

CITY OF KENT

Water Quality Report 2019



*This report contains important
information about your drinking water.*



Coronavirus and drinking water

The quality of your drinking water is vital to the health of the Kent community, and we take our commitment to providing high quality water to our residents and businesses seriously. The COVID-19 virus has not been detected in drinking water supplies. Based on current evidence, the risk to water supplies is low, according to the Environmental Protection Agency. You can continue to use and drink water from the tap as usual.

Your drinking water is safe. The City of Kent monitors our water supply and the quality of our water continuously, and we test it daily. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Public Works Water Utility at **253-856-5600**. For additional information about the coronavirus and drinking water, visit [EPA.gov/coronavirus](https://www.epa.gov/coronavirus).

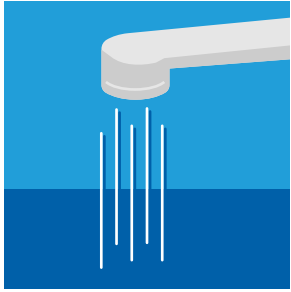
Legionella

With businesses, manufacturing operations, schools, churches and other businesses closed during the current pandemic, many indoor plumbing systems are going unused. If stagnant water in those systems reaches certain temperatures, it can create ideal conditions for bacteria like *Legionella* to grow in building plumbing systems and equipment like cooling towers, pools, decorative fountains, hot tubs and other types of equipment.

If *Legionella* grows during low water use periods, building users have a higher risk of contracting Legionnaire's disease and Pontiac Fever. Building owners and operators need to actively manage and maintain their buildings plumbing systems during shutdown periods and implement well thought out start-up protocols to ensure public health protection.

For more information, visit [KentWA.gov/Legionella](https://www.kentwa.gov/Legionella) for guidelines and resources provided by the Washington State Department of Health.

Here are some easy ways that you can maintain high-quality drinking water in your home.



Flush cold-water faucets before using for cooking, drinking, or making baby formula.

If a faucet has not been used for several hours or longer, run the water for 30 seconds to 2 minutes (or until the water feels cooler) before using the water for cooking or drinking. This will improve water quality by bringing in fresh water, and reduce lead levels if present in your home's plumbing.



Clean faucet screens.

At the tip of most faucets you will find an aerator screen. This screen blends air into the water, which cuts down on water use. But it can also trap sediments and metals from your pipes and hot water tank. This can impact water quality and may block water flow. Routinely clean screens and replace them as needed. Twist off to remove. You may need a wrench to loosen the aerator.



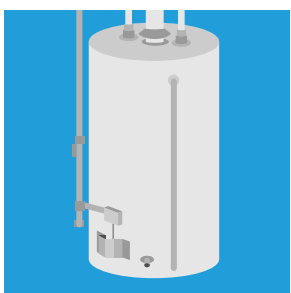
Maintain household water filtration devices.

The water delivered to your home meets and exceeds all federal and state drinking water requirements. Installing a home water device is a personal decision. Always maintain filters according to the manufacturer's guidelines. Unmaintained water filters can harbor bacteria and/or release contaminants.



Do not use hot tap water for cooking, drinking, or making baby formula.

Hot water can help dissolve metals such as lead into your drinking water. Always start with cold water and heat as necessary.



Maintain your hot water heater.

Hot water heaters can cause discoloration, particulates and odor at the faucet. Most manufacturers recommend flushing or maintaining of water heaters annually or every few years. The typical life span of a tank-style water heater is 10 years.

