SUMMIT WATER & Supply Company

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Summit Water & Supply Company's 2014 CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT

ABOUT SUMMIT WATER

We are a member owned, "not-for-profit" corporation, "Group A" water system (State of Washington Department of Health identification #85050V). The services of the corporation are provided to the residences, businesses, public entities and other organizations located in the greater Summit/Waller area of Pierce County. There are approximately 5,100 members. The corporation's articles of incorporation and By-laws along with federal, state and local regulations govern the operation of the company.

The Board of Directors meet twice a month and receive member comments. Summit Water will be glad to provide you additional information about water quality, and you may write, call, e-mail, or drop by at 9701 50th Ave. East, Tacoma, WA. 98446-5444, (253-537-7781), service@summitwater.org. For more information about the health effects of the listed contaminants in the material provided in this report, call the Environmental Protection Agency hotline at (800) 426-4791.

The Sources of Your Supply

In 2014, system source water was supplied by five (5) wells at four (4) different well sites, located within the service area. Summit Water also has an inter-tie with the Lakewood Water District providing water to our system. The total water pumped from Summit Water sources was 290 million gallons with an additional 283 million gallons purchased by wholesale agreement with Lakewood Water District. The current contract limit for the transfer of water is for 1.5 million gallons per day.

Water Use Efficiency Program

In September 2014, Summit Water advertised and held a public meeting to establish Water Use Efficiency goals as outlined by the State Health Department. Two of the goals that were set at this meeting were to reduce our average Maximum Day Demand (MDD) per users by at least 0.25% based on a six-year rolling average and to reduce our distribution system leakage to 10% or less based on a three-year rolling average. Our goal for 2014 was to have reduced our MDD per users to at least 544.9 gallons per day. Our actual MDD per users for 2014 was 528.7 gallons per day, which falls well below our established goal. Total water produced/purchased for 2014 was 572,816,549 gallons while metered/accounted for water for the same period was 528,702,612. This resulted in an unaccounted for water loss of 7.7% (43,828,937 gallons) for 2014 compared to 5.3% (28,922,612 gallons) for 2013. Based on our average distribution leakage for 2012 (10.4%), 2013 (5.3%) and 2014 (7.7%) our three-year rolling distribution system leakage average is 7.8%.

Drinking Water Quality

This is the 16th report describing Summit Water & Supply Company's (Summit Water) drinking water sources, quality testing, and programs that protect the quality of the water supply. This publication conforms to a federal regulation requiring water utilities to **provide this information annually.** The last report was provided to the members and customers in March of 2014. Although the report format may look the same as prior reports there is specific information and statements required by statute. This report covers the year 2014. The report's due date for delivery to every consumer of water delivered by the Summit Water system is July 1 of each year.

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Washington Health Department's Drinking Water Program Division (DOH) are the agencies responsible for establishing drinking water quality standards. To ensure your tap water is safe to drink, EPA and DOH prescribe regulations stating the allowable limit for specific contaminants the water may contain. We make an effort to balance your "right to know" against the sheer volume of information that we can provide. Our website provides a method to get information out in a cost effective way.

Summit Water goes beyond what is required by these agencies to provide quality water to your home or business, through increased monitoring and placing into practice protection methods that further reduce the risk of contamination.

Water quality monitoring reports are submitted, by Summit and also directly from the testing laboratory, to the DOH who then provides the information to the EPA. The agencies verify our compliance with the many regulatory standards and testing protocols required to assure safe drinking water. **For this reporting period in 2014, the water we provided met the established water quality standards.**

Monitoring Violation

Annual Nitrate Monitoring Violation - Summit Water & Supply Company is required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not your drinking water meets health standards. One of the contaminants we are required to monitor for is nitrates. Currently, we are required to monitor for nitrates at each active permanent and seasonal source on an annual basis. In 2013, we failed to meet the monitoring requirements for nitrates from our Well #16 (S20) source. Based on this failure we cannot be sure of the quality of your drinking water from this source during that time.

