2019 DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT
For 2018 Test Results

IN THIS REPORT:
Water quality overview
Low-Income Discount Program
Water efficiency programs that work
Lead and copper test results
An update on PFAS
Where your water comes from
EPA information
Clean water is always there because we're always here.™

Water is essential to life, and everyone should be able to rely on the safety, high quality, and affordability of the water they use every day. When you open a faucet and out flows this fresh, clean, life-sustaining resource, it’s easy to take it for granted. We don’t. At Sammamish Plateau Water, we take our responsibility seriously to make sure your water remains clean and safe, reliable, and affordable. Every time you pay your bill, that money goes directly into protecting, developing, and maintaining the water and sewer infrastructure for future generations.

No matter what happens in the environment, what we do about it is the true test of our mission. In 2018, we collected more than 950 water samples (that’s many more than what is required) and sent them to certified labs for testing. This includes tests for bacteria, pesticides, herbicides, organic and inorganic chemicals, and unregulated contaminants.

Some of the information you’ll find in this report is required by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Washington Department of Health (DOH) to meet requirements of the Safe Drinking Water Act. We believe you should know more about your water and have included information that goes even further to explain the condition of our drinking water resources. As a customer, you are also an owner. We hope this information allows you to get to know more about your investment.

Our Low-Income Discount Program is helping those that need it.

We recognize that water and sewer are essential services. That’s why we developed our Low-Income Discount Program to provide assistance to low-income households. With this program, eligible single-family and multi-family water and sewer customers can apply for a savings on their base utility charges. Assistance is provided in the form of either a utility bill discount for directly-billed customers, or a rebate check at the end of each program year for indirectly-billed customers (for example, renters who pay for utilities in their rent, or to a third party). Eligible customers will receive a discount of 45% on base water charges and 30% on base sewer charges. This program is included in the District’s budget and has been funded by a previous rate adjustment of 0.25% for water rates and 0.25% sewer rates. In 2018, the program helped 46 customers save a total of $2,746.74 on water base charges and $1,165.83 on sewer base charges. For more information about the Low-Income Discount Program, please call us at 425.392.6256 or visit www.spwater.org.
Sammamish Plateau Water operates two separate and non-connected water distribution systems that supply water to two distinct zones: the Cascade View Zone, north of SR 202, and the Plateau Zone, south of SR 202. In 2018, about 22% of the District’s water supply was purchased through Cascade Water Alliance, and comes from the Seattle Public Utilities’ north and south regional water connections. This water is then mixed within these separate distribution systems with water pumped from District production wells. Since we have two separate systems, we are reporting test results using separate tables on page 8.

Did you know?

In 2018...

1,884 million gallons of water were used by customers.

421 million gallons of water were purchased through Cascade Water Alliance.

1,463 million gallons of water were pumped from District wells.

The lowest single-day water demand occurred on March 19 with 2.29 million gallons.

The average daily water demand was 5.39 million gallons per day.

The highest single-day water demand occurred on July 25 with 11.77 million gallons.

 Sham = 1 million gallons
Making the most of this resource means water-use efficiency is of vital importance.

We are fortunate to live in the beautiful Pacific Northwest where rain and snowfall are fairly consistent. However, a season or two of low precipitation can be cause for concern. For this reason, we regularly monitor aquifer levels and our distribution system and find new ways to increase water use efficiency in our operations. Our goal is to exceed rules established by state and federal agencies. For example, we are required by the Washington Department of Health to maintain our distribution system leakage at 10% or less for a rolling three-year average. The District’s 2018 leakage percentage was 4.2%, and the rolling three-year average for 2018, 2017 and 2016 was 4.8%, which is well within state standards. We hope to get that percentage even lower.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Total (millions of gallons)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Water Production and Purchases</td>
<td>1,883</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Authorized Consumption</td>
<td>1,804</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Distribution System Leakage (DSL)</td>
<td>79</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

We’ve improved our internal water loss monitoring techniques and repaired distribution system leaks as they occurred. Our leakage percentage for 2018 was 4.2%, down from 4.77% in 2017 and 5.29% in 2016.

In a system as large as the District’s, a certain amount of leakage is a given. However, the District’s percentage of leaks continues to be well within state standards.