Tips provided courtesy of Eugene Water & Electric Board, EWEB.org

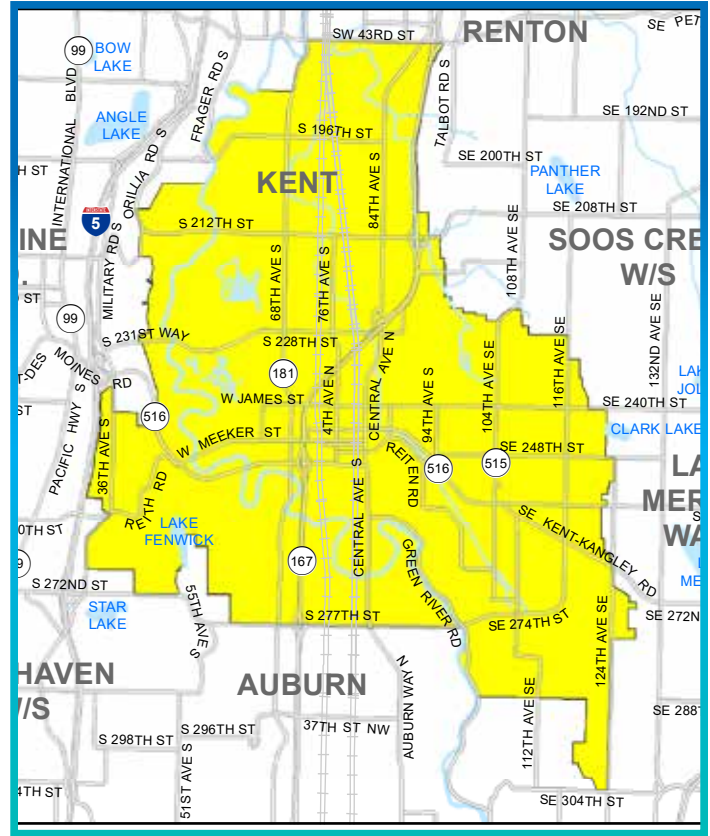
Multiple water sources

The City's primary water supplies come from either a spring or well drilled into an underground aquifer (a natural underground water reservoir).

To provide for future growth and water system demands, the City has partnerships with Tacoma Water, Covington Water District and Lakehaven Utility District to obtain surface water from the Green River through the Regional Water Supply System.

Kent also has a number of interties linking our water system with all our neighboring water providers to provide emergency service among water providers. Water providers include the cities of Auburn, Renton, Tacoma and Tukwila as well as Lake Meridian Water District, Highline Water District and Soos Creek Water & Sewer District.

Customers may notice slight taste differences due to the operation of these various sources and interties, but these water providers must meet the same rigorous standards as the City of Kent.



City of Kent water service area

Water is essential.

Without clean water, our kids' clothes would never make it through the entire school year.



Howard Hanson Dam

Photo Courtesy of Tacoma Water

How is my water treated and purified?

The primary treatment methods for water supplied to Kent customers are chlorination, fluoridation and pH adjustment.

- ◆ Chlorine is used for disinfection of the water supply. Chlorine kills germs and microorganisms that may be in the water supply and acts as a protective barrier from any recontamination while water is in the distribution system. The average chlorine residual in your drinking water is 0.83 parts per million (ppm).
- ◆ Sodium Fluoride is added to the water supply to aid in the prevention of tooth decay. Fluoride levels are maintained at an average of 0.71 ppm.
- ◆ Sodium Hydroxide is added to the water supply to raise pH levels. pH levels, which are a measurement of acidity, are adjusted to make the water less corrosive on plumbing and reduce the amount of lead and copper that can dissolve into drinking water.

The City of Kent also obtains water from the City of Tacoma. Tacoma's water supply is surface water coming from the Green River in southeast King County. It is also disinfected with chlorine, fluoridated and pH-adjusted with sodium hydroxide. In addition, Tacoma uses ozone to control taste and odor. This report includes Tacoma's water quality in our system.

For more information on Tacoma Water, visit: mytpu.org/tacomawater/water-quality





Protecting our groundwater

Several aquifers supplying Kent's water are shallow and receive most of their water through infiltration (rainfall trickling through the ground into the aquifer). Because of this, the aquifers are susceptible to contamination from aboveground activities that have the potential to introduce contaminants through the ground to the aquifer.

To ensure Kent's groundwater is protected, a **Wellhead Protection Program** was implemented in 1996 and updated in 2008. This program ensures our groundwater sources are regularly monitored to provide a high quality water supply. By monitoring how water flows underground and where potential sources of contaminants are located, we can be better prepared to respond in the event of an emergency or contamination.

Growth has the potential to impact groundwater resources by creating impervious surfaces which concentrate pollutants and decrease aquifer recharge rates. Growth also leads to additional pesticide and fertilizer use that could impact water quality and quantity. The City continues to review land use applications to ensure development will not have a negative impact on groundwater resources. New developments are being encouraged to maintain a no-net-loss in aquifer recharge.

For more information on the Wellhead Protection Program, call **253-856-5527**.

To report spills, water pollution, or contamination, call **253-856-5600**.

Integrated Pest Management (IPM) provides alternatives for farmers, golf course managers, parks departments, school districts, public works crews and homeowners to control nuisance plants and insects. Alternatives in IPM are provided to decrease environmental impacts and to help protect groundwater. For example, instead of spraying an entire playfield for weeds, spot spraying may be used to save money and reduce the amount of herbicide used.

About PFAS

Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) are a family of chemicals used since the 1950s to manufacture stain-resistant, water-resistant and non-stick products. PFAS are widely used as coatings in common consumer products such as food packaging, outdoor clothing, carpets, leather goods, ski and snowboard waxes, and more. Certain types of firefighting foam—historically used by the U.S. military, local fire departments and airports—may contain PFAS.

