



2019 Water Quality Report

Drinking water delivered to your home

Your 2019 Water Quality Report



Here is West Slope Water District's Water Quality Report for 2019. We hope you can find 10 minutes to read the report from a comfortable chair with a glass of water (or your own favorite beverage) and become informed about your drinking water. If you do, you will know:

- Where your drinking water originates
- What water quality tests were performed on your drinking water in 2018
- What issues are on the horizon for the West Slope Water District
- Where you can come interact with staff at an outdoor community event

Congress and the USEPA want all Americans to be aware of what is in their drinking water and the health of their public water system. We at West Slope Water District completely agree. This report should answer your questions about West Slope Water District water quality, but it also might lead to new questions for you.

**WE ARE ALWAYS
HERE TO ANSWER ANY
QUESTIONS YOU HAVE**

Just call us:

503-292-2777 Monday-Friday
8 am-noon and 1-4:30 pm

Or email:

customer.service@wswd.org

The Water of Your Future



In this section of last year's report, I encouraged readers to individually think about the value of their drinking water both today and in the future. You might be surprised to know that nearly a billion people worldwide do not have any access to safe drinking water. An even higher number of people must spend the better part of every day finding water and bringing it back to their families and villages on foot. Every day. I imagine the people without access to safe drinking water and those that must work very hard to get it place a very high value on water.

We are very blessed in this country to have water available on demand everywhere we go simply by turning a faucet handle. But do we place as much value on our water as others without it do? Probably not until our service is interrupted. At West Slope, our Vision is to provide our customers with a continuous supply of drinking water every day. Safe. Sustainable. Reliable. Continuous. These qualities are paramount to us, and we work everyday to bring our customers that water.

But as you know, that kind of service costs money money which may add to the value of water but it does not define it. We are not merely satisfied with providing "water for today." We ask ourselves where will our water come from next year, and the year after that, and in 10 years, and in 60 years and beyond? And that level of planning and building infrastructure for our "water of the future" costs money as well. In 2018, West Slope raised water rates for the first time in a few years to prepare to meet the higher cost of purchased water from the City of Portland after the City completes construction projects for a new water filtration plant and a new covered reservoir in Washington Park (see photo to the left), and we will need to raise rates again in 2019 and in the years following as well in order to ensure the "water of the future" is safe, sustainable, reliable, and continuous.

Let us know what you think. We at West Slope want to hear what you have to say, and we listen well.

Sincerely,

Michael W. Grimm, P.E.

General Manager, West Slope Water District



This is Portland's project to replace the uncovered reservoirs at Washington Park. West Slope will pay a portion of the construction costs through our water rates beginning in 2023.



This is pipe from our neighbors at Tualatin Valley Water District as they build a new water source, state-of-the-art water filter treatment plant, and transmission line to bring Willamette River water into eastern Washington County.

**FUN
FACT**

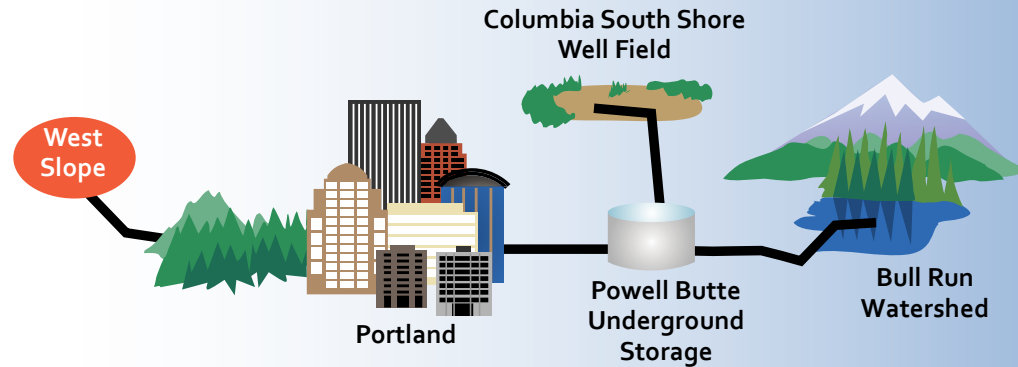
Of all the water on Earth, only 1% by volume exists in useable form like rivers, lakes, streams or in underground aquifers.

