



## City of Selah Consumer Confidence Report Water Quality 2023

YOU ARE RECEIVING THIS REPORT AS PART OF A FEDERAL REPORTING REQUIREMENT FOR MUNICIPAL WATER SYSTEMS

The City of Selah Water Department is pleased to present to you Selah's 2023 Annual Water Quality Report (2022 reporting year). This report is designed to inform you about the quality and services the City delivers. The City's goal is to provide a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We are committed to making improvements to the water quality process to protect our water resources, and ensure the quality of our water.

### Public Participation Opportunities

The public is encouraged to attend and provide comment on the water system plan at the City Council meetings held on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month in the City Council Chambers, 115 W. Naches Ave. An agenda for each meeting is available at City Hall, on the web page ([www.selahwa.gov/council/agenda-minutes](http://www.selahwa.gov/council/agenda-minutes)) and at the meeting.

Any comments on how to make this report more informative, easier to read or ways to protect and conserve water are greatly appreciated.

### Drinking Water Definitions

- **Action Level (AL):** The concentration of a contaminant, which if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
- **Non-Detectable (ND):** Laboratory analysis indicated that the constituent is not present.
- **Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG):** The highest level of contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.
- **Part per million (ppm):** one part per million or one milligram per liter (mg/L) is analogous to one penny in \$10,000.
- **Part per billion (ppb):** One part per billion or one microgram per liter is analogous to one penny in \$10,000,000.
- **State Reporting Level (SRL):** Indicated the minimum reporting level required by Washington State Department of Health.
- **Variance and Exemption:** State or EPA permission not to meet an MCL, AL or a TT under certain conditions.

### Important Contacts

City of Selah Public Works

222 S. Rushmore Rd

(509) 698-7365

<https://selahwa.gov/public-works/>

WA State Department of Health

Office of Drinking Water

(509) 329-2100

[www.doh.wa.gov](http://www.doh.wa.gov)

U.S. Environmental Protection  
Agency

Safe Drinking Water Act Hotline

(800) 426-4791

[www.epa.gov/sdwa](http://www.epa.gov/sdwa)

## Description of the City's Water System

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The City of Selah's water sources come from deep wells, which are collectively capable of producing 7.5 million gallons per day. Water is yielded from the Ellensburg and Wanapum aquifers. The pumping capacity of the City's primary wells are 5,200GPM (gallons per minute)

The City's water reservoirs are capable of holding 3.4 million gallons of water. The existing distribution system is primarily looped and consists of mainly 8 inch or larger ductile or cast-iron water lines.

## Quality Monitoring

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The Department of Health regulates the testing requirements and schedules for water quality. The City has historically provided high quality drinking water and continues to strive to maintain those standards. On December 10<sup>th</sup> 2021, it was confirmed by Washington State Department of Health (WA DOH) and City of Selah that E. Coli was detected in the City of Selah public water system after performing routine testing. A boil water advisory was quickly implemented until the specifically effected area could be determined. Through the process of elimination, 16 samples were taken on 12/10/21 at different points throughout the City's water system. Following the negative results for the 16 samples, the City was able to lift the boil water advisory for the entire city except for residence living south of Southern Ave and W. of 5<sup>th</sup> Ave. Five additional samples were taken on 12/11/21 in the containment area where results were produced 12/12/21 showing negative for E. coli. Following the negative results and confirmation from WA DOH, the City was able to lift the boil water advisory at approximately 11:45am on 12/21/21 in the containment area. WADOH worked with the City to conduct a special purpose report to document the incident, testing results, preventative steps taken and additional findings. This report is available to the public upon request.

The City's wells are tested for volatile organic compounds and inorganic chemicals, nitrates and radium. Coliform bacteria are tested ten times per month or one hundred twenty times per year. Lead and copper are tested at thirty sampling sites throughout the water distribution system. In 2017 of 30 samples that were taken, no sources exceeding the action level for copper at 1.3 mg/L or lead with an AL of .015 mg/L were found. Additionally, the City began testing for Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) where all well results came back clear as NON-detected (ND). If present, elevated levels of these compounds or inorganics 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.



When your water has been sitting for several hours in your house plumbing you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking and cooking.

If you are concerned about lead in your water you may wish to have your water tested. Information regarding testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize lead exposure in drinking water can be found from the Safe Drinking Water hotline, (800) 426-4791.

**Fluoride:** The wells listed below pump into the water distribution system. They do not all run at the same time so fluoride levels may vary throughout the system. The SRL for fluoride is 0.5 mg/L with a trigger level of 2.0 mg/L and a MCL of 4.0 mg/L

Well	Mg/L
#5	.3
#6	.26
#7	N/D
#8	N/D

### Water Use Efficiency

An abundant supply of drinking water has always been readily available and is a basic life necessity that we are fortunate enough to enjoy. Water is an important and precious resource that everyone should help conserve. The City of Selah would like to improve and reduce the current residential use per capita by 2 gallons per household per day over the next 2-year period and to keep unaccounted for water below 10%. The City will achieve this with public outreach education, encouraging residents to practice conservation techniques, and by adding consumption history to residents' utility billing information.

How much water does the City of Selah **PRODUCE AND SELL?**

- In 2022 the City produced 858,782,000 million gallons and sold 833,336,183 gallons of water with 3.0% unaccounted for.
- In 2021 the City produced 886,387,000 million gallons and sold 863,885,158 million gallons of water with 1.7% unaccounted for.
- In 2020 the City produced 915,030,000 million gallons and sold 893,143,416 million gallons of water with 2.0% unaccounted for.
- The three-year average of unaccounted for water is 2.6%.

## What can residents do to help the City to reduce and conserve water usage?

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Nearly 60% of a person's household water footprint is comprised of water for lawn and garden maintenance.

- A timed sprinkler system, lawn aeration and lawn fertilizers can help improve your lawn while conserving water.
- Using a water efficient dishwasher with full loads.
- It takes about 70 gallons of water to fill a bathtub, so showers are generally the more water efficient way to bathe.
- Repair water leaks in and outside of the home.
- Replace leaky toilets, faucets and other bathroom fixtures with new water efficient fixtures.



### Translations

*This report contains important information about your drinking water.  
You may wish to have this information translated.*

*Este informe contiene informacion importante sobre su agua potable.  
Es posible que desee tener esta informacion traducida*

### General Health Effects

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised individuals, such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders and some elderly and infant can be particularly at risk of infections. These individuals should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. The EPA/Center for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection are available from the Safe Drinking Water Act Hotline.

### Water Quality Protection

High quality, clean, safe and aesthetically pleasing water is the City's commitment to you. We have adopted the following to ensure the drinking water consistently meets or exceeds all State and Federal regulations. The City of Selah has a Well head Protection Program and Cross Connection Program. These programs are designed to prevent contamination of groundwater before and after pumping. If you would like more information on these programs, please contact Selah's Public Works office.

(509) 698-7365

Ty Jones, Public Works Supervisor