There are no current enforceable federal standards for PFAS in drinking water. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) expects to make a determination by December 2019 about whether it will develop enforceable standards for two of the most commonly detected PFAS, perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) and perfluorooctyl sulfonate (PFOS). The State Board of Health (SBOH) is considering a new standard for PFAS in response to a petition for rulemaking. The SBOH began rulemaking for PFAS in drinking water in late 2017. State action levels for five PFAS (PFOA, PFOS, PFNA, PFHxS, and PFBS) are being recommended. DOH anticipates having a rule proposal ready to file and begin the formal public comment period in October 2020—with an anticipated public hearing at the SBOH meeting in November 2020.

Unwanted medicine return program

Pharmaceuticals and personal care products, abbreviated as PPCPs, are a group of compounds consisting of human and veterinary drugs (prescription or over-the-counter) and consumer products such as perfumes, lotions, sunscreens, housecleaning products and others. These compounds have been detected in trace amounts in surface water, drinking water and wastewater in the United States and Europe.

Pharmaceuticals can enter the water when they are flushed down toilets, put into sinks, thrown into the garbage or when humans or animals pass drugs through their bodies. Excretion of medicines that pass through our bodies is the largest source of the pollution and is more difficult to prevent from entering sewage or septic tanks.

To date, scientists have found no evidence of adverse human health effects from PPCPs in the environment. However, the EPA

is committed to investigating PPCPs and developing strategies to make sure the health of the environment and the public is protected.

Kaiser Permanente is participating in King County's medication disposal program to encourage responsible disposal of unwanted medicines. Disposal kiosks are open to anyone in the community. Kent Medical Center Pharmacy has a disposal kiosk available.

For more information on their program and other locations, visit wa.kaiserpermanente.org/html/public/pharmacy/drug-disposal

For other locations in King County and answers to questions about disposing of unwanted medicines, visit KingCountySecureMedicineReturn.org

Water use efficiency goals

State law requires municipal water suppliers to use water more efficiently in exchange for water right certainty and flexibility to help meet future demand. The Legislature directed the Department of Health to adopt an enforceable Water Use Efficiency (WUE) program, which became effective on January 22, 2007.

Water use efficiency goals must be set through a public process and shall be evaluated and reestablished as part of a water system plan update. The City formally adopted water use efficiency goals in 2007 via the City Council Public Works Committee and last updated our WUE Program as part of our 2011 water system plan. The goals and objectives of the City's previous WUE Program are as follows.

- ◆ Reduce water used by public agencies (e.g., city facilities, schools, etc.) between June and August by 0.5 percent each year.
- ◆ Maintain water loss at less than 6 percent per year (Municipal Water Law standard is 10 percent). Water loss (unaccounted-for water) is an inherent element of water system management which can never be eliminated entirely due to meter inaccuracies, water theft and undetected system leakage.

Water use for the previous period of June through August 2019 decreased 1.6 percent compared to the same period in 2018. Our emphasis was on outdoor water use which saw a decrease of 13.4 percent over last year. Since the inception of this goal in 2007, overall water use for the period of June through August has decreased by 4 percent while the number of services has stayed the same. Dedicated irrigation accounts for government agencies have risen by 42.4 percent over this same time period.

The City met its goal of maintaining 6 percent or less lost water for the year, with a 5.85 percent distribution system leakage reported. The average lost water rate is 4.4 percent since 2007.

As part of our water system plan renewal in 2019, the City set new goals for the next planning period 2019-2029. In addition to maintaining our original WUE Goals of reducing water use during summer months and maintaining 6 percent or less lost water, we will also strive to reduce multi-family residential water consumption by 1 percent per year.

To view the entire 2019 Water Use Efficiency Report, visit our water utility page at KentWA.gov.



Water conservation

Water conservation measures are another tool in protecting our water supply. Not only do they conserve water, but they can also save money by reducing your water bill.

For tips to reduce water use in your yard, please visit KentWA.gov/EnvironmentalStewardship and click on the “Natural Yard Care” link.



Rebate Options

- ◆ Toilet

Buying a new toilet? Make it a Water Sense model, and you may qualify for a \$50 rebate*. Water Sense toilets use 20 percent less water than the current federal standard, while still providing equal or superior performance.

To be eligible for this rebate, you must

- ◆ Be a City water customer and pay your bill to “City of Kent”
- ◆ Replace a high-volume toilet that was installed before 1993

For a list of EPA Water Sense-certified toilets, visit EPA.gov/watersense/residential-toilets.

- ◆ Washing Machine

Save water and energy with a new, high-efficiency, Energy Star washer, and you may qualify for a \$75 rebate*.