We set efficiency goals.

In order to meet the Washington State Department of Health’s water use efficiency regulations, we worked in partnership with Cascade Water Alliance to set a water conservation goal that covers the 2014-2019 period. The goal is to save 0.6 million gallons per day (mgd) on an average annual basis, and 1.0 mgd peak season, at full implementation of the program by 2020.

Thank you for helping us save nearly 193,228 gallons of water per day in 2018.

As a member of Cascade Water Alliance, we participate in their water efficiency programs. We also conduct our own communications and public outreach activities in support of community events. In addition, we provide educational materials and programs to residents, students, and businesses to help everyone use water more wisely. The following efficiency programs were available in 2018 from Cascade Water Alliance and Sammamish Plateau Water:

- Showerhead/aerator installation at commercial properties
- Cascade Gardener classes for residential customers
- Irrigation system upgrade rebates for businesses/HOAs
- Classroom and in-house presentations on water topics
- Online availability of free water conservation items
- Free conservation items shipped to multifamily properties
- Training for landscape contractors, parks and school district staff/students on efficient irrigation management
- WaterSense-labeled new homes program for builders
- Commercial and multifamily irrigation audit program

Water efficiency programs are working.

In 2018, Cascade members achieved an annual savings of 193,228 gallons per day or about 32% of its six-year cumulative savings goal. For the period 2014-17, Cascade has achieved approximately 146% of its annual goal and 92% of its peak season goal.
Here’s the latest on PFAS in the Lower Issaquah Valley Aquifer.

What are PFAS and how are they regulated? Per- and Poly-Fluroalkyl Substances (PFAS) are a class of chemicals not found naturally in the environment that include PFOS (Perfluorooctanesulfonic acid) and PFOA (Perfluorooctanoic acid). Neither Washington State nor the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) have established enforceable drinking water standards for PFAS. The EPA uses the Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR) to collect data for substances that may be present in drinking water but do not yet have health standards set under the Safe Drinking Water Act. In 2016, minute amounts of PFOS were detected in three of our wells in the Lower Issaquah Valley Aquifer (LIVA). The level of PFOS detected was 19 parts per trillion (ppt), which was far below EPA’s health advisory level of 70 ppt. The PFAS found is attributed to the use of firefighting foam and the plume originating within the City of Issaquah. Only the Plateau Zone is affected, not the Cascade View Zone. (For a map of the District’s distribution zones, see p.3).

How we’re protecting your water: With the help of expert consultants, the District conducted extensive research and developed a three-dimensional groundwater model to assess how PFAS travels through the water underground. Based on what we learned from the groundwater model, we changed our point of withdrawal to a well that is furthest from the potential plume migration. Shifting water production, while blending groundwater from our wells with water from the Seattle Public Utilities’ south regional water connection is keeping PFAS in water down to non-detect levels that are less than 2 ppt…far below the EPA’s health advisory level of 70 ppt. The District continues to follow our interim Monitoring and Response Plan for Perfluorinated Compounds that contains recommendations on reducing the likelihood of future increases in PFAS levels, and options to protect your water if PFAS concentrations do increase. This includes maintaining a vigorous water testing and analysis protocol that exceeds state and federal requirements.

What others are doing: The City of Issaquah, Eastside Fire and Rescue and the Washington State Department of Ecology recently completed an environmental study and commissioned a report from a third-party consultant that identifies and characterizes occurrences of PFAS in groundwater and soil from the use of specific firefighting foam during firefighting training exercises. The Executive Summary is at http://bit.ly/2V9PqXR. While the District did not take part in the study, we provided data, and will continue to share information, and advocate for water quality by communicating in an open, engaging manner.

Following a statewide survey of sites where there may have been a high likelihood of the use of products containing PFAS, the Washington State Departments of Health and Ecology published a statewide Interim Chemical Action Plan (CAP) for Per- and Polyfluorinated Alkyl Substances. For the PFAS Chemical Action Plan documents and updates, go to https://bit.ly/prioritytoxics-pfas.

