Spanaway Water Co.
P.O. Box 1000
18413 “B” Street East
Spanaway, WA 98387

Water Quality Report

2007

Spanaway Water Company

WATER QUALITY REPORT – 2007

Welcome to your eleventh annual water quality report. This report presents information to you in the format prescribed by the Safe Drinking Water Act.

We continue to strive to provide you with safe, high quality water that meets or exceeds all federal and state standards. Water quality is tested daily by water company employees and on a regular schedule that includes weekly, annual, and tri-annual analysis by Washington State and EPA certified laboratories.

Spanaway Water Company (SWC) is a non-profit mutual water company owned by all the property owners (members) served by the company. SWC serves over 9,000 families and more than 330 businesses in the Spanaway Area. The company's Board of Directors are elected from and by the company membership. Therefore, you can be certain that both high water quality and reasonable prices are their top priorities.

The annual meeting of SWC is held on the second Monday of November at 7:30 p.m. Members are elected to the Board of Directors at the annual meetings. The Board of Directors meets monthly on the third Thursday of each month at 4:00 p.m. You are invited to participate at these meetings, all of which are held at the Company office at 18413 "B" St. E.

If you would like more information about Spanaway Water Company, the information in this newsletter, contaminants, or any other water issues, we will be happy to answer your questions. Please see www.spanaway-water.org or call 531-9024 and ask for Tim Tayne, Water Programs Manager, or Jeff Johnson, Manager.

Este informe contiene informaciÓn muy importante sobre su agua potable. TradÚzcalo Ó hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

Spanaway Water Company is required by the 1996 amendments to the Safe Drinking Water Act to publish this report. It contains information about the source and quality of your drinking water.

Sometimes my water is discolored, is it safe to drink?

Your water is safe to drink or cook with. Manganese in pipes can be released when valves are being repaired, the system is being flushed or fire hydrants are in use. Should you experience "brown" water, letting an outside faucet run for 5 to 15 minutes should clear the problem.

Routine main flushing is done on Tuesdays. To reduce the risk of discoloring clothing we ask that you avoid washing clothes on Tuesdays.

About Bottled Water:

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 Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

Special considerations for at risk people:

Some people may be more vulnerable to contamination 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/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).

HOMELAND SECURITY – A Community Concern

Like all utilities, we take security very seriously and we also rely on the public to assist in facility security. Should you notice any unusual activity at any utility facilities, including water system wells, tank sites, or fire hydrants please contact the office at 531-9024 and/or the sheriff at 911. Tampering with a water system is a federal crime with penalties up to $1,000,000 and 20 years in jail.

Lead & Drinking Water

"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. Spanaway Water Co. 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."*

Water Use Efficiency

The Municipal Water Law is part of a multi-year effort to reform the state's water laws. This law directed the Department of Health to adopt a Water Use Efficiency (WUE) Rule to use water efficiently in exchange for certainty and flexibility in the exercise of water rights.

The Key Elements Are:

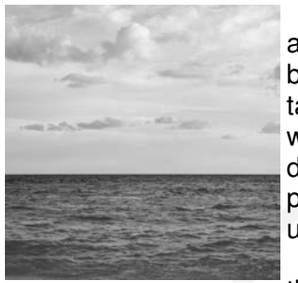
- WUE Planning Requirements
- Distribution Leakage Standard of 10%
- Goal Setting and Performance Reporting

SWC's Elements are:

- Public education
- Billing information
- Leak repair incentive
- Increasing block water rates
- Meter change-outs an testing
- Regional conservation organization planning

The adopted WUE goal is to maintain the average day demand usage of 0.5% per unit per year over the 6 year rolling average

HOW AND WHY IS MY WATER TREATED



As water is pumped from each of the eleven wells, chlorine is added as a disinfectant providing extra protection to insure that no harmful bacteria are present. The minimum amount of chlorine is used to maintain a detectable level throughout the water system. Corrosion control with sodium hydroxide is also used at four wells. This treatment reduces the slight natural acidity of the water, resulting in decreased copper levels in some homes. These treatment requirements are mandated under federal law.

Four of our wells have naturally occurring manganese. Even at the very low levels found at the wells, "brown" water may occur when large flows are created in water mains, such as when fire hydrants are used for fire fighting or testing. The rushing water picks up the manganese "rust" that settles in the mains. Manganese is not a health related contaminant, rather it is an essential human nutrient with a recommended daily amount (RDA) of 2.0 mg. However, even at 0.05 mg/l (1/40th of the RDA) brown water may occur. The presence of manganese is therefore considered an aesthetic problem. Your water company has a manganese filter at well 4 with additional filters planned for the Yakima (2008) and Buckeye Grove (2008) wells.