To be eligible for this rebate, you must

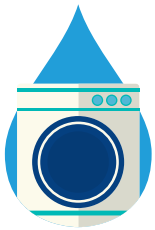
- ◆ Be a City water customer and pay your bill to “City of Kent”
- ◆ Purchase an approved high-efficiency, Energy Star washer

For a list of eligible washing machines, visit energystar.gov.

To find out more about these rebate offers, visit KentWA.gov/EnvironmentalStewardship and click “Available rebates for water conservation.” *Other restrictions apply.

Water conservation tips

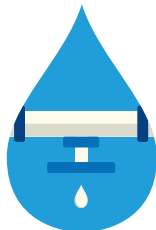
To conserve water inside your home:



Wash only full loads of dishes or laundry.



Do not use the toilet for food disposal.



Fix leaking faucets, pipes and toilets or replace them with water-saving devices.



Take shorter showers.



Don't let the water run while shaving or brushing teeth.

To conserve water outside your home:

- ◆ Install rain sensor on sprinkler system.
- ◆ Use mulch around plants and shrubs.
- ◆ Water the lawn and garden in the morning or evening to avoid evaporation in hot weather. One inch of water a week is sufficient.
- ◆ Repair leaks in faucets and hoses, and use water-saving nozzles.
- ◆ Don't let hose run continuously while washing your car.

For more information call **258-856-5589**, or visit WaterUseItWisely.com or EPA.gov/Watersense



Water system protection: cross connection control

Back-flow device installation

The City of Kent implements an extensive cross connection control program to help ensure safe drinking water for its customers.

What is a cross connection? A cross connection is a permanent or temporary piping arrangement that can allow the City's drinking water to be contaminated by a non-potable (not safe to drink) source if a backflow condition occurs.

What is backflow? Backflow is water flowing in the opposite direction of its intended path. Backflow can allow contaminants to enter the drinking water system through cross connections.

Through an active cross connection control program, the City of Kent isolates and eliminates hazards by requiring installation and testing of backflow prevention assemblies. A properly-installed and maintained backflow prevention assembly protects the water supply and the health and wellbeing of those who drink the water. Periodic testing ensures the assembly is working properly.

To learn more about cross connection control, backflow prevention or backflow assembly testing, call **253-856-5500** or visit **[KentWA.gov/city-hall/public-works/water-master-plan/cross-connection-control-program](https://kentwa.gov/city-hall/public-works/water-master-plan/cross-connection-control-program)**

Annual backflow assembly test reports can be submitted directly to us at **backflow@KentWA.gov**

For a list of Washington State Department of Health approved backflow assembly testers, visit **[GRCC.greenriver.edu/wacertservices/bat/bat_publiclist.asp](https://grcc.greenriver.edu/wacertservices/bat/bat_publiclist.asp)**

The following are examples of water uses for which the City of Kent requires backflow prevention:

- ◆ RV wastewater (blackwater) dumping stations
- ◆ Embalming processes
- ◆ Hazardous chemicals or biological processes
- ◆ Laboratory and aspirator equipment
- ◆ Chemical sprayers attached to hoses
- ◆ Ornamental landscape ponds and fountains
- ◆ Auxiliary water supplies
- ◆ Boilers
- ◆ Water recirculation systems
- ◆ Swimming pools
- ◆ Solar heat systems
- ◆ Fire sprinkler systems
- ◆ Wash basins and service sinks
- ◆ Hose bibs (garden hose faucets)
- ◆ Lawn irrigation systems



640 Pump Station #1



Kent Springs Generator

Building for today

Key accomplishments in 2019:

- ◆ Construction was completed on a back-up power generator system at our Kent Springs source and electrical improvements at a pump station on the West Hill of our service area.
- ◆ We worked with a consultant to renew our water system plan for the next 10-year planning period.
- ◆ Construction was completed on a coating, structural and safety improvement project at our Cambridge Reservoir on the West Hill of our service area.
- ◆ Construction of a new pump station to supply water for a new pressure zone on Kent’s East Hill began in February 2019. Construction of the new pump station should be complete in spring 2020.
- ◆ The water utility acquired property and permits to site a 5-million-gallon reservoir on the West Hill of our service area and are working with a consultant on design. Construction should begin in 2021.
- ◆ We installed 1,600 feet of 12-inch and 400 feet of 16-inch earthquake resistant ductile iron pipe as part of the Union Pacific Grade Separation Project on South 228th Street.
- ◆ We installed 600 feet of 12-inch and 1,300 feet of 18-inch ductile iron pipe as part of the South 224th Street Grade Separation Project.
- ◆ We cleaned and inspected two water reservoirs.
- ◆ We installed 750 feet of eight-inch water main at various locations as part of our Shops Inc. program.
- ◆ We upgraded seven fire hydrants in the water distribution system.