Currently, there are no state standards to determine whether a location with PFAS contamination requires cleanup, nor have procedures for conducting cleanup been established. This regional issue reinforces the importance of local government agencies protecting your groundwater by executing responsible land use and stormwater management practices. The District will advocate for groundwater interests and sustainability in land use and stormwater management by monitoring codes and policies of these agencies, and providing input on codes and policies that provide long-term protection.

How you can help: While we further evaluate our options to remove or mitigate PFAS (by blending or construction of a treatment plant/facility), we want to know what you think. As a customer, this is your water and sewer system and you play a valuable role in the water supply. We will be conducting a program of outreach this summer and fall which will give you additional information regarding PFAS; mitigation options and potential costs; followed by opportunities to provide us your input and thoughts.

You must test your irrigation backflow assembly every year.

If you own an irrigation or fire sprinkler system, testing your backflow assembly each year is required by law. A backflow prevention assembly protects our drinking water supplies from contamination due to backflow, which can draw soil, pet waste, fertilizers and pesticides into the public drinking water supply. Your backflow assembly is your primary defense that protects you from a potential contamination incident that could affect the health of your family and neighbors. Annual testing can help determine if the assembly is still functioning properly. If a backflow assembly fails a test, it could be due to broken parts.

When you receive your annual reminder from us, please schedule your backflow assembly test right away. For a list of backflow assembly testers, visit our website at www.spwater.org. For more information, call the District’s Cross Connection Control Specialist at 425.295.3213, or e-mail crossconnection@spwater.org.
We’re vigilant about testing for lead, copper, and all contaminants.

Some cities, both locally and nationally, have had challenges with lead contamination in the water supply. We want to assure you that none of the samples taken from our water directly from the source show any signs of lead or copper.

The following information may answer your questions about lead and copper in your drinking water:

Is there lead in Sammamish Plateau water? Lead is not found in our source water. It is sometimes found in water systems where corrosive water interacts with pipes and plumbing components that contain lead. Unlike older water systems, our distribution system is newer and was constructed using materials that do not contain lead.

We treat our water using corrosion control facilities at many of our wells to comply with the Lead and Copper Rule requirements. Our treatment systems help mitigate the effects of corrosive water interacting with metallic piping material. We maintain the water at a higher pH level, which limits corrosion of your home plumbing components.

Could I have lead in my home plumbing? Lead is found in older home plumbing systems, and can be released when corrosive water interacts with older pipes or plumbing fixtures. We do not have the ability to manage the pipes and fixtures in your home, so if you have lead pipes in your home, you may need to take extra measures such as flushing your pipes before using water.

Levels of lead in Sammamish Plateau Water meet all current state and federal drinking water requirements. We are required to test for lead and copper once every three years. We conducted comprehensive lead and copper testing in June 2016, and those test results are reflected in this report. We have not exceeded levels of lead to date in any of our water test results.

If you think you may have lead in your pipes, there are a few simple steps you can take in your home to reduce the risk in your drinking water.

- If water has been standing in pipes for more than two hours, flush out the pipes by running the tap for thirty seconds to three minutes. To save water, use the water you flush out for watering plants or doing dishes.
- Always draw drinking and cooking water from COLD water tap — lead dissolves more quickly in hot water.
- Do not make baby formula or other drinks or food for children from the HOT water tap. Start with water taken from the cold water faucet (after flushing) and warm it if necessary.
- If you are making plumbing changes, be sure to select low-lead or no-lead fixtures. As of January 2014, a federal law is in effect, reducing the amount of lead in plumbing fixtures from 8 percent to 0.25 percent. Manufacturers are offering faucets that meet this standard.

Can I get my water tested for lead? If you have concerns and want to get your home water tested, contact a certified lab near your area. The Washington State Department of Health maintains a list of certified laboratories online at https://www.doh.wa.gov/CommunityandEnvironment/DrinkingWater/Contaminants/Lead. Costs for the testing range from $25 to $50. Please contact the laboratories directly for sample collection procedures and prices. We recommend using one of these labs to test your water rather than using a kit purchased from a hardware store.

Monitoring and safeguarding your water is paramount.

In 2018, we collected more than 950 water samples and sent them to certified labs for testing.
Understanding lead and copper testing.