West Slope Water District *Established 1922*

The West Slope Water District maintains just over 3,200 metered customer accounts serving nearly 11,000 people. The District boundaries are roughly US Hwy 26 on the north, OR Hwy 217 on the west, SW Beaverton-Hillsdale Highway on the south, and SW Scholls Ferry Road on the east. The District has no water source of its own but instead relies on a wholesale water purchase contract with the Portland Water Bureau for the District's water supply. Portland's water enters the West Slope Water District through the District's two concrete Sylvan Hill reservoirs. The District maintains 48 miles of water pipe over a 4-square mile area.

Where does our water come from?
The Portland Water Bureau maintains **TWO HIGH-QUALITY SOURCES OF DRINKING WATER:**
The Bull Run Watershed and The Columbia South Shore Wellfield.

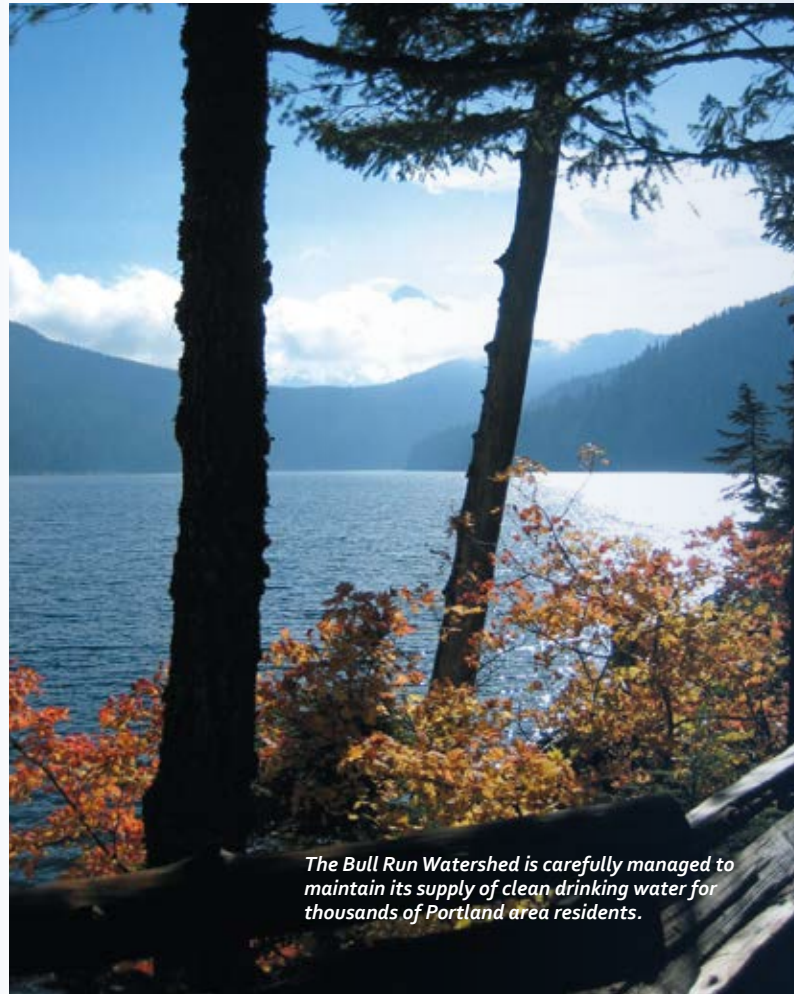
Our Water Sources



The Bull Run Watershed is a unique, protected (closed to public access) surface water supply located in the Mt. Hood National Forest 40 miles from downtown Portland. The watershed is carefully managed to sustain and supply clean drinking water to a quarter of Oregon's population including West Slope. The Bull Run Watershed is a sub-basin watershed in the Sandy River basin that is separate from Mt. Hood and the Hoodland communities found along US Hwy 26. No recreational, residential or commercial uses occur within the watershed. The Portland Water Bureau carefully monitors water quality and quantity in the watershed. The Oregon Health Authority Drinking Water Program regularly inspects the watershed and the related treatment and distribution facilities.

On average, the Bull Run watershed receives over 135 inches of precipitation (rain and snow) annually, that flows into the Bull Run River and then into two reservoirs that store nearly 10 billion gallons of drinking water.

