

# 2017 CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT

## KING COUNTY WATER DISTRICT NO. 119

### JUNE 2018



#### District's Mission Statement

*The mission of the District is to provide safe, high quality potable water service in an efficient and cost effective manner with a high level of customer satisfaction.*

#### Inside This Report

- *Where does our water come from?*
- *How is the water source protected?*
- *What is in our drinking water?*
- *Water quality and you*
- *Water conservation*
- *How can I get more information*



#### ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT

King County Water District No. 119 (WD119) is pleased to bring you our annual water quality report. As our customer, you have a right to fully understand the operations of your water district. WD119 is committed to ensuring the quality of its system and its compliance with government standards. This report is intended to provide you with information on the quality of your drinking water. For those of you who are new to WD119, the information contained in this report should be enlightening. For those of you who have received the report in the past, the information will appear similar with a few exceptions. This report, and some of the actual text, are required by the Federal Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA), and we will continue to send you an update each year. Although parts of this report may seem repetitive, it is the intent of WD119 to make it as informative and useful as possible. The District welcomes comments and suggestions regarding this report and the services we provide. We will do our best to incorporate the recommendations we receive into our next publication. We hope you'll find the information contained in this report useful. Drinking water is our most precious resource, and we are committed to delivering safe water of the highest quality to your home and place of work. We encourage all customers to use water wisely, and we appreciate your conservation efforts.

#### ABOUT YOUR WATER SUPPLY

All of WD119's water is supplied by the Seattle's Public Utility Department's (SPU) Tolt River Watershed. The watershed consists of 12,500 acres of uninhabited land and a surface water reservoir that can store up to 18.3 billion gallons of water. The reservoir is supplied with water from rivers, streams, snowmelt and 90 to 160 inches of precipitation per year. From the reservoir, the water enters into the Tolt River Treatment Facility. After the water is treated, it then travels 7.5 miles west through a supply pipeline to WD119 and other eastside cities and water districts on its way to Seattle.

#### WATER SOURCE ASSESSMENT

Providing protection for the water source is very important to the quality of our water. SPU protects your drinking water by enforcing an aggressive watershed protection plan. No agricultural, industrial or recreational activities are allowed in the area. Access to the watershed is restricted to only authorized staff, and participants in scheduled educational programs conducted by SPU staff. The Washington State Department of Health (DOH) has determined the Tolt River Watershed to have a low vulnerability to contamination. This means there is little opportunity for contaminants to enter the water.

#### IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT THIS REPORT

This Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) summarizes the testing of contaminants in our drinking water. Every year, the District and other water providers are required to prepare and distribute a CCR to all water customers. This CCR includes a comparison of the District's water to water quality standards set by the DOH and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The purpose of the report is to let you, our customers, know the quality of your water.

#### QUESTIONS. . . ?

If you want to learn more about the District, visit our website at [www.wd119.org](http://www.wd119.org) or attend our board meetings held on the first Wednesday of the month at 7:00 pm at the District Office. If you have questions about this report please contact the District Office by phone at (425) 788-2885 or by email at [office@wd119.org](mailto:office@wd119.org).

#### BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

*Terry Olson  
Michelle Orndorf  
Jeff Popp*

## WATER QUALITY DATA

The monitoring results for last year are summarized in the table below. The results are for those parameters found in our water which are regulated by federal and state agencies. In addition to these, our supply was checked for more than 200 additional compounds but none were detected. The first two columns list each compound found and the units of measure. The third and fourth columns list the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's goals and allowable limits. The fifth and sixth columns list the levels found in our supply. The seventh column indicates if the water meets the required standards. The last column is where these compounds may come from or how they are formed.

Detected Compound	Units	EPA's Allowable Limits		Your Water		Compliant (Y/N)	Typical Sources
		MCLG	MCL	Average	Range		
Raw Water (untreated water from the source)							
Total Organic Carbon	ppm	NA	TT	1.2	1.1 to 1.3	Y	Naturally present in the environment
Cryptosporidium*	# / 100L	NA	NA	ND	ND	Y	Naturally present in the environment
Finished Water (treated water that is ready to drink)							
Turbidity	NTU	NA	TT	0.04	0.01 to 0.20	Y	Soil Runoff
Fluoride	ppm	4	4	0.7	0.6 to 0.8	Y	Water additive which promotes strong teeth
Barium	ppm	2000	2000	1.4	1.1 to 1.7	Y	Erosion of natural deposits
Bromate	ppm	0	10	0.25	ND to 2	Y	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
Arsenic	ppb	0	10	0.4	0.3 to 0.5	Y	Erosion of natural deposits
Total Trihalomethanes	ppb	NA	80	34	16 to 48	Y	Byproduct of drinking water chlorination
Haloacetic Acids(5)	ppb	NA	60	20	5 to 36	Y	
Chromium	ppb	100	100	0.2	ND to 0.24	Y	Erosion of natural deposits
Chlorine	ppm	MRDLG = 4	MRDL = 4	Average = 0.97 Range = 0.58 to 1.42		Y	Water additive use to control microbes

**MCLG:** Maximum Contaminant Level Goal. The level 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 treatment technology.

**MRDL:** Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level. The level of a contaminant in disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

**MRDLG:** Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal. The level of water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLG's do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

**TT:** Treatment Technique. A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

**NTU:** Nephelometric Turbidity Unit. Turbidity is a measure of how clear the water looks. The turbidity MCL that applied to the Tolt supply was 0.3 NTU for at least 95% of the samples in a month. 100% of the samples from the Tolt in 2017 were below 0.3 NTU.

