CITY OF UNION GAP

Consumer Confidence Report - 2023

Drinking Water Quality ~ A Report to the Community

The City of Union Gap Water Division (System ID #90250U) is proud to provide, to you, our annual water quality report.

The purpose of this report is to communicate important information regarding drinking water provided to our customers during the 2022 calendar year.

Everyone will agree that safe drinking water is essential and we all deserve to have access to high quality and great tasting water. All users need to be well-informed to utilize water resources wisely AND to support the improvements necessary to maintain quality drinking water in our community.

Our high standards are met by taking numerous monthly water samples from areas throughout the entire water system. An independent, certified laboratory tests the samples to insure our high standards are met. Some of the things the laboratory looks for are traces of chemicals, pesticides, herbicides, bacteria, viruses and metals.

SYSTEM DESCRIPTION: Union Gap's ground water supply derives from four (4) wells located within City limits and supplies water to the majority of the City's estimated 6,530***** residents. Water is stored in four (4) reservoirs and carried through distribution mains to homes and businesses.

***** *Dated 07.01.21 (most current data)*
https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/uniongapcitywashington

CONTACT INFORMATION:

UG Public Works Department
www.uniongapwa.gov
Utility Billing: 509.248.0434
Administration: 509.225.3524

WA State Department of Health (DOH)
www.doh.wa.gov
Office of Drinking Water
509.329.2100

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water
www.epa.gov/watersense
Safe Drinking Water Act Hotline
1.800.426.4791

TRANSLATION: This report contains important information about your drinking water. You may wish to have this information translated.

Spanish Message: Este informe contiene información importante sobre su agua potable. Es posible que desee tener esta información traducida.

LEAD AND COPPER MONITORING: The City's aquifer sources do not contain lead or copper. Unlike other contaminants, lead and copper do not usually occur in source water. Lead and copper enter drinking water primarily through plumbing material—such as corroded building plumbing, faucets and water fixtures.

Lead and copper monitoring is conducted at homes categorized as "high risk". Homes or buildings that were built or re-plumbed with copper pipes and lead-based solder are considered "high risk"; this type of solder occurred prior to 1986. In 1991, EPA published a regulation to control lead and copper in drinking water.

Worst-case conditions are considered when water has been stagnant, in pipes, for over six (6) hours. If you do not have copper pipes, you are at low risk. If your home is at "high risk", you may want to flush out your tap, for 30 seconds to 2 minutes, before using it for cooking or drinking whenever water has been sitting for six (6) hours or longer.

MANGANESE MONITORING: The City routinely monitors for minerals, which may cause taste, odor or appearance issues in the water supply. Manganese is a mineral found in shale, sandstone, alluvial deposits and in the aquifer, which supplies the City's wells. Manganese concentrations greater than 0.050 ppm can occasionally stain plumbing fixtures and laundered clothes.

- Well #3 provides quality water; it also contains manganese levels of approximately 0.0361 ppm *(analysis date 09.22.22)*.
- Well #4 provides quality water; it also contains manganese levels of approximately 0.123 ppm *(analysis date 05.20.22)*.
- Well #5 provides quality water; it also contains manganese levels of approximately 0.0485 ppm *(analysis date 09.22.22)*.

The City was instructed by DOH to maintain the regularly scheduled monitoring. Because there are no adverse health effects, plus the high cost for removing manganese, the City plans to continue using all wells to meet system demands. We will continue monitoring as required.

QUALITY MONITORING ~ REQUIREMENTS: The City is in compliance with existing water quality monitoring requirements, per state law, as summarized below.

Contaminant Type	Monitoring Requirement [1]
Arsenic	Wells #4 & #5 exceed SRL, which is under the triggering MCL levels
Bacteriological Contaminants	Seven (7) samples collected per month within the distribution area
Lead and Copper	Twenty (20) samples every three (3) years at selected residents' taps
Mercury	All Wells were below SRL
Nitrates	All Wells; one (1) sample every year
Radionuclides	All Wells; two (2) samples every three (3) years
Trihalomethanes	Sampling is not required; included in the VOC monitoring every three (3) years
Synthetic Organic Chemicals (SOC) Volatile Organic Chemicals (VOC) Inorganic Chemicals (IOC)	All wells; one (1) sample from each; every three (3) years All wells; one (1) sample from each; every six (6) years All wells; one (1) sample from each; every nine (9) years

[1] Increased monitoring is required for any chemicals detected above an "Action Level" or a "MCL"