In 2003, the Portland Water Bureau completed a Source Water Assessment in compliance with federal USEPA requirements. The Assessment identifies the only contaminants of concern as naturally occurring microbes such as *Giardia*, *Cryptosporidium*, fecal coliform bacteria and total coliform bacteria (available at www.portlandoregon.gov/water/sourcewaterassessment or by calling 503-823-7525). These organisms are found in virtually all freshwater ecosystems and may be present in Bull Run supply at very low levels. The Bull Run Watershed is an unfiltered drinking water source that is currently not treated for *Cryptosporidium*. However, the Portland Water Bureau is working to install drinking water filtration by September 2027. For more information about filtration and *Cryptosporidium*, see "The Bull Run Filtration Treatment Project" on Page 5.



The Bull Run Watershed is carefully managed to maintain its supply of clean drinking water for thousands of Portland area residents.

The Columbia South Shore Well Field provides high-quality drinking water from 25 active wells located in three different aquifers. Located on the south shore of the Columbia River, the well field is the second largest water source in Oregon, and can produce up to 80 million gallons of water per day. The well field is used to supplement or as an alternative to the Bull Run supply during routine maintenance, turbidity events, emergencies and when the bureau needs additional summer supply.

Gresham, Rockwood Water PUD, Fairview, and the Portland Water Bureau work together with businesses in the area to prevent hazardous material spills that could seep into the ground and impact groundwater. The Portland Water Bureau also hosts public events such as Aquifer Adventure, Cycle the Well Field, and Groundwater 101 to educate residents on how they can get involved in protecting groundwater.

To learn more about the regional Well Field Protection Program or find upcoming events, visit www.portlandoregon.gov/water/groundwater or call 503-823-7473.

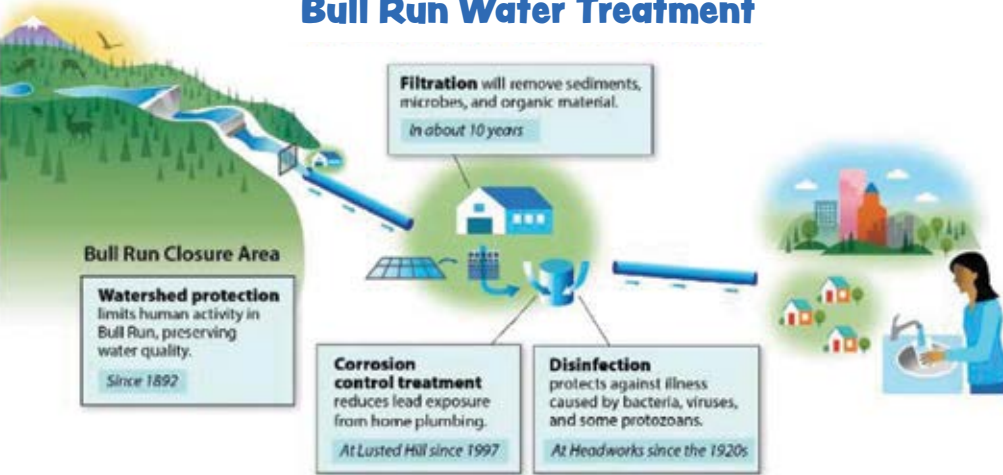
The Bull Run Filtration Treatment Project

The high-quality and well-protected nature of the Bull Run Watershed has allowed the Portland Water Bureau to maintain a filtration exemption until 2016. After a series of detections for *Cryptosporidium* in 2017, Portland City Council directed the Portland Water Bureau to add filtration treatment to Bull Run drinking water. This decision is a major undertaking and will result in a new drinking water treatment plant for the Bull Run. The new treatment plant will be online by 2027.

In addition to providing treatment for *Cryptosporidium*, the water filtration treatment plant will provide more consistent water quality through the distribution system, increase the reliability of the Bull Run by enabling treatment for most instances of increased turbidity and filter algae, and remove sediment from the water. Constructing a new treatment plant now is also an investment in our future by better preparing the Portland Water Bureau to meet future regulations.

MORE INFORMATION: www.portlandoregon.gov/water/filtration

Bull Run Water Treatment



Special Notice for Immuno-Compromised Persons

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, some elderly people and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)/ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (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 at 800-426-4791.

FUN FACT

452 million gallons of water were used by West Slope customers in 2018.

