

Presorted  
Standard Mail  
U.S. Postage  
Paid  
98642  
PERMIT NO. 40

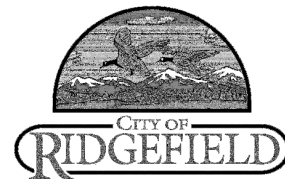
# 2010

## Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

This report contains information about your drinking water as required by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)



*The City of Ridgefield is proud to inform you that our water quality continues to exceed state and federal standards.*



Public Works Department  
PO Box 608  
Ridgefield, Washington 98642  
www.ci.ridgefield.wa.us

Return Service Requested

The City of Ridgefield is pleased to present a summary of the quality of water provided to you during 2010. We are committed to efficiently providing you with a safe and reliable water supply. Please contact the Public Works Department at (360) 887-8251 if you have any questions about the information in this water quality report. The public is encouraged to participate in community decisions affecting water quality. City Council meetings are held at 6:30 p.m. on the second and fourth Thursday of each month at the Ridgefield Community Center, located at 210 N. Main Avenue.

### Ridgefield Water Source:

The City of Ridgefield (Public Water System 72400V) has four (4) wells commonly identified as Well Nos. 7, 8, 9 and 10 (Department of Health Source Numbers S11, S08, S09 and S16) that are located in Abrams Park. In addition, the City has an emergency intertie with Clark Public Utilities as a back-up to the City's own water sources. The groundwater wells pump water from the Troutdale aquifer located at depths between approximately 130 and 170 feet below ground surface. These wells can produce over 1.5 million gallons of water per day. The City voluntarily chlorinates its water supply with 4% sodium hypochlorite solution to effectively kill any pathogenic bacteria. The City does not fluoridate your water at this time.

The City has moderately hard water (determined by mineral level content) rated at 96 parts per million of hardness when last tested. In addition, City water typically contains 55 parts per million silica. While hard water is not a health hazard, it can result in spots or deposits left from tap water that has dried on glass or chrome. A water softener may be added to soften your water; however, a water softener will not remove the silica. Glass and chrome surfaces should be wiped dry to avoid spotting or deposits.

### How Our Drinking Water is Provided

The City of Ridgefield water distribution system consists of approximately 170,000 feet of distribution lines, one 600,000 gallon reservoir, one 400,000 gallon reservoir, and one 100,000 gallon reservoir. A new 1.0 million gallon reservoir to replace the existing 100,000 gallon reservoir at the Junction has been designed; however, construction will not occur until funding can be secured.

A key to maintaining good water quality is effectively managing the water distribution system. It is important for water to remain fresh and retain sufficient chlorine for disinfection. The City strives to keep dead end mains flushed and has a cross-connection control program designed to keep potential contaminants originating in homes and businesses from entering the potable water system.

### A Message About Water Quality

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).

People should consider *all stream water and other surface water to be NOT safe for drinking* unless it's first properly treated. Children are most likely to drink from surface water and need to be made aware of this health risk by their parent(s) or guardian(s).

### Ridgefield Public Works Department



City of Ridgefield Public Works Department Operations Crew: John Duback, Jim Strickler, Fred Crippen, Scott Brunson, Nick Crockford, Tad Arends, Lindsay Warren, Krystal Varney, Jeff Bolling, Chris Renner, Matt Hollenbaugh. Not Pictured: Randy Wray

The City of Ridgefield's Public Works Department works to provide you with excellent and efficient water service. The Public Works Director's office is located at 301 N. 3rd Avenue in Ridgefield. Office hours are from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on weekdays, or the Public Works Director can be contacted by telephone at (360) 887-8251. For after hours emergencies, you can call our emergency pager number at (360) 699-2596.

In addition to providing your water service, our staff can:

- ◆ Test your water if you have any concerns about water quality.
- ◆ Provide information on backflow prevention devices and many other water-related items.
- ◆ Assist in detecting and identifying leaks in your water system.
- ◆ Provide tips to help you deal with high- or low- pressure water problems.
- ◆ Provide water conservation tips.

## 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.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include: **Microbial contaminants**, such as viruses, parasites 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 stormwater 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, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses; **Organic chemical contaminants**, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems; and **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, the Department of Health and EPA prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and the Washington Department of Agriculture regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that must provide the same protection for public health. The Department of Health has compiled source water assessment program (SWAP) data for all community water systems in Washington. Please contact Steven Wall, Public Works Director at 360-887-8251 if you would like additional information in this regard.

