



2025 City of Cle Elum Consumer Confidence Report: Water Quality

Este informe contiene información importante acerca de su agua potable. Haga que alguien lo traduzca para usted, o hable con alguien que lo entienda.

We are pleased to present this year's Annual Water Quality Report. This report provides water quality data to the public in compliance with the Environmental Protection Agency Federal Clean Water Act and Consumer Confidence Report requirements.

Federal and State drinking water standards require monitoring and reporting of specific water-quality parameters. For each parameter, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has established a maximum contaminant level (MCL) "below which there is no known or expected risk to health." Furthermore, the EPA requires that only State-certified laboratories using approved standard methods are permitted to be used when analyzing water samples for public water systems. This report is based upon data from the 2024 calendar year from treated water-quality results at the water treatment plant as well as samples collected from the City's water distribution system and residences.

The City's excellent drinking water originates with the high-quality sources of the Yakima River and the Cle Elum River well field and quality is further refined in our modern water treatment plant. The City of Cle Elum Treatment Plant uses a multi-barrier approach in turning the raw Yakima River water into tap water. This consists of gates and screens at the Intake Station, disinfection to inactivate harmful organisms, and treatment to enhance the formation of larger particles that can be readily filtered by the plant's multi-layer filters.

The entire treatment process is continuously and closely monitored by State certified water treatment plant operators 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Samples from each phase of the process are tested according to a strict daily schedule at the plant's laboratory, independent laboratories conduct additional tests.

On July 11, 2024 the Washington Department of Health performed a Routine Sanitary Survey of the water treatment system in accordance with WAC 246-290-416 and found no deficiencies at the water sources or treatment plant; these surveys are very comprehensive and occur every 3 to 5 years.

The City of Cle Elum's drinking water continues to meet or exceed all Federal and State requirements and we are committed to providing you with the highest quality water possible.

Water Use Efficiency Goal: 2022-2028

The City of Cle Elum adopted a water conservation goal as a result of Washington State's 2007 Water Use Efficiency Rule. The WUE rule requires the City's goal be re-established at a minimum of every six years and progress towards the goal be reported annually to the State and City customers.

Goals established in 2022 include:

- Reduce average residential water consumption by two (2) gallons per service per day over the next ten-year period.
- Add the WUE message on water bills for single-family residential customers.
- Add the WUE message on water bills for multi-family residential customers
- Include WUE program and conservation tips on the annual water quality report
- Conservation-based water rate structure.
- Provide WUE program and water conservation tips on the City's website.

2024:

Water Produced: 493,180,572 gallons
Water Consumed: 347,044,358 gallons
Lost or unaccounted: 146,136,214 gallons (29.6%)

Water conservation: It all starts with you

Water conservation, using water efficiently and avoiding waste, is essential to ensure that we have adequate water today and into the future. Water is a finite resource and the supplies on Earth today are no more than what was here at the beginning of the planet. It is up to all of us to use the water we have wisely, and it is as simple as each of us making small changes. By being smarter about our water use, not only can we save water, energy, and money, we can help our rivers, too. When we use water more efficiently, we leave more water in rivers and streams to support fish, wildlife and recreation.

Water conservation tips

- ✓ Check faucets for leaks, a small drip from a leaky washer can waste 20 gallons of water per day.
- ✓ Don't use the toilet as a wastebasket, every time you flush, 1 to 7 gallons of water is wasted.
- ✓ Check your toilets for leaks, put a little food coloring in your toilet tank, if, without flushing, the color begins to appear in the bowl within 30 minutes, you have a leak that should be repaired; most replacement parts are inexpensive and easy to install.
- ✓ Install water-saving shower heads and low-flow faucet aerators; "low-flow" means it uses less than 2.5 gallons per minute.
- ✓ Showers can use five to ten gallons every minute so be efficient.
- ✓ Consider replacing your 3 to 7 gallon per flush toilet with a "low flush" model, which use 1 to 1.6 gallons per flush.
- ✓ Insulate your water pipes with pre-slit foam pipe insulation; you'll get hot water faster plus avoid wasting water while waiting for it to run hot.
- ✓ Turn the water off while you brush your teeth or shave and save over two gallons a minute.
- ✓ Use your dishwasher and clothes washer for only full loads for optimum water conservation.
- ✓ When cleaning a partial load in your clothes washer, adjust the water level to match the size of the load.
- ✓ Consider replacing old clothes washers with new Energy Star rated washers which use 35 - 50% less water and 50% less energy per load.
- ✓ Consider planting drought-resistant lawns, shrubs and plants and group plants according to their watering needs.
- ✓ Put a layer of mulch around trees and plants, this will slow evaporation of moisture and increase the ability of the soil to retain moisture.
- ✓ Water your lawn only when it needs it; water in the early morning or evening, and try to avoid watering on windy days. This will limit the amount of water that is evaporated by the sun or blown onto sidewalks and driveways.
- ✓ Properly aim your sprinklers to water only the intended areas.
- ✓ Use a broom, not a hose, to clean driveways and sidewalks.