Monitoring for *Cryptosporidium*

2018 Results of *Cryptosporidium* Monitoring at the Raw Water Intake

Number of Samples	Total Volume (L)	Detections (oocysts)
271	7,690	19

The Portland Water Bureau does not currently treat for *Cryptosporidium*, but is required to do so under the state and federal drinking water regulations. Portland will construct and begin operating a water filtration treatment plant for the Bull Run source by 2027 under a compliance schedule with Oregon Health Authority. In the meantime, Portland Water Bureau is implementing interim measures such as watershed protection and additional monitoring to protect public health. On-going consultation with public health officials has concluded that, at this time, customers do not need to take any additional precautions.

Exposure to *Cryptosporidium* can cause cryptosporidiosis, a serious illness. Symptoms can include diarrhea, vomiting, fever, and stomach pain. People with healthy immune systems recover without medical treatment. According to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), people with severely weakened immune systems are at risk for more serious disease. Symptoms may be more severe and could lead to serious life-threatening illness. Examples of people with weakened immune systems include those with AIDS, those with inherited diseases that affect the immune system, and cancer and transplant patients who are taking certain immunosuppressive drugs. The Environmental Protection Agency has estimated that a small percentage of the population could experience gastrointestinal illness from *Cryptosporidium* and advises that customers who are immuno-compromised and receive their drinking water from the Bull Run Watershed consult with their health care professional about the safety of drinking the tap water.

Definitions

Action Level

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.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL)

The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG)

The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

Nephelometric Turbidity Units (NTU)

The unit of measurement of turbidity or cloudiness in water as measured by the amount of light passing through a sample.

Part Per Million (ppm)

One part per million corresponds to one penny in \$10,000 or approximately one minute in two years. One part per million is equal to 1,000 parts per billion.

Part Per Billion (ppb)

One part per billion corresponds to one penny in \$10,000,000 or approximately one minute in 2,000 years.

Picocuries Per Liter

Picocurie is a measurement of radioactivity. One picocurie is one trillion times smaller than one curie.

Treatment Technique

A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

Water Quality Data

Contaminants Detected in 2017

Regulated Contaminant	Detected in West Slope's Water		EPA Limits		Source of Contaminant	Unregulated Contaminant	Detected in Source Water from Portland Water Bureau			Source of Contaminant
	Minimum	Maximum	MCL or TT	MCLG			Minimum	Average	Maximum	
UNTREATED SOURCE WATER FROM THE BULL RUN WATERSHED BEFORE DISINFECTION TREATMENT						TREATED SOURCE WATER FROM THE BULL RUN WATERSHED AND COLUMBIA SOUTH SHORE WELLFIELD				
Turbidity (NTU)	0.19	1.01	5	N/A	Erosion of natural deposits	Radon (pCi/L)	<50	150	300	Found in natural deposits
Fecal Coliform Bacteria (%>20 colonies/100mL in 6 months)	N/D	1.64%	10%	N/A	Animal wastes	Sodium (ppm)	3.4	6.8	16	
Giardia (#/iL)	N/D	0.18	TT	N/A	Animal wastes					

For more detailed analyses regarding source water monitoring and water chemistry, view the City of Portland's Triannual Reports at www.portlandoregon.gov/water/triannual.

TREATED DRINKING WATER FROM BULL RUN WATERSHED AND COLUMBIA SOUTH SHORE WELLFIELD ENTRY POINTS TO THE DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM PRIOR TO DELIVERY TO WEST SLOPE

Arsenic (ppb)	<0.50	1.31	10	0	Found in natural deposits
Barium (ppm)	0.00074	0.01240	2	2	
Copper (ppm)	<0.00050	0.00071	N/A	1.3	
Fluoride (ppm)	<0.025	0.150	4	4	
Nitrate - Nitrogen (ppm)	<0.010	0.450	10	10	Found in natural aquifer deposits; animal wastes

TREATED DRINKING WATER FROM POINTS THROUGH THE WEST SLOPE DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM OF RESERVOIRS, TANKS AND WATER MAINS