What Should I Do? This is not an emergency and at this time there is no action required by users of the Summit Water system. Had this been an emergency, you would have been notified immediately. Summit Water will collect future samples as required.

Additional Information - Upon realizing our error, a sample was secured from the Well #16 source and analyzed to determine the level of nitrates in the drinking water. The results of this analyses was that the nitrate levels from Summit Water's Well #16 source are well below the "Maximum Contaminate Level" (MCL) of 10 parts-per-million (ppm). Remaining annual nitrate samples from all our other sources were secured as required in 2013.

Summit Water's Board of Directors and system operator (manager) want to assure the users of Summit Water's system that we take this violation seriously and are taking the appropriate actions necessary to ensure the safety of our customers and users of the system.

If you would like more information or have additional concerns, please contact Darryl Scott (system operator) by phone at 253-537-7781 between the hours of 8:30 AM and 4:00 PM, by email at service@summitwater.org or by mail at 9701 50th Ave. E., Tacoma, WA. 98446.

Safe Drinking Water Hotline

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 Hotline (**1-800-426-4791**).

Immuno-compromise people

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 and the federal 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 EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791) between the hours of 6a.m. and 2 p.m. Pacific Time.

Chlorine Disinfection By-Products

Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) and Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) are a family of chemicals formed when a disinfectant such as chlorine is added to the water supply. The maximum level permitted for TTHM is 80 parts per billion (ppb) and for HAA5 the maximum level is 60 ppb. Disinfection is an important and necessary step in the supply of tap water, to protect against harmful bacteria and other living organisms that may contaminate the water. Chlorine is the most widely used and approved disinfectant in the United States. Summit Water uses chlorine in a gaseous form, for the disinfection of the water supply. There are no contaminates of the water supply coming from the wells. The primary purpose for chlorine addition is for potential contamination of the water distribution system (water mains) up to your meter.

IMPORTANT DEFINITIONS

- Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL). The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water.
- Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG). The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health.
- Treatment Technique. If a contaminant exceeds the maximum contaminant level, EPA may require the water system to use a treatment technique. A treatment technique is a required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
- Action Levels. An Action Level is the concentration of a contaminant, which triggers treatment or other requirements, which a water system must follow.
- Part per million; part per billion. One part per million is the equivalent of ½ of a dissolved aspirin tablet in a full bathtub of water (approximately 50 gallons). One part per billion is equivalent to ½ of a dissolved aspirin tablet in 1,000 bathtubs of water (approximately 50,000 gallons).

OTHER THINGS TO KNOW

Chlorine residuals are maintained throughout the distribution system, and sampling is performed daily to ensure the water has the recommended residual. Certified personnel monitor the chemical addition to the water at the well sites. They also perform on-site tests and collect samples including, but are not limited to, the following:

Daily:	Chlorine residuals, pH, and temperature
Semi-Monthly:	Bacteria (total coliform)
Annually:	Nitrates
EPA directed: (three year cycle)	Inorganic, volatile organic contaminants, synthetic organic contaminants, radioactivity, lead, copper, and arsenic

All new construction and repair work performed on the water system infrastructure is treated with chlorine. The water is tested for water purity, by a state approved laboratory, prior to these facilities providing water to you the consumer.

EPA states "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 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.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

- **Microbial contaminants**, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.
- **Inorganic contaminants**, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.
- **Pesticides and herbicides**, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses.
- **Organic chemical contaminants**, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can, also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems.
- **Radioactive contaminants**, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health."

Source Protection

For the past 20 years, Summit Water & Supply has continued its development and implementation of a cross-connection control program. This program meets the state cross-connection control regulations. We continue to work closely with the health department and the property owners in our wellhead areas so that everyone works toward protecting this resource. Prudent chemical application practices and disposal methods will keep your groundwater resource pristine. If you observe evidence of the dumping or abandonment of potential contaminants, **you should report it immediately to the Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department.**

Measurements

Water is sampled and tested throughout the year. Contaminants are measured in parts per: million (ppm), billion (ppb), trillion (ppt) and even parts per quadrillion (ppq).