**NA:** Not Applicable

**ND:** Not Detected

**ppm:** 1 part per million = 1 mg/L

**ppb:** 1 part per billion

**1 ppm:** = 1000 ppb

\* Cryptosporidium was not detected in any samples (3 samples)

We are required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not drinking water meets health standards.

### Lead and Copper Results (samples collected at customer taps)

Parameter and Units	MCLG	Action <sup>1</sup> Levels	Combined Regional Monitoring		WD119 - 2011	Source
			2016 Results <sup>2</sup>	Homes Exceeding	Homes Exceeding	
Lead, ppb	0	1.5	3	2 of 50	0 of 3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems
Copper, ppm	1.3	1.3	0.10	0 of 50	0 of 3	

<sup>1</sup> The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

<sup>2</sup> 90<sup>th</sup> Percentile: i.e. 90 percent of the samples were less than the values shown.

## LEAD AND COPPER

WD119 is confident with the quality of our water source. The water does not naturally contain lead or copper. Many people do not realize that the pipes in their home can have an impact on the quality of their drinking water. Of particular concern are homes that have copper pipe with lead solder (primarily homes plumbed with copper pipe prior to 1980) or homes that do not meet the plumbing code.

WD119 participates with SPU in a Regional Lead and Copper Monitoring Program. Found on the previous page are the results for the regional sampling that was completed in 2011. Also shown are the results for the sampling completed at three homes within the District's system. 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. WD119 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 their website: <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

Here are a few simple things you can do to protect your water if you have plumbing with lead components.

1. If you haven't used your water for over 6 hours, run the tap for two minutes before drinking or cooking with it. (Don't forget to save! The water you run to flush your pipes can be used for watering plants or doing the dishes.)
2. Always use the COLD water tap for drinking and cooking—lead dissolves more quickly in hot water. Never make baby formula or other drinks or food for children from the HOT water tap.
3. Be sure to select low-lead or no-lead plumbing fixtures.

Since January 2014 manufacturers can have only 0.25% lead in a fixture, reduced from 8% previously.

## WATER QUALITY AND YOU

### *Sources of Drinking Water*

Common sources of drinking water, both tap and bottled water, include rivers, lakes and streams (surface water) and wells and springs (groundwater). As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally-occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material. The water can also pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity. Substances that may be present in our source water include:

- Microbial Contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from wildlife;
- Inorganic Contaminants, such as salts and metals, which are naturally occurring;
- Organic Chemical Compounds, which result from chlorine combining with the naturally occurring organic matter;
- Radioactive Contaminants, which can be naturally occurring.

Our water travels from the Cascade Mountain watersheds and is then treated at the Tolt Reservoir to ensure it is free of contaminants before being sent through water mains to the pipes in your home.

### *Are Contaminants a Health Risk?*

To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the Environmental Protection Agency and the Washington State Department of Health prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The Food and Drug Administration and the Washington State Department of Agriculture have similar regulations which establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, providing the same protection for public health.

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.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, the elderly and some infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

**WATER CONSERVATION**

<b>WD119 Efforts</b>	<b>Regional Efforts</b>
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<p>WD119 adopted a new water conservation goal in 2014 in accordance with Washington State's Water Use Efficiency Rule. The rule requires the system's conservation goal be re-established at a minimum of every six years, and that progress toward the goal be reported annually to the state and our customers. The performance report covers the conservation goals, distribution leakage and metering.</p> <p>WD119 has had an active water conservation program since the 1990's. Water use efficiencies have been achieved through conservation programs, seasonal water rates, customer education and system leak detection. Our unaccounted for water was less than 15% of the total water purchased in 2017. Unaccounted for water consists of water lost due to main breaks, pipeline leakage, theft, fire protection and inaccurate meters. Here's what you can do to prevent or reduce leaks, which could save a lot of money on your water bill:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Check your water meter for a spinning dial.</li> <li>• Replace worn toilet flappers.</li> <li>• Replace worn washers and gaskets in faucets, showerheads and hoses.</li> <li>• Keep an eye out for unusually damp or green patches in your yard; these could be a sign of an underground leak.</li> <li>• Check irrigation systems each spring for freeze damage and broken parts.</li> <li>• Visit <a href="http://www.savingwater.org">www.savingwater.org</a> or call 206/684-7283 for more water saving advice.</li> </ul>	<p>The Saving Water Partnership (SWP), which is made up of SPU and its utility partners including WD119, has set a six-year conservation goal: reduce per capita use from current levels so that the total average annual retail water use is less than 105 mgd from 2013 through 2018 despite forecasted population growth. In order to meet the goal, the amount of water used per person will need to decrease to offset growth. The Saving Water Partnership has met the goal consistently. Here are some great ways to save water and lower your water bills.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Check for leaks and fix them as soon as you can; follow the step-by-step videos at <a href="http://www.savingwater.org">www.savingwater.org</a> or call 206-684-SAVE (7283) to learn more.</li> <li>• Use less water in your garden by putting a thick layer of mulch around your plants.</li> <li>• Follow SWP on Facebook for the latest news on ways to have a beautiful landscape without over-watering at <a href="http://www.facebook.com/savvygardenernews">http://www.facebook.com/savvygardenernews</a>.</li> <li>• For water saving advice in your garden: call the Garden Hotline at (206) 633-0224 or use e-mail to contact <a href="mailto:help@gardenhotline.org">help@gardenhotline.org</a>.</li> </ul>
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<b>WD119 WATER SYSTEM FACTS</b>	<b>FOR MORE INFORMATION</b>
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This material can be made available to accommodate people with disabilities and those who need language translation if the need arises by contacting the WD119 office at the above noted telephone number.