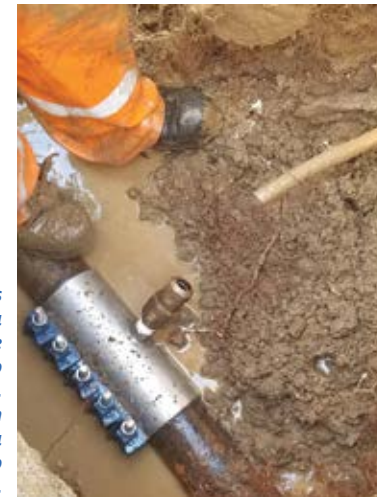
Microbiological Contaminants					
Total Coliform Bacteria (0% positive per month)	0%	0%	N/A.	N/A	Found throughout the environment
Disinfectant Residual					
Total Chlorine Residual Running Annual Average (ppm)	1.29	1.38	4 (MRDL)	4 (MRDLG)	Chlorine is used to disinfect water
Total Chlorine Residual at Any One Site (ppm)	0.5	1.80	N/A	N/A	
Disinfection Byproducts					
Haloacetic Acids					
Running Annual Average at Any One Site (ppb)	14.1	22.2	60	N/A	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
Single Result at Any One Site (ppb)	10.9	28.3	N/A		
Total Trihalomethanes					
Running Annual Average at Any One Site (ppb)	26.1	29.3	80	N/A	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
Single Result at Any One Site (ppb)	17.6	36.6	N/A		



This is the District's 3.0 MG reservoir. It is built to current earthquake design standards.



Field crew excavating with a VAC truck to expose a leak in the District's water main. If customers see this truck out on the street, chances are we are repairing a water main break as quickly as possible. Please drive safely around our field crew.



This leak was found around a customer's service line connection to the District's main. It was repaired with silver band and a new connection to the main.

FUN FACT
780 million people worldwide have no access to safe drinking water.
(Courtesy of Blue Planet Network)



West Slope Out in the Community

West Slope Water District staff will be launching more public outreach efforts beginning this summer and continuing through fall to inform customers about future water rate increases and long term water supply strategies. It is important to the Board of Commissioners and staff to inform and engage ratepayers by listening to the concerns and questions of our customers.



Look for West Slope in Raleigh Park for the Concert in the Park, Thursday, August 22.



We hope to see you there!



What the EPA Says Can Be Found in Drinking Water

Across the United States, the sources of drinking water (for 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.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems and require monitoring for these contaminants. The US Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health.

Contaminants in drinking water sources may include: **microbial contaminants**, such as viruses, bacteria, and protozoa from wildlife; **inorganic contaminants**, such as salts and metals, which are naturally occurring; **pesticides and herbicides**, which may come from farming, urban stormwater runoff, or home and business use; **organic chemical contaminants**, such as byproducts from industrial processes or the result of chlorine combining with the naturally occurring organic matter; and **radioactive contaminants**, such as radon, which is naturally occurring.

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 at 800-426-4791 or at www.epa.gov/safewater.

FUN FACT

In 2018, the average water use per person in West Slope was 113 gallons per day.

Notes on Contaminants

Arsenic, Barium, Fluoride, and Vanadium

These metals are elements found in the earth's crust. They can dissolve into water that is in contact with natural deposits. At the levels found in your drinking water, they are unlikely to contribute to adverse health effects.

Disinfection Byproducts

During disinfection, certain byproducts form as a result of chemical reactions between chlorine and naturally occurring organic matter in the water. These byproducts can have negative health effects. Trihalomethanes and haloacetic acids are regulated disinfection byproducts that have been detected in low concentrations in West Slope Water District drinking water. Adding ammonia to chlorine results in a more stable disinfectant and helps to minimize the formation of disinfection byproducts.

Fecal Coliform Bacteria

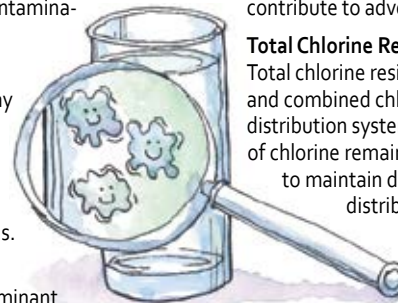
The presence of fecal coliform bacteria in source water indicates that water may be contaminated with animal wastes. The West Slope Water District maintains a total chlorine residual to protect the water from fecal bacteria contamination.

Giardia

Wildlife in the watershed may be hosts to *Giardia lamblia*, the organism that causes giardiasis. Chlorine is added to the Bull Run source water to inactivate these organisms.

