

Point Allen Water Association

Water Quality Report

2023

Consumer Confidence Report for the Year 2023

Point Allen Water Association pleased to present to you the 2023 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 is tested regularly. Keeping pace with upgraded water testing and more stringent federal standards is a challenge but one that Point Allen Water Association strongly supports. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe source of drinking water.

Who We Are...

The Point Allen Water Association is a water utility of 50 Department of Health (DOH) approved connections, 45 of which are currently active. If you have any questions or concerns regarding this water utility, your water, or this report we will be happy to answer them.

Point Allen Water Association's water source consists of two wells. Well #1 AAF267 measures 221 feet deep and well #2 AAF241 measures 220 feet deep. After water is drawn from the wells it flows to the distribution system and is stored in a reservoir with a 33,000 gallon capacity.

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. We do not treat the water in the system because of the excellent quality.

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. There 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 2023 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, 2023. 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.

ppt (parts per trillion or 1 nanogram/liter (ng/L)): Equivalent to one grain of sand in an Olympic-size swimming pool.

Inorganic Contaminants	MCL	MCLG	Point Allen Water Association	Range of Detections	Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source of Contamination
Arsenic (ppb)	0.010	0	S01 0.0010	0.0010	2022	NO	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards
Nitrate (ppm)	10	10	4.58	4.58	2023	NO	Runoff from fertilizer use
Chloride (ppm)	250	250	S01 18.2	18.2	2022	NO	Naturally occurring; can indicate possible saltwater intrusion
Iron	0.3	0	ND	ND	2022	NO	Erosion of natural deposits
Lead & Copper	AL	MCLG	Point Allen Water Association	Total # of Samples / # Exceeding AL	Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
Lead (ppb)	0.015	0	0.0015	5 / 0	2021	NO	Corrosion of household plumbing systems
Copper (ppm)	1.3	1.3	0.06616	5 / 0	2021	NO	Corrosion of household plumbing systems
Microbiological Contaminants	MCL	MCLG	Point Allen Water Association	Total # of Samples / # Exceeding AL	Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
Total Coliform Bacteria	0	0	ABSENT	ABSENT	2023	NO	Naturally present in the environment
Radioactive Contaminants	MCL	MCLG	Point Allen Water Association	Range of Detections	Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source of Contamination
Gross Beta (pCi/l)	50	0	1.06	1.06	2023	NO	Erosion of natural deposits
Gross Alpha (pCi/l)	15	0	ND	ND	2023	NO	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium 228	5	0	ND	ND	2023	NO	Erosion of natural deposits
Synthetic Organic Contaminants	MCL	SAL	Point Allen Water Association	Range of Level Detected	Sample Date	Violation	Typical Sources of Contaminant
Herbicides	N/A	N/A	ND	ND	2020	NO	Runoff from herbicide used in row crops
Perfluorobutanesulfonic Acid (PFBS) ppt	N/A	345	S02 5.6	5.6	2023	NO	Run-off or leaching from firefighting foam industrial discharge, and landfills; wastewater treatment plants.
Perfluorobutanesulfonic Acid (PFBS) ppt	N/A	345	S03 5.0	5.0	2023	NO	Run-off or leaching from firefighting foam industrial discharge, and landfills; wastewater treatment plants.
Perfluorohexanesulfonic Acid (PFHxS) ppt	N/A	66	S02 11.6	11.6	2023	NO	Run-off or leaching from firefighting foam industrial discharge, and landfills; wastewater treatment plants.
Perfluorohexanesulfonic Acid (PFHxS) ppt	N/A	66	S03 11.8	11.8	2023	NO	Run-off or leaching from firefighting foam industrial discharge, and landfills; wastewater treatment plants.

Perfluoroheptanoic Acid (PFHPA) ppt	N/A	N/A	S02 2.05	2.05	2023	NO	Run-off or leaching from firefighting foam, industrial discharge, and landfills; wastewater treatment plants.
Perfluoroheptanoic Acid (PFHPA) ppt	N/A	N/A	S03 2.10	2.10	2023	NO	Run-off or leaching from firefighting foam, industrial discharge, and landfills; wastewater treatment plants.
Perfluorohexanoic Acid (PFHXA) ppt	N/A	N/A	S02 14.9	14.9	2023	NO	Run-off or leaching from firefighting foam, industrial discharge, and landfills; wastewater treatment plants.
Perfluorohexanoic Acid (PFHXA) ppt	N/A	N/A	S03 14.2	14.2	2023	NO	Run-off or leaching from firefighting foam, industrial discharge, and landfills; wastewater treatment plants.

Additional Information

Additional Information for Total Coliform Bacteria: Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potential harmful, bacteria may be present. Your system is tested for total coliform bacteria each month. We are proud that your drinking water meets or exceeds all Federal and State requirements.

Additional Information for Perfluorobutanesulfonic Acid (PFBS): Some people who drink water containing PFBS **in excess of the SAL** may experience higher risk of cholesterol, liver, kidney, or thyroid problems. Early life is the most sensitive period for altered thyroid hormone; sensitive populations include persons who are pregnant, nursing or less than a year old.

Additional Information for Perfluorohexanesulfonic Acid (PFHxS): Some people who drink water containing PFHxS **in excess of the SAL** over many years may experience liver or immune problems, or thyroid hormone problems during pregnancy or infancy. It is possible that exposed children may have increased risk of abnormal behavior.

Additional Information for Perfluoroheptanoic Acid (PFHPA) and Perfluorohexanoic Acid (PFHXA): At this time, there is no MCL or SAL for these contaminants.

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. Point Allen Water Association 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. Point Allen Water Association wholly supports the DOH in these efforts and continues to do all that can be done to maintain good quality water.

IMPORTANT CONSERVATION TIPS:

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.