The Water Section continues implementation of a system-wide water main cleaning, unidirectional flushing, valve exercise and water service line/water main replacement program, as well as other related maintenance to improve water quality and system reliability.



Planning for tomorrow

The next few years will bring many new system improvement projects:

- ◆ Design and construction of a 5-million-gallon reservoir on Kent's West Hill
- ◆ Design and construction of a new water booster station and transmission main to supply water to the West Hill
- ◆ Coating and structural improvements for a water storage tank on the Kent East Hill
- ◆ An electrical system upgrade and automated back-up power transfer switch at a booster station providing water to the West Hill of our water system
- ◆ Start-up and implementation of a new pressure zone on Kent's East Hill
- ◆ Water main and fire hydrant replacements
- ◆ Interior cleaning and inspection of water storage reservoirs and coating improvements
- ◆ Design/installation of backup emergency power supply for our water sources
- ◆ Design/implementation of habitat conservation measures for our Clark Springs source
- ◆ Well and pump rehabilitations at City water sources



Monitoring Results

Thousands of water samples were taken in 2019 to determine the presence of any radioactive, biological, inorganic, volatile organic or synthetic organic contaminants. The table below shows those contaminants that were detected in the water. Because the concentrations of certain substances do not change frequently, the state requires us to monitor for these substances less often than once per year. In these cases, the most recent sample data are included, along with the year in which the sample was taken. Seventy-three other contaminants were also tested for and not found in the water.

| SUBSTANCE | Year Sampled | MCL (Maximum amount allowed) | MCLG (ideal amount or less) | Maximum Result | Sample Range | MCL Violation | Major Sources |
|--|--------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------|------------------|---------------|--|
| REGULATED AT THE SOURCE | | | | | | | |
| Nitrate | 2019 | 10 ppm | 10 ppm | 1.2 ppm | 0-1.2 ppm | No | Runoff from fertilizer use, leaching from septic tanks & sewage, erosion of natural deposits |
| Radium 228 | 2018 | 5 pCi/L | 0 | 0.484 pCi/L | 0-0.484 pCi/L | No | Erosion of natural deposits |
| Gross Alpha Particles | 2018 | 15 pCi/L | 0 | <0.426 pCi/L | <0.426 pCi/L | No | Decay of natural and man-made deposits |
| Arsenic | 2019 | 10 ppb | 0 | 1.2 ppb | 0-1.2 ppb | No | Erosion of natural deposits |
| UNREGULATED AT THE SOURCE | | | | | | | |
| Sodium | 2019 | Not regulated | Not regulated | 20 ppm | 8.8-20 ppm | Not regulated | Erosion of natural deposits |
| Calcium | 2019 | Not regulated | Not regulated | 24 ppm | 14-24 ppm | Not regulated | Erosion of natural deposits |
| Magnesium | 2019 | Not regulated | Not regulated | 15 ppm | 2.6-15 ppm | Not regulated | Erosion of natural deposits |
| TOC (Total Organic Carbon) | 2019 | Not regulated | Not regulated | 0.75 ppm | <0.5-0.75 ppm | Not regulated | Organic compounds in surface water |
| Hardness | 2019 | Not regulated | Not regulated | 131 ppm | 11-131 ppm | Not regulated | Erosion of natural deposits |
| REGULATED IN THE DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM | | | | | | | |
| Haloacetic Acids (HAAs) | 2019 | 60 ppb | na | 9.3 ppb | <1.0-9.3 ppb | No | By-product of drinking water disinfection |
| TTHMs (Total Trihalomethanes) | 2019 | 80 ppb | na | 14.1 ppb | 2.8-14.1 ppb | No | By-product of drinking water disinfection |
| Chlorine | 2019 | MRDLG=4 | na | 1.46 ppm | 0.41-1.46 ppm | No | Water additive used as an industry-wide treatment method to control microbes. |
| REGULATED (Secondary) AT THE SOURCE | | | | | | | |
| Substances not considered a risk to human health but can affect aesthetics, such as taste, color, and odor. Results above the SMCL are not considered to be a violation. | | | | | | | |
| Iron | 2019 | SMCL=0.300 ppm | na | 0.009 ppm** | 0-0.009 ppm | No | Erosion of natural deposits |
| Manganese | 2019 | SMCL=0.050 ppm | na | 0.090 ppm** | 0-0.090 ppm | No | Erosion of natural deposits |
| DOH (State) REGULATED | | | | | | | |
| Fluoride | 2019 | 4.00 ppm | 2.00 ppm | 0.89 ppm** | 0.15-0.89 ppm | No | Erosion of natural deposits, water additive which promotes strong teeth |
| Turbidity | 2019 | Not regulated | Not regulated | 0.67 NTU** | 0.03-0.67 NTU | No | Soil runoff/pipe sediments & minerals |
| MICROBIAL STANDARDS IN DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM | | | | | | | |
| Total Coliform | 2019 | <5% positive | 0 | 0 | 0 of 960 samples | No | Sampling technique, coliforms are naturally present in the environment |

**Tacoma Supply

Table Definitions:

MCL (Maximum Contaminant Level): Highest level of a substance that's allowed in drinking water.