Lead and Copper

There is no maximum contaminant level (MCL) for lead or copper at the entry point to the distribution system. The main source of lead and copper is through the corrosion of home/building plumbing. Lead and copper are tested at customers' tap where levels are determined to be the highest. Infants and children who drink water containing lead in excess of the action level could experience delays in their physical or mental development. Children could show slight deficits in attention span and learning abilities. Adults who drink this water over many years could develop kidney problems or high blood pressure. For more information, see Reducing Exposure to Lead on page 14.



Nitrate – Nitrogen

Nitrate, measured as nitrogen, can support microbial growth (bacteria and algae). Nitrate levels exceeding the standards can contribute to health problems. At the levels found in your drinking water, nitrate is unlikely to contribute to adverse health effects.

Radon

Radon is a naturally occurring radioactive gas that cannot be seen, tasted or smelled. Radon can be detected at very low levels in the Bull Run water supply, and at varying levels in the Columbia South Shore Wellfield groundwater supply. Based on the historical levels of radon in groundwater combined with the limited amount of groundwater used, radon is unlikely to contribute to adverse health effects. For information about radon, call the EPA's Radon Hotline (800-SOS-RADON) or www.epa.gov/radon.

Sodium

There is currently no drinking water standard for sodium. Sodium is an essential nutrient. At the levels found in drinking water, it is unlikely to contribute to adverse health effects.

Total Chlorine Residual

Total chlorine residual is a measure of free chlorine and combined chlorine and ammonia in our distribution system. Chlorine residual is a low level of chlorine remaining in water and is designed to maintain disinfection through the entire distribution system.

Total Coliform Bacteria

Coliform are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment. They are used as an indicator that other potentially-harmful bacteria may be present. The West Slope Water District maintains a total chlorine residual to protect your water from total coliform bacteria contamination.

Turbidity

Turbidity is a relative measure of water clarity. Increased turbidity is typically caused by rain events that suspend organic material in our source water. Turbidity can interfere with the disinfection process and provide an environment for microbial growth. When turbidity rises to levels near 5 NTU, the Bull Run water source system can be shut down temporarily, and customers are served water from the Columbia South Shore Wellfield.

Frequently Asked Questions

How is my drinking water treated?

Water purchased by the West Slope Water District from the Portland Water Bureau is treated by Portland through a three-step process. First, Chlorine is added to the water for disinfection. Next, ammonia is added to form chloramines which ensure that disinfection remains adequate throughout the transmission and retail distribution system. Finally, sodium hydroxide is added to increase the pH of the water to reduce corrosion of plumbing systems. This treatment helps control lead and copper levels at customers' taps, should these metals be present in commercial and household plumbing systems. Please see "Reducing Exposure to Lead" on page 14 for more information about lead.



How is my drinking water tested?

The West Slope Water District and the Portland Water Bureau jointly monitor for over 200 regulated and unregulated contaminants in drinking water. All water quality monitoring data in this report are from 2018. If a known health-related contaminant is not listed in this report, the contaminant was not detected in the drinking water.

Is my water treated by filtration?

No. The water purchased from the City of Portland is not filtered. However, following months of low-level *Cryptosporidium* detections in water entering the Portland's intake structure, the Portland City Council voted in August 2017 in favor of designing and constructing filtration treatment for the Bull Run water source. The new water filtration plant will be operational by 2027. Water from the Columbia South Shore Wellfield will not be filtered, however, as protected groundwater is not required to be filtered. Please see "The Bull Run Filtration Treatment Project" on page 5 for more information about Portland's filtration project.

FUN FACT
It takes 20 gallons of water to produce one pint of beer.
(Courtesy of Siemens Water).

Is my water soft or hard?

Water served by the West Slope Water District water is very soft. One easy way to tell is by how fast you can make soap lather when washing hands or bathing. The hardness of Bull Run source water is typically 3-8 parts per million (ppm), or approximately ¼ to ½ a grain of hardness per gallon. For periods of time, the Bull Run source water may be blended with Columbia South Shore Wellfield groundwater. The groundwater hardness is approximately 80 ppm (about 5 grains per gallon), which is considered moderately hard.



What is the pH of my drinking water?

The pH of the drinking water in the West Slope Water District typically ranges between 7.5 and 8.5.

Is supplemental fluoride added to my drinking water?

No. Neither the West Slope Water District or Portland Water Bureau adds supplemental fluoride to the drinking water. Fluoride is a naturally occurring trace element in surface and groundwater. You may want to consult with your dentist about fluoride treatment to help prevent tooth decay, especially for young children.