**What is an action level?** The EPA has set what is called an “action level” instead of a maximum contaminant level for both lead and copper. If water testing indicates that the District has exceeded the action level of a substance, we must treat the water to remove lead and copper or follow other requirements.

**What are the lead test results?** Lead was found in 8 out of 30 homes during the June 2016 testing, an indicator that there is lead in some older home plumbing systems. The lead action level is exceeded if the concentration of lead in more than 10 percent of the tap water samples (known as the 90th percentile value) is greater than the lead action level of 15 parts per billion (ppb). The 90th percentile value of the 30 District samples was 2 ppb, and the highest detected level was 3 ppb. The District is currently in compliance for lead.

**Are elevated levels of lead a concern?** If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water comes primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and household plumbing systems. We are responsible for providing you with high quality drinking water, but we can’t control the variety of materials used in the plumbing components in your home. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can flush your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking and cooking, which may help clear the lead out of your water. 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 lead exposure are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1.800.426.4791 or at www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/basic-information-about-lead-drinking-water.

**What are the copper test results?** Copper was found in 25 out of 30 homes during the June 2016 testing. The copper action level is exceeded if the concentration of copper in more than 10 percent of the tap water samples (90th percentile) is greater than 1.3 parts per million (ppm). The 90th percentile value of the 30 District samples was only 0.10 ppm. The level for all homes was below the action level for copper, and none of the samples exceeded the copper action level. The District is currently in compliance for copper.

Testing for lead and copper in schools

Even though lead is not found in District water sources, pipes and plumbing fixtures in older buildings can contribute lead to drinking water. Buildings built after 1986 are at much lower risk of having lead and copper in drinking water. We are fortunate that schools in our area are newer by comparison to others in the region, and therefore at lower risk. Schools conduct their own separate water testing, and follow the U.S. EPA guidelines. If you have any questions or concerns about lead and copper in your child’s school or daycare, please contact the facility or school directly.
Our Groundwater Sources

Deep in the ground beneath our region is a resource more valuable than gold. It’s clean water that has run through hundreds of feet of cool, naturally filtering soil and gravel. Sammamish Plateau Water drills wells to access this water and uses pumps to pull it up from below the surface.

Most of our drinking water (about 80%) consists of groundwater pumped from wells located in two separate, non-connected distribution zones.

The Plateau Zone serves the area south of the Redmond-Fall City Road (SR 202) and includes most of Sammamish, the northern part of the City of Issaquah and areas of unincorporated King County. This area serves more than 18,000 water connections for more than 62,600 residents. The Plateau Zone supplies groundwater pumped from wells in two separate aquifer systems, the Plateau Aquifer and the Lower Issaquah Valley Aquifer (LIVA). Seven wells draw from the Plateau Aquifer and three wells pump from the LIVA. The Plateau Zone shares a joint tank with the Northeast Sammamish Sewer and Water District. Some customers in the Plateau Zone who live north of NE 8th Street may receive some of their water from Northeast Sammamish Sewer and Water District’s sources because both utilities share this tank. Contact Northeast Sammamish at 425.868.1144 for a copy of their water quality report to learn about their test results.

The Cascade View Zone was previously a separate water district known as the Cascade View Water District. The Cascade View Water District began operation in 1967 as KCWD No. 122. In May 1995, the Cascade View Water District merged with the Sammamish Plateau Water and Sewer District. The Cascade View Zone includes an area of unincorporated King County north of the Redmond-Fall City Road (SR 202). This area serves more than 700 water connections for more than 1,900 residents. This zone is not hydraulically connected to the Plateau Zone, and the two zones each have completely separate and distinct aquifer sources. There are two wells available in the Cascade View Zone that pump water to our customers in that area, as well as two water storage tanks.

The following tables contain test result data from the period of January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2018.