About Drinking Water

All drinking water, including bottled water, may be expected to contain small amounts of contaminants. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and radioactive material and can pick up substances from the presence of animals or human activity. It is important to remember that the presence of these contaminants does not necessarily pose a health risk.

Contaminants that may be present include:

- Microbiological contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from wastewater treatment plants, septic systems, livestock operations and wildlife.
- Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or result from storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining and farming.
- Pesticides and herbicides which may come from a variety of sources, such as agriculture, storm water runoff and residential use.

- Organic chemicals, including synthetic and volatile organics, which are byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production. These can also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff and septic systems.
- Radioactive contaminants, which may be naturally occurring, or be the result of mining or oil and gas production.

Polymer Statement:

During water treatment, organic polymer coagulants are added to improve the coagulation and filtration process that removes particulates from water. The particulates that are removed can be viruses, bacteria and other disease-causing organisms. The USEPA sets limits on the type and amount of polymer that a water system can add to the water. In addition to EPA limits, the State of Washington requires that all polymers used be certified safe for potable water use by an independent testing organization (NSF International). During treatment, the City of Cle Elum adds only NSF approved polymers and the levels used are far below the safe limits set by the USEPA.

Do I need to take special precautions?

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. EPA/Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Water Drinking Hotline (800-426-4791).

Additional Information for Lead

Lead plumbing was banned in 1985. 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. The City of Cle Elum 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 <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

As required by regulation, the City of Cle Elum conducted a service line inventory where all water mains and service lines were identified and categorized, you can find the results of the inventory here: <https://cleelum.gov/public-works/>.

Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS)

Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) are a large family of human-made chemicals in use since the 1950s to make a wide variety of stain-resistant, water-resistant, and non-stick consumer products. Some examples include food packaging, outdoor clothing, and non-stick pans. PFAS also have many industrial uses because of their special properties. In Washington State, PFAS have been used in certain types of firefighting foams utilized by the U.S. military, local fire departments, and airports.

Some of the most common and best studied PFAS, such as perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) and perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (PFOS), have been removed from most products because of health and environmental concerns. These long-lasting chemicals continue to be released into our environment from older products and discarded materials. Newer PFAS compounds have replaced older PFAS compounds and at least some appear to pose similar problems.

The City of Cle Elum conducted PFAS sampling in June of 2022 and is happy to report that there was none detected in any of the samples analyzed.

More information regarding PFAS can be found on the Department of Health website:

[\(PFAS | Washington State Department of Health\)](#)

Arsenic

Your drinking water currently meets EPA's revised drinking water standard for arsenic. However, it 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.

Notice of Violation – Failure to Monitor or Report

Notice of Violation issued by the State Department of Health regarding the Lead and Copper sampling conducted in 2024.

The violation cites a failure to monitor or report, stemming from the following circumstances:

- * The City of Cle Elum collected and submitted lead & copper samples in the required time frame.
- * The contracted laboratory subcontracted the sample analysis to an unaccredited laboratory.
- * The subcontracted laboratory failed to report results to the State in a timely manner.
- * The delayed notification, received in early November, left insufficient time for resampling.

As a result of these issues that were beyond the City's control, the State has issued a Notice of Violation. We are taking this matter seriously and have implemented corrective measures to prevent similar occurrences in the future. Lead and copper samples were collected again on June 3, 2025, the results of those samples are reported in the table below.

City of Cle Elum Drinking Water Quality

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The attached table lists the results of the City of Cle Elum water quality analyses performed for the 2024 calendar year for all required regulated contaminants. All sources of drinking water contain some naturally occurring contaminants. At low levels, these substances are generally not harmful in our drinking water. Removing all contaminants would be extremely expensive, and in most cases, would not provide increased protection of public health. A few naturally occurring minerals may actually improve the taste of drinking water and have nutritional value at low levels.