How can I get my water tested?

Contact the LeadLine at www.leadline.org or 503-988-4000 for information about free lead-in-water testing. For more extensive testing, private laboratories can test your tap water for a fee. Not all labs are accredited to test for all contaminants. For information about accredited labs, contact the Oregon Health Authority, Oregon Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program at ORELAP.Info@state.or.us, call 503-693-4100 or contact the West Slope Water District for certified laboratories in the Portland metro area.

What causes my water to be temporarily discolored?

Since water purchased by the West Slope Water District from the Portland Water Bureau is not filtered, small amounts of natural sediment and organic material from the Bull Run Watershed can be present in the water supply and distribution system. This can sometimes be seen in the Fall as a tea-colored tint to the water. Sediment that has settled at the bottom of the water mains can be temporarily stirred up when the flow of water changes due to hydrant use, nearby construction or maintenance activities, firefighting, routine water line flushing or main breaks. Corrosion of older pipes inside buildings can also lead to rusty water after water has been sitting in the pipes for several hours. More information is available at www.portlandoregon.gov/water/discoloredwater.



To get your water tested, contact the LeadLine
www.leadline.org

FOR MORE WATER QUALITY FAQs:

www.portlandoregon.gov/water/WQfaq

Reducing Exposure to Lead

Lead in household plumbing can dissolve into drinking water when water remains in those pipes for several hours, such as overnight or after returning from work or school. If present, lead at elevated levels 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. While lead is rarely found in our source waters and there are no known lead service lines or lead pipe in the West Slope Water District, lead can be found in some homes. The District is responsible for providing high-quality drinking water to all customers, but the District cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components in homes or buildings. Lead enters drinking water from the corrosion (wearing away) of household plumbing materials containing lead. These materials include lead-based solder used to join copper pipe (commonly used in homes built or plumbed between 1970 and 1985) and brass faucets and 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 or up to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking.

In the Portland Metro Area, the most common sources of lead exposure are lead-based paint, household dust, soil and plumbing materials. Lead is also found in other household objects such as toys, cosmetics and pottery.

IF YOU'RE CONCERNED ABOUT LEAD IN YOUR DRINKING WATER, you can request a free lead-in-water test from the LeadLine. Find information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure here: www.leadline.org or call 503-988-4000 or call the Safe Drinking Water Hotline 800-426-4791 or www.epa.gov/safewater/lead

Water Testing Twice each year, the West Slope Water District participates with the Portland Water Bureau to monitor for lead and copper in tap water from a sample group of more than 100 homes. These are homes where the plumbing is known to contain lead solder and represent a worst-case scenario for lead in water. Called the Joint Monitoring Plan (JMP), samples are collected after the water has been standing in the household plumbing for more than 6 hours. A Lead and Copper Rule exceedance for lead occurs when more than 10 percent of these homes exceed the lead action level of 15 parts per billion. In both rounds of testing in 2018, fewer than 10 percent of homes sampled for the JMP exceeded the lead action level and none of the homes sampled in the West Slope Water District exceeded the lead action level.

Protecting Public Health The West Slope Water District is a partner in the Portland Water Bureau's Lead Hazard Reduction Program. This program is a comprehensive approach to reduce exposure to lead by providing:

- ✓ **Corrosion Control Treatment.** Corrosion control treatment reduces corrosion of lead in plumbing by adding sodium hydroxide to increase the pH of the water. This pH adjustment has reduced lead in tap water by more than 70 percent. The City of Portland has begun the design of a corrosion control treatment facility which will be operational by Spring 2022.
- ✓ **Lead in Water Testing.** In-home lead-in-water testing is available to everyone for no cost, but the testing targets households most at-risk from lead in water. These are homes built between 1970 and 1985 with pregnant women and/or children ages six or younger in the home.
- ✓ **Education, Outreach and Testing.** Third party agencies and organizations provide education, outreach and testing on all sources of lead.
- ✓ **Home Lead Hazard Reduction.** The Portland Lead Hazard Control Program provides grants to minimize lead paint hazards in homes.



