

CITY OF UNION GAP

Consumer Confidence Report - 2024

Drinking Water Quality ~ A Report to the Community

Union Gap Water System ID #90250U

Union Gap Water proudly provides this water quality report to comply with State & Federal regulations. Customers will find information about the outstanding water quality, the City provided for you during the 2023 calendar year.

Safe drinking water is essential and we all deserve and desire 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.

What percentage of the population receive their water from public water systems?

Providing safe drinking water is a partnership that involves EPA, the states, tribes, water systems, and water system operators.

The public drinking water systems regulated by EPA and delegated states, and tribes, provide drinking water to 90 percent of Americans.

SOURCE: <https://www.epa.gov/dwreginfo/information-about-public-water-systems>

SYSTEM DESCRIPTION: Union Gap's ground water supply derives from four (4) municipal wells located within City limits and supplies water to the majority of the City's estimated 6,439* residents. Water is stored in four (4) reservoirs and carried through distribution mains to homes and businesses.

Population estimate dated 07.01.23 (most current data)
<https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/uniongapcitywashington>

CONTACT INFORMATION:

UG Public Works Department

Utility Department: 509.248.0434

Administration: 509.225.3524

www.uniongapwa.gov

WA State Department of Health (DOH)

Office of Drinking Water

509.329.2100

www.doh.wa.gov

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water

www.epa.gov/watersense

www.epa.gov

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.

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; however, it is included in the VOC monitoring
Synthetic Organic Chemicals (SOC)	All wells; one (1) sample from each; every three (3) years
Volatile Organic Chemicals (VOC)	All wells; one (1) sample from each; every six (6) years
Inorganic Chemicals (IOC)	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"

QUALITY MONITORING RESULTS: The City has historically provided high quality drinking water and continues to strive to maintain those standards.

In 2023, the water department did not experience the return of any unsatisfactory, for total coliforms, analytical reports. All samples taken came back with satisfactory results. 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.

MANGANESE MONITORING: The City 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.

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 (Treatment Technique) under certain conditions.

- In 2023, there were 85 system samples, tested for coliform bacteria, all results were satisfactory!
- Fluoride* is not added to the City's water system.

CONTAMINANT (UNITS)	L E V E L D E T E C T E D				MCL	MCLG
	# 3	# 4	# 5	# 6		
	Source 02	Source 03	Source 04	Source 05		
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		
<i>TYPICAL SOURCES: Erosion of natural deposits; water additive, which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.</i>						
Nitrate (ppm)	0.164	N/A	N/D	0.272	10	10
Most Recently Sampled	10.18.23	10.18.23	10.18.23	10.18.23		
<i>TYPICAL SOURCES: Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks; sewage.</i>						
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		
<i>TYPICAL SOURCES: Erosion of natural deposits; corrosion of household plumbing systems.</i>						
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			
<i>TYPICAL SOURCES: Erosion of natural deposits; corrosion of household plumbing systems.</i>						
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		
<i>TYPICAL SOURCES: Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; runoff from glass and electronics production wastes.</i>						
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		
<i>TYPICAL SOURCES: Erosion of natural deposits; discharge from refineries and factories; runoff from landfills; runoff from cropland.</i>						

PFAS / PFOS: The per-and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) are a group of chemicals used to make fluoropolymer coatings and products that resist heat, oil, stains, grease, and water. Fluoropolymer coatings can be in a variety of products. These include clothing, furniture, adhesives, food packaging, heat-resistant non-stick cooking surfaces, and the insulation of electrical wire. PFAS are found in rivers and lakes and in many types of animals on land and in the water.

Many PFAS, including perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (PFOS) and perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA), are a concern because they: 1) do not break down in the environment; 2) can move through soils and contaminate drinking water sources; 3) build up (bioaccumulate) in fish and wildlife.

PFAS persist in the environment and exposure in people can occur by consuming PFAS-contaminated water or food. Exposure may happen by using products that contain PFAS.

All of the City wells are below the contaminant level for PFAS / PFOS. More information can be found on the EPA website.

LEAD & 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. *If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems especially for pregnant women and young children.*

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.

City of Union Gap

PRSR STD

Water System ID #90250U

U.S. POSTAGE PAID

P.O. Box 3008

*******ECRWSEDDM*******

YAKIMA, WA

Union Gap, WA 98903

POSTAL CUSTOMER

PERMIT #100

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: Items related to the water system are occasionally discussed at City Council meetings. Anyone and everyone is welcome to participate on the second and fourth Monday of each month, at 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: individuals 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.



If you have any questions, regarding the information in this report, please feel free to send an email to jo.linder@uniongapwa.gov or call City Hall.

GENERAL HEALTH EFFECTS: Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised individuals, such as those:

- With cancer undergoing chemotherapy;
- Who have undergone organ transplants;
- 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, from their health care providers, about drinking tap 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);
- Valve Turning Program;
- 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.