to you the 2021 Annual Water Quality Report. This report is designed to inform you about the quality of the water that was provided last year. Included are details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and state standards. We believe the information provides a valuable service to our customers.

Your drinking water is highly regulated by the EPA and WA DOH and is tested regularly. Keeping pace with upgraded water testing and more stringent federal standards is a challenge that Green Island Hills Community Association (GIHCA) strongly supports. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe source of drinking water.

#### Who We Are...

GIHCA is a water utility of 76 active connections. GIHCA has DOH approval for up to 110 connections. The Board currently consists of 5 board members working closely with Water & Wastewater Services, LLC a certified water manager to bring you good quality water. If you have any questions or concerns regarding this water utility, your water, or this report we will be happy to answer them. Current Board member Richard Fortman (phone 425-268-8859) is the contact person for members with questions regarding the water system.

**In case of emergency, please call Water & Wastewater Services, LLC our water system manager, at 1-800-895-8821.**

GIHCA's three wells are located at 540 S Michael Way. Well #1 is 152 feet deep, well #2 is 540 feet deep and well #3 is 122 feet deep. At this time, none of these wells are considered by the State Department of Ecology to be in possible danger of salt-water intrusion. Water is stored in an 80,000-gallon concrete reservoir. The water supply from each well is chlorinated prior to entry to the reservoir and aerated on its entry to the tank. From the reservoir the water goes to the pumping station and then out to the system.

#### Presence of Contaminants in 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 (800-426-4791).

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.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

- Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations and wildlife.
- Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.
- Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture and residential uses.
- Radioactive contaminants, which are naturally occurring.
- Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems.

**Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants** in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as person 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 see 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).

## Water Quality Data

The table below lists all the drinking water contaminants that were detected during the 2021 calendar year. The presence of these contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table is from testing done January 1 through December 31, 2021. The state requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year. Some of the data, though representative of the water quality, is more than one year old.

### Terminology

**MCLG** (Maximum Contaminant Level Goal): the level of a contaminant allowed in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLG's allow for a margin of safety.

**MCL** (Maximum Contaminant Level): the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCL's are set as close to the MCLG's as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

**AL** (Action Level): the concentration of a contaminant which, when exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

**ND** (Not Detected)

**ppm** (parts per million or milligrams per liter (mg/L)): about the same as ½ an aspirin tablet dissolved in a bathtub full (50 gallons of water)

**ppb** (parts per billion or micrograms per liter): about the same as 1 dissolved aspirin tablet in a 100,000-gallon swimming pool.

Inorganic Contaminants	MCL	MCLG	Green Island Hills	Range of Detections	Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source of Contamination
Nitrate	10	0.20	Blended Wells 3.08	3.08	2021	NO	Runoff from fertilizer use
Nitrate	10	0.20	Well #1 1.76	1.76	2020	NO	Runoff from fertilizer use
Nitrate	10	0.20	Well #3 3.16	2.92	2020	NO	Runoff from fertilizer use
Manganese	0.05	0	0.111	0.0220-0.2800	2019	**	Erosion of nature deposits
Iron	0.3	0	Well #1 0.100	0.100	2019	**	Erosion of natural deposits
Iron	0.3	0	Well #3 1.56	1.56	2019	**	Erosion of natural deposits
Arsenic (ppm)	0.010	0	Well #1 0.001	0.001	2019	NO	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards
Arsenic (ppm)	0.010	0	Well #2 0.008	0.008	2019	NO	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards
Arsenic (ppm)	0.010	0	Well #3 0.001	0.001	2019	NO	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards
Chloride (ppm)	250	250	19.50	15.00-22.70	2019	**	Naturally occurring; can indicate possible saltwater intrusion
Lead & Copper	AL	MCLG	Green Island Hills	Range of Detections	Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
Lead (ppm)	0.015	0	0.0011	ND-0.0012	2021	NO	Corrosion of household plumbing systems
Copper (ppm)	1.3	1.3	0.196	0.0327-0.324	2021	NO	Corrosion of household plumbing systems
Disinfection Byproducts	MRDL	MRDLG	Average Level Detected	Range of Level Detected	Sample Date	Violation	Typical Sources of Contaminant
Chlorine (ppm)	4.0 (MRDL)	4 (MRDLG)	0.34	0.14-0.79	2021	NO	Water additive to control microbes
Disinfection Byproducts	MCL	MCLG	Green Island Hills	Range of Detections	Sample Date	Violation	Typical Sources of Contaminant
Haloacetic Acids (ppb)	60	0	5.6	5.6	2018	NO	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Total Trihalomethanes (ppb)	80	0	40.4	40.4	2018	NO	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Microbiological Contaminants	MCL	MCLG	Green Island Hills	Exceeding AL	Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
Total Coliform Bacteria	0	0	ABSENT	ABSENT	2021	NO	Naturally present in the environment