Water Quality Data ~ Lead and Copper Testing



LEAD AND COPPER SAMPLING AT HIGH-RISK RESIDENTIAL WATER TAPS

Regulated Contaminant	Detected in Residential Water Taps		EPA Limits		Source of Contaminant
	Fall 2018 Results	Homes Exceeding Action Level*	Action Level*	MCLG	
Lead	11.9	6 out of 121 (5.0%)	15	0	Corrosion of household and commercial building plumbing systems
Copper (ppm)	0.216	0 out of 121 (0%)	1.3	1.3	


*Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or requirements of which a water system must follow.

8 THINGS YOU CAN DO to reduce possible exposure to lead from household plumbing

- 1 Run your water to flush the lead out.** If the water has not been used for several hours, run each tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes or until it becomes colder before drinking or cooking. This flushes water which may contain lead from the pipes. 
- 2 Use cold, fresh water for cooking and preparing baby formula.** Do not cook with or drink water from the hot water tap; lead dissolves more easily into hot water. Do not use water from the hot water tap to make baby formula. 

- 3 Do not boil water to remove lead.** Boiling water will not reduce lead. 
- 4 Test your child for lead.** Ask your physician or call the LeadLine to find out how to have your child tested for lead. A blood lead level test is the only way to know if your child is being exposed to lead. 

- 5 Consider using a filter.** Check whether it reduces lead – not all filters do. Be sure to maintain and replace a filter device in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions to protect water quality. Contact NSF International at 800-NSF-8010 or www.nsf.org for information on performance standards for water filters. 
- 6 Regularly clean your faucet aerator.** Particles containing lead from solder or household plumbing can become trapped in your faucet aerator. Regular cleaning every few months will remove these particles and reduce your exposure to lead.

- 7 Test your water for lead.** Contact the LeadLine at www.leadline.org or 503-988-4000 to find out how to get a FREE lead-in-water test. 

- 8 Consider buying low-lead fixtures.** As of January 2014, all pipes, fittings and fixtures are required to contain less than 0.25% lead. When buying new fixtures, consumers should seek out those with the lowest lead content.

West Slope Water District

The Board of Commissioners developed the following strategic direction for 2016-2020. All energy will be directed toward implementing the strategies, attaining the goals, accomplishing the mission and striving for the vision while adhering to our values.

Our Vision is to

Sustain water supplies and manage demand for continuous availability



Our Mission is to

Provide safe, clean, reliable water for customer use and fire suppression



We practice stewardship by holding true to these Values

- Respect and courtesy to all people
- Integrity in our dealings
- Commitment to act in the best interest of customers
- Accountability to customers
- Transparency in our activities



GOALS	STRATEGIES
Decisions reflect customer interests and perspectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide access for two-way communication between the District and its customers and other stakeholders • Use technology, including Website, to reach customers
Establish a long-term water supply for customers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evaluate full range of water supply alternatives, considering cost, control, influence, sustainability • Promote conservation practices that recognize inevitability of pressure on water supplies
Operate a reliable water system	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assure a well-trained, competent staff is available to manage and operate the water system • Create effective communication among staff, management, and board
Provide reliable water service in the aftermath of a natural or human caused event	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepare and test an emergency response plan that addresses multiple hazards
Manage impacts of territorial withdrawals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evaluate whether intergovernmental agreements should be established • Identify and evaluate impact of potential withdrawals on remaining District customers
Deliver cost effective service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement a system to measure cost effectiveness

Questions? We're Here to Help

You have a range of options for contacting us about programs and services offered to customers, issues with your account, information about public meetings, and activities within the District.

Our website at www.wswd.org has a lot of information for our customers under each tab on our Home Page. Two frequently-visited tabs:

- ✓ The "For Customers" tab for account information, making a water payment, requesting a water leak adjustment, or for questions about backflow/cross connection control devices
- ✓ The "Water Quality / Conservation" tab for all of the District's water quality reports and information on lead in drinking water as well as information on indoor and outdoor water conservation tips

VISIT

3105 SW 89th Ave – Portland, OR 97225
Monday through Friday
8 am – noon; 1 pm – 4:30 pm

CALL EMAIL ONLINE

503-292-2777
customer.service@wswd.org
wswd.org

Account information, public meetings, and water quality reports can be found on our website.

EMERGENCY

503-292-2777
24 hours, 7 days a week
Hotline for water system emergencies.

MORE INFORMATION

Oregon Health Authority Drinking Water Services
971-673-0405
public.health.oregon.gov/HealthyEnvironments/DrinkingWater