Contaminants	MCLG	MCL	Your Water	Range Low	Range High	Sample Date	Violation	Potential Sources
Disinfectant & Disinfectant By-Products								
Chlorine (ppm)	4.0 MRDLG	4.0 MRDL	See Range	0.51	1.91	Daily	No	Disinfection agent
Haloacetic Acids (ppb)	NA	60	6.70	ND	6.70	Annual	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Total Trihalomethanes (ppb)	NA	80	7.7	ND	7.7	Annual	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Inorganic Contaminants								
Copper (ppm)	1.3	AL=1.3	From 11 houses	0.00	0.105	6/15/25	No	Corrosion of household plumbing; erosion of natural deposits
Lead (ppb)	0	AL=10	From 11 houses	ND	ND	6/15/25	No	Corrosion of household plumbing; erosion of natural deposits

Nitrate [measured as Nitrogen] (ppm)	10	10	ND	NA	NA	10/29/24	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Radioactive Contaminants								
Gross Alpha (pCi/L)	0	15	-0.248	NA	NA	10/18/21	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium 228 (pCi/L)	0	5	0.0084	NA	NA	10/18/21	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Microbiological Contaminants								
Total Coliform Bacteria (positive samples)	0	1	ND	NA	NA	2 Per Month	No	Naturally present in the environment
Unit Descriptions								
Term					Definition			
ppm					ppm: parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/L)			
ppb					ppb: parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (µg/L)			
positive samples/month					positive samples/month: Number of samples taken monthly that were found to be positive			
NA					NA: not applicable			
ND					ND: Not detected			

Important Drinking Water Definitions	
Term	Definition
MCLG	MCLG: Maximum Contaminant Level Goal: 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.
MCL	MCL: Maximum Contaminant Level: 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.
MRDLG	MRDLG: Maximum residual disinfection level goal. 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.
MRDL	MRDL: Maximum residual disinfectant level. 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.

For More Information Contact:

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Public Works Director
City of Cle Elum
119 West First Street
Cle Elum, WA 98922
Phone: (509) 674-2262
E-Mail: mbailey@cleelum.gov
Website: www.cityofcleelum.com



Universal Chemical Monitoring Form

Chemical Monitoring Violation

331-691 • June 2022

Notice to Water System Users

We, the City of Cle Elum Water System, I.D. 13500V, located in Kittitas County, are required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring indicate whether or not your drinking water meets health standards. We did not meet our monitoring requirements for the chemicals listed below for the specified time period, and therefore cannot be sure of the quality of your drinking water at that time.

Chemical Contaminant	Required From	Required To
<input type="checkbox"/> Nitrate		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lead and Copper	1/1/2022	12/31/2024
<input type="checkbox"/> Total Trihalomethanes		
<input type="checkbox"/> Haloacetic Acids		
<input type="checkbox"/> Bromate		
<input type="checkbox"/> Arsenic		
<input type="checkbox"/> Complete Inorganic Contaminants (IOCs)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Volatile Organic Contaminants (VOCs)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Pesticides		
<input type="checkbox"/> Herbicides		
<input type="checkbox"/> Other		

At this time:

- ☐ Our required samples for each contaminant listed above have been collected for this monitoring period.
- ☒ We have collected samples as required for the monitoring period of 1/1/2023 – 12/31/2025.
- ☐ Other information for customers.

For more information, contact Matt Bailey, Public Works Director at (509) 674 -2262 or mbailey@cleelum.gov

This notice is sent to you by the Cle Elum Water System on 6/25/2025.


Chemical Monitoring Public Notice Certification Form

This section must be completed by the water system. Signature below indicates notice contained all required elements.

Complete the following items (check all that apply):

- ☐ Notice mailed to all water customers on ____/____/____.
- ☐ Notice hand delivered to all water customers on ____/____/____.
- ☒ Notice included in annual Consumer Confidence Report (attach copy).
- ☐ Notice posted at _____ on ____/____/____.

(By Department Approval Only)


Signature of owner or operator

Project Manager
Position

6/25/2025
Date



Send copy of completed notification and certification to

Office of Drinking Water, Water Quality Section
PO Box 47822
Olympia, WA 98504-7822
FAX (360)236-2252



To request this document in another format, call 1-800-525-0127. Deaf or hard of hearing customers, please call 711 (Washington Relay) or email civil.rights@doh.wa.gov.