Radioactive Contaminants	MCL	MCLG	Green Island Hills	Range of Detections	Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source of Contamination
Gross Alpha (pCi/l)	15	0	ND	ND	2021	NO	Erosion of natural deposits
Gross Beta (pCi/l)	50	0	ND	ND	2021	NO	Decay of natural and man-made deposits
Radium 228	5	0	ND	ND	2021	NO	Erosion of natural deposits

**Additional Information for Lead in Drinking Water:** 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. GIHCA 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 on Coliform Bacteria:** Every month your system is tested for Coliform Bacteria. All water samples came back from the lab with a good report. As you can see by the table, your system had no violations. We are proud that your drinking water meets or exceeds all Federal and State requirements.

**Additional Information for Arsenic:** While your drinking water meets EPA's standard for arsenic, it does contain low levels of arsenic. EPA's standard balances the current understanding on arsenic's possible health effects against the cost of removing arsenic from drinking water. EPA continues to research the health effects of low levels of arsenic, which is a mineral known to cause cancer in humans at high concentrations and is linked to other health effects such as skin damage and circulatory problems.

**\*\*Additional Information for Manganese, Chloride, and Iron:** The EPA has not established action levels for Secondary Inorganic Contaminants (SMCLs.) SMCLs are established as guidelines to assist public water systems in managing their drinking water for aesthetic considerations, such as taste, color, and odor. Manganese occurs naturally in both surface and ground waters that come into contact with manganese-bearing soils. If you notice water odors or staining in your water that doesn't clear after a few minutes of flushing all your cold-water faucets and toilets, wait about an hour and try again. If it still isn't clear, contact your water utility. GIHCA will continue to monitor Manganese exposure research.

**2021 Notes on Manganese:** The interest in Manganese levels in our water continues into 2021. Well #2 is the main contributor of Manganese. We continue to dilute well #2 and use this well ¼ of the time in the summer and much less in the lower water demand periods.

### Additional Information

**Why does the taste and odor of my water sometimes differ?** Water naturally varies in taste and odor at different times of the year. Taste and odor problems can also come from new or old pipelines, plumbing fixtures or changes in water quality. Customers may notice changes during severe winter storms, when reservoirs are low, or during hot weather. Water & Wastewater Services, LLC closely monitors such changes to ensure they do not affect the safety of the water.

**Security – We all need to be careful!** While Washington State's Division of Drinking Water has never been lax regarding this issue, they have implemented more stringent guidelines to be sure that all that can be done is being done to protect your quality water. Four topics being focused on are 1) Emergency Response, 2) Sanitary Surveys, 3) Operator Certifications, and 4) Enforcement. GIHCA wholly supports the DOH in these efforts and continues to do all that can be done to maintain good quality water.

**IMPORTANT CONSERVATION TIPS:**

Summer irrigation rules/restrictions continued in 2021, but were not invoked as weekly water usage remained below action levels.

**Bathroom:**

- Check toilets for leaks. Drop food coloring or a leak-detection tablet in the toilet tank. If color appears in the bowl, there is a leak that requires immediate attention.
- Reduce the water level per flush by installing a water displacement device in the toilet tank. A plastic bottle, weighted with water or sand works well. Never use a brick.
- Install water-saving showerheads or flow restrictors, which are available at local hardware stores and other retail outlets.
- Check faucets and pipes for leaks. A small drip from a worn washer can waste 20 or more gallons a day. Larger leaks waste even more.

**Kitchen & Laundry:**

- Turn the dishwasher and washing machines on only when full.
- Buy and install a faucet aerator.

**Lawn & Garden:**

- Water only when needed. Frequency depends on the type of plants and soil conditions.
- Water the lawn in the evening when evaporation is less likely to occur. Avoid watering during the heat of the day or when windy.
- Use a broom, not a hose when cleaning driveways and walkways.