



Snoqualmie Pass Utility District

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2016

## Water Quality Report

*Snoqualmie Pass Utility District is pleased to provide you with its annual water quality report. This report is a requirement of the United States Environmental Protection Agency and the Washington State Department of Health*

Your water comes from two wells in the Alpentel area sunk about 500 feet into an unnamed underground source of water. There is a confining layer of solid rock 300 feet thick which offers great protection of the water quality. Currently, the water is untreated. The goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. The District works diligently to provide top quality water to customers each day. We ask that all consumers help us protect our water quality which is one of our most valuable resources. For more information or questions about this report, please contact us @ 425-434-6600.

### Required information from the U.S. Environmental Agency on the Potential for Health Concerns relating to Drinking Water

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 land surface or through the ground it dissolves naturally-occurring minerals and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or human activity.

All 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 the water poses a health risk. A contaminant is defined as any substance in water. Not all substances are harmful. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791 or from the EPA's Office of Ground Water website at [www.epa.gov/OGWDW/](http://www.epa.gov/OGWDW/)

#### Steps we take to prevent contamination

- Cross Connection Program/Backflow Prevention
- Flushing—all dead-end water lines are flushed twice a year
- Well Head Protection Plan in accordance with Comp Plan
- Reservoirs are cleaned on an alternating annual basis as needed

#### Who Watches Your Water?

- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency sets national standards for over 100 potential drinking water contaminants under the Safe Drinking Water Act.
- The Washington State Department of Health enforces the USEPA standards.
- All water samples are tested in compliance with all state and federal regulations.
- State Certified laboratories are used to test your water according to standards.

#### Additional Health Information:

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, 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/Centers for Disease Control 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 SAVINGS TIPS

#### Ways to Save Outdoors

- Reduce lawn size (lawns use 40-50% of our summer water).
- Reduce outdoor usage as much as possible.
- Enrich soils with 3-4 inches of compost worked into the top foot of soil prior to planting.
- Dethatch and aerate lawns for better water absorption. Clip lawns no shorter than 2 inches.
- Leave the grass clippings on the lawn. They're 90% water and provide nitrogen.
- Water only after 7:00 p.m. or before 10:00 a.m. to avoid excessive loss to evaporation.
- Use soaker hoses or drip systems.
- Adjust sprinklers so you're watering only what grows, not the street or the sidewalk.
- Check hoses and sprinkler systems for leaks and fix them promptly.
- Include a rain sensor and a soil moisture sensor in your automatic sprinkler system.
- Catch rainwater in barrels for thirsty plants.
- Use a broom to clean the driveway or patio, instead of the hose and precious water.
- Wash your car using a bucket of soapy water. Use a hose with a shut off nozzle just to rinse.

#### Ways to Save Indoors

- Fix leaks promptly - little drips can waste lots of water.
- Install "water displacement devices" in your toilet tank if you have an older model toilet.
- Replace older toilets; newer toilets use only 1.5 gal to flush.
- Replace your showerhead with a low flow model.
- Capture shower warm-up water; use it to water plants, wash the floor or the car.
- Turn off the faucet while brushing teeth or shaving.
- Keep a bottle of drinking water in your refrigerator. Running tap water until it's cold enough wastes water.
- Wash only full loads in the dishwasher and washing machine.
- In restaurants, accept water only if you want it. Not only will you save water you don't drink, you will save the water to wash the glass.

## Monitoring Results for Year 2016

We enjoy excellent water quality at Snoqualmie Pass. Due to our continued monitoring, we currently do not treat our water. It comes straight out of the ground and right to your faucet.

### List of Abbreviations

- (MCL) Maximum Contaminant Level
- (MCLG) Maximum Contaminant Level Goal
- (AL) Action Level (triggers treatment or other)
- (ND) Non-Detectable
- (NA) Not applicable
- (SRL) State Reporting Level
- (NTU) A measure of the clarity of water
- (PPB) parts per Billion
- (PPM) Parts per million
- (MG/L) Milligrams Per Liter
- (pCi/L) Picocuries Per Liter

### Bacteriological

The District is currently required to test bacteriological samples each month for the presence of E.Coli and Fecal Coliform.

To date	all samples have tested satisfactorily
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### Inorganic Chemical Analysis- completed May 2016

Analytes	Results	Units	MCL	Compliance
Nitrate	ND	mg/L	10	Yes
Nitrite	ND	mg/L	10	Yes

### Radionuclide Analysis- completed April 2016

Analytes	Results	Units	MCL	Compliance
Gross Alpha	3.7	pCi/L	15.0	Yes
Radium	<1	pCi/L	5.0	Yes

### What are VOC's?

Volatile Organic Chemicals (VOC's) are contaminants that may be found in drinking water supplies across the nation. VOC's are those organic chemicals (pesticides, herbicides and other chemicals) that are "readily vaporizable at a relatively low temperature.

Some VOC's are products of industrialization and can enter the water supply through various means, such as leakage of storage tanks, spills, or illegal dumping of toxic wastes.

The District sampled for (VOC) in April 2016 and results showed that no compounds were detected.

Analytes	Results	Units	MCL	Compliance
VOC's	ND	ppb	---	Yes

### What are SOC's?

Synthetic Organic Compounds are chemicals synthesized from carbon and other elements such as hydrogen, nitrogen, or chlorine. These chemicals are manufactured to meet hundreds of needs in our daily lives, ranging from mothballs to hair sprays, from solvents to pesticides. The use of these synthetic organic compounds has greatly increased within the past 40 years and some can enter the groundwater. Clearly, it is of primary importance to keep such chemicals from entering our drinking water.

The District sampled for (SOC) in July 2016 and the results showed that no compounds were detected.

Analytes	Results	Units	MCL	Compliance
SOC's	ND	ppb	---	Yes

### About Arsenic:

The drinking water does contain low levels of arsenic. There is a small chance that some people who drink water containing low levels of arsenic for many years could develop circulatory disease, cancer, or other health problems. Most types of cancer and circulatory diseases are due to factors other than exposure to arsenic. EPA's standard balances the current understanding of arsenic's health effects against the costs of removing arsenic from drinking water.

Analytes	Results	Units	MCL	Compliance
Arsenic	10.0-12.4	ppb	10.0	No

### 2016 Violations:

- Arsenic Water Quality Violation for the fourth qtr. – due to running avg of 11 ppb exceeding the MCL of 10 ppb
- Arsenic violation - for missing the required second quarter sample/test

### Monitoring Lead and Copper

The district is required to perform lead and copper testing within the system every three years. Five samples were tested in July 2016. Test results indicate that the samples did not exceed the action limits set by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Test	Federal Action Level	Highest Reported Levels	Violation
Lead	0.015 mg/L	0.0010mg/L	No
Copper	1.3 mg/L	0.059 mg/L	No

Homes built with copper plumbing and lead solder before 1985 are considered "high risk." Tap water monitoring allows the water system to determine lead and copper concentrations in your drinking water. The District does not add fluoride to the drinking water.