HELP PROTECT YOUR WATER SOURCES

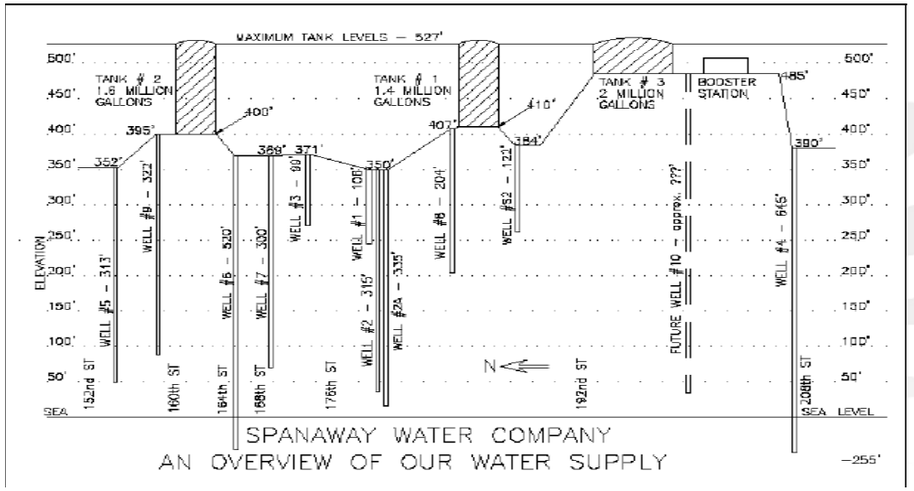
Since Spanaway's ground water sources are located in aquifers under where we live and work, our everyday activities can contribute to the contamination of these aquifers that supply our water. Ground water is naturally purified by traveling through the soil materials below us, but if these soils become contaminated with chemicals they will also release those chemicals into the ground water. To help protect these resources, use lawn chemicals sparingly, or look for safer alternatives. Always properly store and dispose of hazardous chemicals, and do not dump anything in storm drains.

Pierce County residents can safely dispose of household hazardous waste free of charge at the HazWaste Place located at the Tacoma Landfill. HazWaste Place is open seven days a week from 8AM to 6PM. The address is: 3510 S. Mullen St. which is off of Center St between Orchard and Tyler Streets next to the Home Depot store. You can call them at 800 287-6429. Used oil recycling is available at Jiffy Lube or Shucks Auto Supply.

For more information regarding our wellhead protection program or what you can do to protect our resource, feel free to call us or visit our web page at www.spanaway-water.org

WHAT ARE THE SOURCES OF MY WATER?

Spanaway Water Company draws water from 11 wells located in the Spanaway area of the Chambers/Clover Creek watershed. The well depths vary from 99 to 645 feet. The water system has three tanks holding 5,100,000 gallons, one booster station serving the higher elevations at the south end of the water system, well over 120 miles of water mains, and over 740 fire hydrants. The diagram below provides an overview of the water system.



WATER QUALITY DATA REQUIREMENTS

The following portion of the newsletter is presented in compliance with the EPA's format and content requirements.

About Water Sources and contaminants: 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. Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife. Inorganic chemical 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, 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, 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.

SPANAWAY WATER QUALITY TESTING

In October 2007 Spanaway Water issued a "Precautionary Boil Notice" after being notified by the laboratory that three routine bacteria samples were positive for E. coli and Total Coliform bacteria. All repeat samples, more than 48 samples, were negative for bacteria. The notice was removed within 3 days after it was determined the water was safe to drink. This did though result in a "non-acute monitoring violation" because more than one sample was positive for bacteria during that month.

We also sampled every source for nitrates, bacteria, and some for radionuclide chemicals, with the only detections listed in the tables, some chemicals are listed as the last detection.. The finished water was testing for bacteria and disinfection by-products (DBP), the results of naturally occurring organic chemicals reacting with chlorination. The DBP's testing results were all less than 25% of the EPA's maximum contamination level. We have also included the EPA's standards and information about the contaminants that were detectable. A complete listing of all water quality testing and the highest levels ever found in the water system is available at the company office.

Contaminants detected in 2007 with designated Maximum Contaminant Levels

Compound:	MCL	MCLG	Highest	Range of Sample	Year	Typical Source of Contamination
Regulated at Source						
Fluoride	4	4	0.2	ND - 0.2	2006	Additive for teeth, erosion of soils, mining
Nitrate	10	10	4.1	<0.2 - 4.1	2007	Runoff from fertilizer use: Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; or erosion of
Volatile Organic Chemicals (all in ppb):						
Regulated in Distribution System						
Trihalomethanes (THM):	80*	80	12.5	ND - 12.5	Qtr'ly/2007	Byproduct of drinking water chlorination
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	60*	60	6.5	ND - 6.5	Qtr'ly/2007	By-product of drinking water chlorination
• Compliance is determined by running annual average of quarterly sampling for subcomponents of THMs and HAA5s.						
Total Coliform	0	0	3 (non-acute violation)		2007	Naturally occurring throughout the environment
E. coli	0	0	2 (non-acute violation)		2007	Animal Wastes
Chlorine	4	1.05	0.62 - 1.05		Daily	Water additive used to control microbes
Radionuclides						
Analyte						
Gross Beta (pCi/l)	50	50	ND	ND-ND	2006	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium-228 (pCi/l)	—-	0.8	ND	ND-ND	2007	Erosion of natural deposits
Regulated at Consumer's Tap (based on 90th % of customers tested)						
Copper (ppm)	1.3	1.3	0.07-1.2 (0.86—90th %)		2007	Corrosion of household plumbing systems.
Lead (ppb)	15	0	2 - 9 (7—90th %)		2007	Corrosion of household plumbing systems.

Terms and abbreviations used in the following table:
Minimum Detectable Level (MDA): the level of contaminant in drinking water that can be reliably detected by the laboratory.
Maximum Contamination 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 Contamination Level (MCL): 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.
Action Level (AL): the concentration of a contaminant which, when exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
ND: not detectable at testing limit. N/A: not applicable. mfl: million fibers per liter. ppb: parts per billion or micrograms per liter. ppm: parts per million or milligrams per liter. pCi/l: picocuries per liter (a measure of radiation)