CONTAMINANT (UNITS)	LEVEL DETECTED				MCL	MCLG
	# 3 S02	# 4 S03	# 5 S04	# 6 S05		
Fluoride * (ppm)	N/A	0.19	0.19	0.15	4.0	4.0
Most Recently Sampled	11.06.19	05.14.19	08.14.19	05.13.19		
TYPICAL SOURCES: Erosion of natural deposits; water additive, which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.						
Nitrate (ppm)	1.46	<0.07	<0.07	0.344	10	10
Most Recently Sampled	10.07.22	10.07.22	10.07.22	10.07.22		
TYPICAL SOURCES: Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks; sewage.						
Lead (ppm)	<0.0001	0.0044	<0.0001	<0.0005	0.015	0.015
Most Recently Sampled	11.06.19	05.14.19	08.26.19	05.13.19		
TYPICAL SOURCES: Erosion of natural deposits; corrosion of household plumbing systems.						
Copper (ppm)	N/A	0.023	<0.00025	0.0032	1.3	1.3
Most Recently Sampled	11.06.19	05.14.19	08.26.19			
TYPICAL SOURCES: Erosion of natural deposits; corrosion of household plumbing systems.						
Arsenic (ppm)	0.00615	0.0046	0.00385	0.0007	0.010	0.010
Most Recently Sampled	05.20.22	05.14.19	09.21.22	05.13.19		
TYPICAL SOURCES: Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; runoff from glass and electronics production wastes.						
Mercury (ppm)	<0.0002	<0.0002	<0.0002	0.0002	0.002	0.002
Most Recently Sampled	11.06.19	05.14.19	08.14.19	05.13.19		
TYPICAL SOURCES: Erosion of natural deposits; discharge from refineries and factories; runoff from landfills; runoff from cropland.						

**** Fluoride is not added to the City's water system***

WATER DEFINITIONS: Action Level (AL): The concentration of a contaminant, which if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

- *Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL):* 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.
- *Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG):* 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.
- *Part per million (ppm):* One part per million or one milligram per liter (mg/L) is analogous to one penny in $10,000.
- *Part per billion (ppb):* One part per billion or one microgram per liter is analogous to one penny in $10,000,000.
- *State Reporting Level (SRL):* Indicates the minimum reporting level required by Washington State DOH.
- *Variance and Exemption:* State or EPA permission not to meet an MCL, AL or a TT under certain conditions.

QUALITY MONITORING ~ RESULTS: The City has historically provided high quality drinking water and continues to strive to maintain those standards. In 2022, the water department experienced the return of two unsatisfactory, for total coliforms, analytical reports. After repeat and investigative samples were taken the analysis reports came back satisfactory. The system returned to negative for total coliforms. The cause of the event is suspected as a result of a false positive.

Coliforms are bacteria, which are naturally present in the environment; ***these bacteria do not pose an immediate health risk to users***. In the water industry, coliforms are looked for as an indicator of potential contamination. For more information regarding contaminants please visit the EPA's website.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: Items related to the water system are occasionally discussed at City Council meetings.

Everyone is welcome to participate on the second and fourth Monday of each month (6:00 p.m.) in the City Council Chambers.

Please share this information with other people who drink City water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example: people in apartments, nursing homes, schools and businesses).

You can do this by posting this notice in a public place; distributing copies by hand or mail; and by checking out our website.

GENERAL HEALTH EFFECTS: Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population.

Individuals with an impaired immune system (Immunocompromised), such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, and some elderly and infants can be particularly at risk from infections.

These individuals should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers.

WATER QUALITY PROTECTION: To ensure the drinking water consistently meets, or exceeds, all State and Federal regulations, we have adopted the following: *Water System Plan (WSP); Wellhead Protection Plan (WPP); Hydrant / System Flushing Program; Cross-Connection Control (CCC) Program; and Water Use Efficiency (WUE) Program.*

High quality water is the City's commitment to you. To address the increasing demand on our state's water resources WA State Legislature passed the "*Municipal Water Law*". The law established that all municipal water suppliers must use water, more efficiently, in exchange for water right certainty.

As the potential for developing new sources of water diminishes, an efficient use of water is necessary to help ensure resources for future generations, demand due to drought, climate changes, population growth and business needs.

You are receiving this report as part of a federal reporting requirement for municipal water systems; this report costs approximately $.46 to produce and distribute to each of our mailing customers.