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 Ridgefield is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in the 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>.

**Special Information:** Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised 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 Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

## Required Water Quality Analyses in 2010 for Ridgefield, Washington

Parameters (at the Well Source)	Units	EPA's Standards		Highest Level Detected	Typical Sources
		MCLG	MCL		
Radium 228	pCi/L	0	5	0.2	Typically found in the natural environment
Gross Alpha	pCi/L	0	15	-3.0	Typically found in the natural environment
Volatile Organic Compounds	ug/l	Varies	Varies	Not Detected	Generally found in herbicides and pesticides
Haloacetic Acids	ug/l	N/A	60	Not Detected	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Total Trihalomethanes	ug/l	N/A	80	Not Detected	By-product of drinking water disinfection
<i>Inorganic Chemicals - EPA Regulated</i>					
Arsenic	ppb	0	10	2	Discharge from petroleum refineries; ceramics, solder
Barium	ppm	2	2	0.011	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards
Cadmium	ppb	5	5	<1	Corrosion of galvanized pipes; erosion of natural deposits
Chromium	ppb	100	100	2	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; erosion of natural deposits
Mercury	ppb	2	2	<0.5	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from landfills
Selenium	ppb	50	50	<5	Erosion of natural deposits; discharge from mines
Beryllium	ppb	4	4	<1	Discharge from metal and coal burning factories
Antimony	ppb	6	6	<1	Discharge from petroleum refineries; ceramics, solder
Thallium	ppb	0.5	2	<1	Leaching from ore-processing sites
Cyanide	ppb	200	200	<10	Discharge from steel mills and plastic or fertilizer factories
Fluoride	ppm	4	4	<0.2	Erosion of natural deposits
Nitrite-N	ppm	1	1	<0.1	Runoff from fertilizer use
Nitrate-N	ppm	10	10	0.4	Runoff from fertilizer use
<i>Inorganic Chemicals - EPA Regulated Secondary</i>					
Iron	mg/l	N/A	N/A	0.09	
Manganese	mg/l	N/A	N/A	<0.005	
Silver	mg/l	N/A	N/A	<0.001	
Chloride	mg/l	N/A	N/A	4.2	
Sulfate	mg/l	N/A	N/A	4.7	
Zinc	mg/l	N/A	N/A	0.03	
Sodium	mg/l	N/A	N/A	10.9	
Hardness	mg/l	N/A	N/A	102	
Conductivity	umhos/cm	N/A	N/A	222	
Turbidity	NTU	N/A	N/A	1.8	Soil Runoff
Color	color units	N/A	N/A	<5	
Total Dissolved Solids	mg/l	N/A	N/A	182	
Lead	ppb	0	15	<1	Erosion of natural deposits; corrosion of household plumbing
Copper	ppm	1.3	1.3	<0.01	

**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 feasible 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.

**Note:** Values may include negative numbers because the reading is relatively less than a base sample.

**Parts per Million (ppm)** - Equivalent to Milligrams per Liter (mg/L). Unit of measurement. One part per million is comparable to one penny out of \$10,000.

**Parts per Billion (ppb)** - Equivalent to Microgram per Liter (ug/L). Unit of measurement. One part per billion is comparable to one penny out of \$10,000,000.

**Picocurie per Liter (pCi/L)** - Unit of measurement for the concentration of radioactivity.

## Water Quality Monitoring Information

**Bacteriological Testing** - The City collected on average a minimum of eight (8) samples per month in 2010 in different areas to test for coliform bacteria. No sample collected during 2010 showed any indication of bacteriological growth. The City also collects samples from new construction sites, new exploratory sample points, or if there is any question pertaining to water quality.



## Water Conservation

Continued growth in our area means our water resources have to be stretched further to serve new residents, businesses and industries they bring with them. The City must utilize its resources effectively to maintain a reliable water supply to benefit current and future residents and businesses. Water Conservation is something everyone can participate in to help ensure adequate water supply is maintained. The average family uses 350 gallons of water a day. Every household could do their part by using water more wisely, especially during summer months. **The City requests you water your lawn on odd/even days of the month based on the last digit of your address (odd/even)**