MCLG (Maximum Contaminant Level Goal): The level of a substance in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health.

MRDL (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level): The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water.

NA: Not applicable.

NTU (Nephelometric Turbidity Units): Measurement of the clarity, or turbidity, of water.

pCi/L (PicoCuries per Liter): Unit of measurement used for radiological contaminants.

ppb (parts per billion): One part substance per billion parts water (or micrograms per liter).

ppm (parts per million): One part substance per million parts water (or milligrams per liter).

SMCL (Secondary Maximum Contaminant Level): The level above which a substance may affect taste, color and odor but is not considered a risk to human health. Results above this level are not considered a regulatory violation.

Lead and copper monitoring

To reduce the risk of lead and copper exposure, the City water system utilizes a corrosion control program that adjusts pH levels to reduce the corrosiveness of the drinking water. The drinking water system is monitored continuously through water quality analyzers and tested daily to maintain a noncorrosive pH level. In September 2018, the City sampled the lead and copper levels in 45 homes throughout our water system. The results of this sampling showed our corrosion control efforts are working. All sample results showed lead and copper levels were well below the EPA regulatory action levels.

These samples are collected every three years as required by the Department of Health. Another round of sampling will occur in 2021.

The EPA has proposed revisions to the Lead and Copper Rule (LCR) which include a suite of actions to reduce lead exposure in drinking water where it is needed the most. The proposed rule will identify the most at-risk communities and ensure systems have plans in place to rapidly respond by taking actions to reduce elevated levels of lead in drinking water.

| Substance | Unit | Year Sampled | AL | MCLG | Amount Detected (90%) | Number of Homes Above AL | Compliance |
|-----------|---|--------------|-----------|---------|-----------------------|--------------------------|------------|
| Copper | ppm | 2018 | 1.3 ppm | 1.3 ppm | 0.12 ppm | 0 | Yes |
| | Major Sources: Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits | | | | | | |
| Lead | ppm | 2018 | 0.015 ppm | 0 | <0.001 ppm | 0 | Yes |
| | Major Sources: Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits | | | | | | |

Table Definitions:

AL (Action Level): The concentration of a substance which triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow

MCLG (Maximum Contaminant Level Goal): The level of a substance in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health

ppm (parts per million): One part substance per million parts water (or milligrams per liter)

Lead: In Washington State, lead in drinking water comes primarily from materials and components used in household plumbing. Your water may contain more dissolved metals, such as lead, the longer the water remains in your homes plumbing. Elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially in pregnant women and young children.

Reduce potential exposure to lead: For water taps that have not been used for six hours or more, flush water through the tap until the water is noticeably colder before using for drinking or cooking. Use the flushed water for watering plants, washing dishes or general cleaning. Only use water from the cold-water tap for drinking, cooking and making baby formula. Hot water is likely to contain higher levels of lead. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water is available from the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791 or online at EPA.gov/safewater/lead.

Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Regulation Fourth Cycle (UCMR4)

Unregulated contaminants are those that do not yet have a drinking water standard set by the EPA. The purpose of monitoring for these contaminants is to help the EPA decide whether the contaminants should have a standard. In 2019, the City of Kent sampled for 30 different contaminants as required by the EPA and found low levels of four compounds present in our drinking water. The contaminants and their concentration are listed below. For more information, contact the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

| Substance | Unit | Year Sampled | MCL | MCLG | Maximum Result | Sample Range | Compliance |
|-------------------------|--|--------------|---------------|------|----------------|--------------------|------------|
| Manganese | ppm | 2019 | 0.05 ppm | na | 0.012 ppm | 0.003 to 0.012 ppm | Yes |
| | Major Sources: Erosion of natural deposits | | | | | | |
| Haloacetic Acids | | | | | | | |
| HAA5 | ppb | 2019 | 60 ppb | na | 5.5 ppb | 2.5 to 5.5 ppb | Yes |
| | Major Sources: By-product of drinking water disinfection | | | | | | |
| HAA9 | ppb | 2019 | Not regulated | na | 5.9 ppb | 2.6 to 5.9 ppb | na |
| | Major Sources: By-product of drinking water disinfection | | | | | | |
| HAA6Br | ppb | 2019 | Not regulated | na | 1.5 ppb | 0 to 1.5 ppb | na |
| | Major Sources: By-product of drinking water disinfection | | | | | | |

Table Definitions:

MCL (Maximum Contaminant Level): The highest level of a substance that is allowed in drinking water.