Additional Water Quality Information

All samples taken at our source wells and throughout our system tested below the minimum levels acceptable to the EPA and the DOH. Wells are also the source of water for the Lakewood Water District (LWD) system. Water purchased from LWD is supplied to Summit Water at a higher level of chlorine residual than what is normally maintained on our system. The blending of the water supplies from the two water systems results in water characteristics, which are not uniform throughout the Summit Water distribution system. This is most noticeable in the Waller Road area.

Water Quality Monitoring Results

Summit Water collected approximately 220 water samples in 2014 at the sources and throughout the water system. A certified laboratory conducted the analyses on those samples. The results are on file with the Washington Health Department's Drinking Water Program Office and the EPA.

The testing of the sources of supply for the regulated contaminate substances indicated that the contaminate levels are below the Maximum Contaminate Level Goals as established by the EPA.

The items listed below were detected in our water during the 2014 sampling period. All are below the levels allowed by the agencies. Not listed are other potential contaminates that were not detected in any of our tests.

CONTAMINANTS	HIGHEST LEVEL ALLOWED (MCL)	HIGHEST LEVEL DETECTED	IDEAL GOALS (MCLG)	POTENTIAL SOURCE OF CONTAMINANTS
REGULATED AT THE GROUNDWATER SOURCES				
Nitrate	10ppm	3.6ppm	10ppm	Runoff from fertilizer/septic and erosion of natural deposits
REGULATED AT THE DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM				
Total Haloacetic Acids	60ppb	Not Detected	0	By-product of drinking water disinfection
TTHM Potential	80ppb	3.7ppb	0	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Chloroform	N/A	0.7ppb	0	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Bromodichloro-methane	N/A	0.9ppb	0	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Chlorodibromo-methane	N/A	1.6ppb	0	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Bromoform	N/A	1.0ppb	0	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Total Coliform Bacteria	> 5% of monthly samples	0.00%	0%	Naturally present in the environment

LAKEWOOD WATER DISTRICT (THROUGH WHOLESALE INTER-TIE)

The items listed below are the highest levels detected in the Lakewood Water District's water for the monitoring period of January 1st to December 31st, 2014. Not listed are those volatile organic chemicals, synthetic organic chemicals and herbicides that were not detected.

2014

MICROBIOLOGICAL CONTAMINANT	VIOLATION	UNIT OF MEASUREMENT	MCLG	MCL	POTENTIAL SOURCE OF CONTAMINANT
Total Coliform Bacteria	No	70 samples/monthly	0	0	Naturally present in the environment
Fecal Coliform and *E.coli*	No	70 samples/monthly	0	0	Human/animal fecal waste
INORGANIC CONTAMINANTS		**HIGHEST LEVEL DETECTED**			
Nitrate	No	2.1ppm	10ppm	10ppm	Fertilizer runoff; leaching from septic tanks; erosion of natural deposits
VOLATILE ORGANIC CONTAMINANTS					
Total Haloacetic Acid	No	9.9ppb	60ppb	60ppb	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Trihalomethane Potential	No	12.0ppb	80ppb	80ppb	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Chloroform	No	8.9ppb	0	N/A	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Bromodichloro-methane	No	2.3ppb	0	N/A	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Chlorodibromo-methane	No	1.7ppb	0	N/A	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Bromoform	No	Not Detected	0	N/A	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Copper	No	0.72ppb	1.3ppb	1.3ppb	Household Plumbing / Erosion of Natural Deposits
Lead	No	0.005ppb	0	0.015ppm	Household Plumbing / Erosion of Natural Deposits

For a complete copy of Lakewood Water's CCR, please call the Summit Water office at: **(253) 537-7781** or see Lakewood Water's website **http://www.lakewood-water-dist.org**