### PLATEAU ZONE – 2018 Water Quality Test Results: Groundwater System

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Detected Substance</th>
<th>Unit</th>
<th>MCL</th>
<th>MCLG</th>
<th>Lowest Detected Level</th>
<th>Highest Detected Level</th>
<th>Average</th>
<th>Range</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nitrate</td>
<td>ppm</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>0.35</td>
<td>2.09</td>
<td>0.936</td>
<td>0.35 - 2.09</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arsenic</td>
<td>ppb</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1 - 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fluoride</td>
<td>ppm</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0.3</td>
<td>0.82</td>
<td>0.66</td>
<td>0.3 - 0.82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TTHM</td>
<td>ppb</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>7.8</td>
<td>49.25</td>
<td>23.5</td>
<td>7.8 - 49.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HAA5</td>
<td>ppb</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>3.4</td>
<td>40.8</td>
<td>24.7</td>
<td>3.4 - 40.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chlorine</td>
<td>ppm</td>
<td>MRDL=4</td>
<td>MRDLG=4</td>
<td>0.05</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.51</td>
<td>0.05 - 1.1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### CASCADE VIEW ZONE – 2018 Water Quality Test Results: Groundwater System

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Detected Substance</th>
<th>Unit</th>
<th>MCL</th>
<th>MCLG</th>
<th>Lowest Detected Level</th>
<th>Highest Detected Level</th>
<th>Average</th>
<th>Range</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nitrate</td>
<td>ppm</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>0.39</td>
<td>1 detection</td>
<td>0.39</td>
<td>0.39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arsenic</td>
<td>ppb</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>3 - 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fluoride</td>
<td>ppm</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0.46</td>
<td>1.21</td>
<td>0.74</td>
<td>0.46 - 1.21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TTHM</td>
<td>ppb</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>4.4</td>
<td>66.47</td>
<td>23.4</td>
<td>4.4 - 66.47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HAA5</td>
<td>ppb</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>3.02</td>
<td>60.47</td>
<td>14.73</td>
<td>3.02 - 60.47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chlorine</td>
<td>ppm</td>
<td>MRDL=4</td>
<td>MRDLG=4</td>
<td>0.05</td>
<td>0.77</td>
<td>0.14</td>
<td>0.05 - 0.77</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Your drinking water currently meets the EPA’s 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 disease are due to factors other than exposure to arsenic. EPA’s standard balances the current understanding of arsenic’s health effects against the cost of removing arsenic from drinking water.
Our Surface Water Sources

**Tolt Watershed:** Approximately 20% of your water supply comes from surface water sources operated by Seattle Public Utilities (SPU). The majority of water we use from Seattle's system comes from the Tolt Watershed, a 13,000-acre area of protected forests, lakes and streams located in the foothills of the Cascade Mountains east of Carnation. The watershed can provide up to 100 million gallons of drinking water a day, and the reservoir can store up to 18.3 billion gallons of water. The Tolt Treatment Facility is a state of the art facility that provides increased reliability and flexibility of the regional water system. The Tolt River water enters the District through two interties. One is located in the northern part of the District in the Cascade View zone, with the majority of the regional supply coming from our intertie at the south end of the District in Issaquah.

**Cedar River Watershed:** We occasionally use water from the Cedar River Watershed, based upon Seattle's supply management strategy. Seattle Public Utilities also manages this 90,000-acre watershed resource east of North Bend. Melting snow feeds mountain streams that flow to a clear, cold lake known as Chester Morse Lake. The water is treated at Landsburg and we blend this water from the mountains with our groundwater.

**Cascade Water Alliance:** The District is a member of Cascade Water Alliance. Cascade manages contracts with Seattle Public Utilities for wholesale water purchases from these sources on behalf of its members.

---

**2018 Water Quality Test Results: Regional Surface Water System - EPA Primary Standards**

This table provides you with 2018 water quality test data reported by Seattle Public Utilities. This water consistently tests well within safe levels.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Detected Compound</th>
<th>Units</th>
<th>EPA's Allowable Limits</th>
<th>Levels in Cedar Water</th>
<th>Levels in Tolt Water</th>
<th>Typical Sources</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>MCLG</td>
<td>MCL</td>
<td>Average</td>
<td>Range</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Organic Carbon</td>
<td>ppm</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>TT</td>
<td>0.9</td>
<td>0.4 - 2.1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Raw Water</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finished Water</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Turbidity* | NTU | NA | TT | 0.3 | 0.2 - 2.3 | 0.04 | 0.01 - 0.35 | Soil runoff
- Arsenic | ppb | 0 | 10 | 0.4 | 0.4 - 0.6 | 0.4 | 0.4 - 0.44 | Erosion of natural deposits
- Barium | ppb | 2000 | 2000 | 1.5 | 1.3 - 1.6 | 1.1 | 1.0 - 1.2 | Erosion of natural deposits
- Nitrate | ppm | 10 | 10 | ND | 1 sample | 0.07 | 1 sample | Erosion of natural deposits
- Chromium | ppb | 100 | 100 | 0.27 | 0.25 - 0.33 | 0.2 | ND - 0.24 | Erosion of natural deposits
- Fluoride | ppm | 4 | 4 | 0.7 | 0.4 - 0.8 | 0.7 | 0.6 - 0.8 | Water additive, which promotes strong teeth