MCLG (Maximum Contaminant Level Goal): The level of a substance in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health.

ppm (parts per million): One-part substance per million parts water (or milligrams per liter).

ppb (parts per billion): One-part substance per billion parts water (micrograms per liter).

na: Not applicable.

Important Health Information

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. People with compromised immune systems such as people with cancer, patients undergoing chemotherapy, organ transplant recipients, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, and some elderly and infants can be particularly at-risk for 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 by calling the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at **1-800-426-4791**.



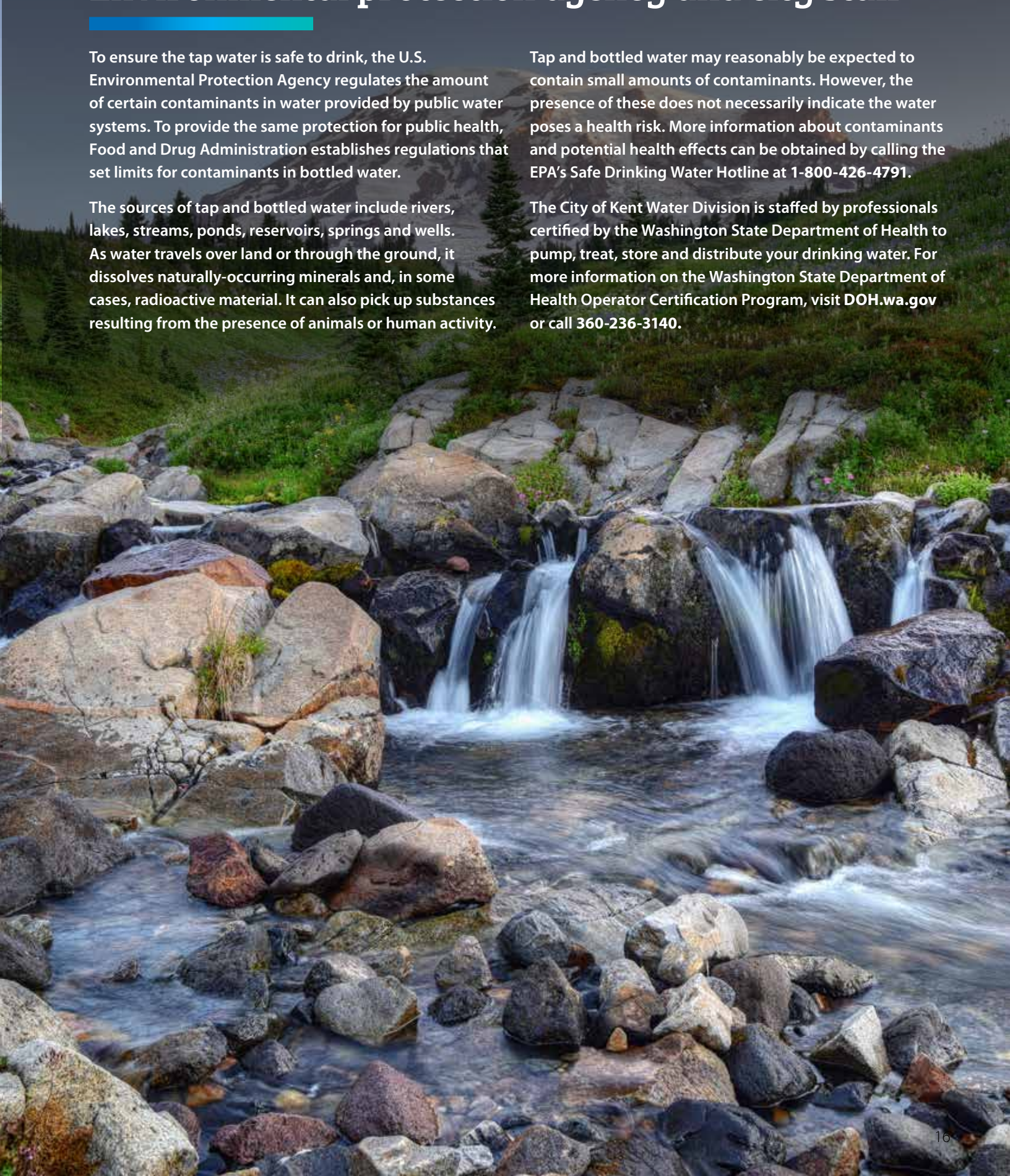
Environmental protection agency and city staff

To ensure the tap water is safe to drink, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency regulates the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. To provide the same protection for public health, Food and Drug Administration establishes regulations that set limits for contaminants in bottled water.