* Turbidity is a measure of how clear the water looks. The turbidity MCL that applied to the Cedar supply in 2018 is 5 NTU, and for the Tolt supply it was 0.3 NTU for at least 95% of the samples in a month. For November 2018, 99.4% of the samples from the Tolt were below 0.3 NTU. All of the other months in 2018 had 100% of samples below 0.3 NTU for the Tolt.
This is an explanation of expected contaminants that may be found in drinking water.

Water comes from many sources, including rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs and groundwater wells. As water travels over the land surface or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and can pick up impurities resulting from the presence of animals or human activity. Substances 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 elements**, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining or farming.

**Pesticides and herbicides**, which may come from a variety of sources, including “weed and feed” products you might use on your lawn.

**Organic chemical substances**, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff and septic systems.

All drinking water, including bottled water, will likely contain at least small amounts of these materials but this doesn’t necessarily mean that the water poses a health risk. To ensure that your tap water is safe to drink, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) adopts regulations setting the water quality standards for public water systems. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration regulates impurities in bottled water and provides the same level of public health protection for bottled water as the EPA does for tap water. The Environmental Protection Agency and Centers for Disease Control both have guidelines on what we all can do to protect our water quality.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population, such as people with compromised immune systems. This could include the following:

- You have cancer and are undergoing chemotherapy.
- You have undergone an organ transplant.
- You have HIV, AIDS, or other immune system disorders.
- Some elderly persons may be affected.
- Infants can also be at risk from infections.

These people and their caregivers should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers.

**You can get more information about water impurities and potential health effects by calling the EPA’s Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1.800.426.4791 or at www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water.**
Glossary of Test Result Terms

Sammamish Plateau Water takes more than 900 water samples annually, and we test for bacteria, viruses, organic and inorganic compounds. To help you better understand the language used in these tests, we’ve compiled some terms and their definitions you will see used in this report.

**Action Level**: For lead and copper testing, this is the concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

**90th Percentile**: The 90th percentile is a measure of statistical distribution and is used to calculate compliance for lead and copper in drinking water. The 90th percentile identifies the value for which 90% of the data points are smaller and 10% are larger.

**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 possible 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 contamination.

**NTU**: Nephelometric Turbidity Unit: Turbidity is a measurement of water clarity. Materials that cause turbidity include clay, silt, bacteria and viruses.

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

**ppm**: Parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/l). Compare with one cent in $10,000. One ppm = 1,000 ppb.

**ppb**: Parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (µg/l). Compare with one cent in $10 million. Water quality testing laboratories use equipment that is sensitive enough to determine extremely small quantities of substances in water.

**TTHM**: Total Trihalomethanes: By-products of drinking water disinfection.

**HAA5**: Haloacetic acids: The five haloacetic acids are also water disinfection by-products.

**ND**: Not Detected.

**NA**: Not Applicable.
The District began planning in 1948 for the water you drink today. We are one of a small number of public utilities that plans this far into the future. Our approach to planning for and protecting this vital resource has been going on every day since and will continue for generations to come.

Sammamish Plateau Water
1510 228th Avenue SE; Sammamish, WA 98075

24 HOUR EMERGENCY LINE: 425.392.6256

John Anderson, Water Superintendent
john.anderson@spwater.org

Washington State Department of Health - Division of Drinking Water
360.236.3100  www.doh.wa.gov/CommunityandEnvironment/DrinkingWater

US Environmental Protection Agency - Safe Drinking Water Hotline
1.800.426.4791  www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water