The sources of tap and bottled water include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs and wells. As water travels over land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally-occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material. It can also pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or human activity.

Tap and bottled water may reasonably be expected to contain small amounts of contaminants. However, the presence of these does not necessarily indicate the 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 at 1-800-426-4791.

The City of Kent Water Division is staffed by professionals certified by the Washington State Department of Health to pump, treat, store and distribute your drinking water. For more information on the Washington State Department of Health Operator Certification Program, visit DOH.wa.gov or call 360-236-3140.



Water System FAQs

What is my water pressure?

Water pressure in the distribution system varies by elevation. Call us at **253-856-5600** with your address, and we will provide you with the information for your area.

How do I get my water shut off?

Homeowners and businesses are required by City Code to have a water shut-off valve at their building to use for repairs or plumbing changes. If you do not have one, you are advised to have one installed. In the interim, call Customer Service at **253-856-5200** to request a water shut-off. You may be charged a fee for this service. In no event should you attempt to shut off the water service with the valve at your water meter as both are City property, and you will be charged for all damage you cause to the valve or meter.

Where is my what shut off valve?

Do you know where the water supply shut off valve is in your home? Does everyone else in the family know where it is? If there's an emergency, you'll need to know in a hurry. You can't afford to waste precious minutes searching while the basement floods or the carpets are drenched. These are the most likely locations:

- ◆ Where the water supply pipe enters your home from the City-owned meter in the street/sidewalk
- ◆ Near your clothes washer hook-up
- ◆ Near your hot water heater
- ◆ In your garage

Every home, apartment and business has a master water supply valve. To be sure you've found the right one, try turning it off briefly and see if all the water faucets in the building are shut off. If they aren't, turn it back on and look for the master valve in another location. Once you've found the right valve, mark it with a tag, a bright ribbon or colorful paint. Make it easy to see and keep it accessible. If the worst happens – and we hope it never does – you'll have to find it quickly.

Is the fluoride in my water safe to drink?

Yes. When added or naturally present in the correct amounts, fluoride in drinking water has greatly improved the dental health of American consumers. The amount of fluoride added to your drinking water is maintained at the recommended level set by federal and state regulations (0.5–0.9 ppm). Consult your physician regarding fluoride supplements for children. For more information on fluoride in drinking water, visit the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) website at **CDC.gov/fluoridation**.

I don't like the taste/smell/appearance of my tap water. What's wrong with it?

Even when water meets state and federal standards, you may still object to its taste, smell or appearance. Chlorine taste and odor are the most common objections. We are required to keep a chlorine residual in the distribution system to protect it from contamination and to protect public health. Letting a pitcher of water stand exposed to the air, or in the refrigerator, usually helps reduce the smell and taste of chlorine. Other factors like water age and household plumbing can affect your water's aesthetics as well. In any case, if you have any concerns about your water, call us to come check it for you. Our water quality staff can be reached at **253-856-5600**.

For more Water FAQs, please visit **KentWA.gov/city-hall/public-works/water-system-plan/water-system-faqs**





For more information

Public Works Water Utility

253-856-5600 • 7:30 a.m. – 4 p.m. weekdays
(For emergencies or general water questions including quality, leaks or pressure).

During non-working hours, emergency calls are answered by staff who will contact a water utility employee.

For non-emergencies that can wait until the next business day, visit KentWA.gov and make a “request for service” under the “I Want To...” menu option. A water utility employee will contact you the next business day.



City Administration

City Council 253-856-5712
Mayor's Office 253-856-5700

Utility Billing

Questions, shutoffs 253-856-5200

Permit Center

Plumbing/Permits 253-856-5300
Water Meter Permits 253-856-5300
Planning Services 253-856-5454

Spill Hotlines

City of Kent,
Public Works Operations 253-856-5600

EPA Hotlines

Safe Drinking Water 1-800-426-4791
Radon 1-800-SOS-RADON
EPA.gov/radiation/radionuclides

WA State Dept. of Health, Office of Drinking Water

NW Operations 253-395-6750
Doh.wa.gov/ehp/dw

Kent City Council Meetings 253-856-5712

The Council typically meets on the first and third Tuesdays of each month at 7 p.m. Meetings are held in the Council Chambers of Kent City Hall, 220 Fourth Avenue South, Kent, WA 98032. Please feel free to participate—your input is always welcome!

City Council Committee of the Whole 253-856-5500

City Council Committee of the Whole meetings are held on the second and fourth Tuesdays of every month at 4 p.m.

Kent's Lifeline Program 253-856-5200

Seniors, low income or disabled residents may qualify for Kent's Lifeline Program. The City of Kent offers reduced utility rates for those in need.



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