BEACON HILL
WATER AND SEWER DISTRICT
1121 West Side Highway
Kelso, WA 98626
(360) 636-3860
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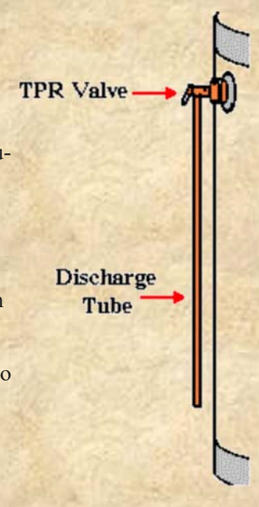
www.bhwsd.org

Water Heater Temperature/Pressure Relief Valves

This safety valve releases water (and thus relieves pressure) if either the temperature or pressure in the tank gets too high.

There are many reasons you may experience high water pressure when you are connected to a municipal system. Often our water mains operate at high pressures in order to deliver water to fire hydrants or homes at a higher elevation. Some of our customers may have a pressure reducing valve that keep delivery below 80 psi. These valves can fail. We also have many customers with backflow devices to prevent water from within their residence from draining back out into the main system. This creates a "closed loop" water system within your property. In this situation when water is heated and the pressure rises, there is no place for it to go and your water heater can become a ticking bomb within your home or business.



The TPR valve should release water (and thus relieves pressure) when necessary. It is important to remember that your tank is designed to do this so provisions should be made for draining in order to prevent damage to your home or business. TPR valves can fail due to sediment, mineral build up, high pressures or overheating so it is important to inspect these valves periodically.

Inspecting The Temperature Pressure Relief Valve

- Faulty pressure relief valves usually become stuck open or closed. When inspecting the valve, the lever should be lifted. This should release fluid from the attached drain line.
- If the water does not flow through the drain line when the lever is lifted, this usually indicates that the valve requires replacing.
- Gently lower the lever back to it's original position. If the valve leaks, even minutes after the lever has been returned to its original position, this also indicates that the valve needs replacing.
- Most water heater manufacturers recommend testing the valve as often as every six months. We recommend that you reference the owners manual.

BEACON HILL
WATER AND SEWER DISTRICT

2017 WATER QUALITY REPORT

Water System ID: 15650 D

Is Your Water Safe…

What the EPA Says About 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 radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity. Contaminants that may be present in water sources include microbes, pesticides, herbicides, organic or inorganic chemicals and radioactive materials. To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA (Environmental Protection Agency) and/or the Washington State Board of Health prescribes regulations that limits the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and/or the Washington State Department of Agriculture regulations establish limits for contaminants in 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) Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791) or at www.epa.gov/safewater.

Should I Take Special Precautions?

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants 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 people, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health-care providers. Guidelines from the Environmental Protection Agency and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 800-426-4791.

We are pleased to present you with this report based on water quality data for the year 2017.

Safe, reliable drinking water is a basic life necessity. Beacon Hill Water and Sewer District (BHWSD) is proud to deliver water to nearly 10,000 people every day. We think it is important for our customers to understand where their water comes from, how safe it is, and what actions we take to ensure its continuing quality. In accordance with federal guidelines, this report provides the information you need to know about the water you drink.

Commissioner Meetings

Commissioner meetings are held the third Wednesday of each month and the public is always welcome to voice comments or concerns.

Meetings are held at 5:15 pm in the upstairs meeting room, 1121 West Side Highway, Kelso, Washington

For more information, or accessibility concerns please contact the office at 636-3860

CONTACT US:

If you have any questions about your water or sewer service, please feel free to contact us. We are here to serve you.

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2017 Water Quality Report

Beacon Hill Water and Sewer District

EPA requires annual reporting on contaminants that have been detected in our water supply. We do this by collecting samples at the source, reservoirs, the distribution system and customer taps.

The City of Longview and Beacon Hill Water and Sewer District monitor over 170 contaminants, including pesticides. Water quality information presented in the table includes the most recent round of testing done in accordance with the regulations. Detectable levels for 11 of these contaminants are reported below.

BHWSD water meets or surpasses federal and state drinking water standards.

WATER QUALITY MONITORING RESULTS

Contaminant	Test Date	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Results	Major Sources	Violations
Arsenic	July 2017	ppb	10	0	3	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronics production wastes	No
Asbestos*	April 2017	mfl	7	7	None Detected	Decay of asbestos cement in water mains; erosion of natural deposits	No
Chlorine	2017	ppm	MRDL =4	MRDLG = 4	0.01-0.88	Water additive used to control microbes	No
Combined Radium	September 2013	ppb	5	N/A	.42	Erosion of natural deposits.	No
Copper**	April 2017	ppb	AL= 1300	1300	38	Corrosion of household plumbing and erosion of natural deposits	No
Fluoride	Dec 2017	ppb	4000	4000	830	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.	No
Gross Alpha	September 2013	ppb	15	0	2.79	Erosion of natural deposits.	No
Haloacetic*** Acids (HAAs)	Q1-Q4 2017	ppb	60	n/a	19.41	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection	No
Lead**	April 2017	ppb	AL=15	0	1	Corrosion of household plumbing, erosion of natural deposits	No
Nitrate	October 2017	ppb	10,000	n/a	≤100	Runoff from fertilizer use, leaching from septic tanks, sewage, erosion of natural deposits	No
Total *** Trihalomethanes	Q1-Q4 2017	ppb	80	n/a	41.76	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection	No

*Federal law requires **asbestos** testing in a nine year compliance period. BHWSD will next test for the presence of asbestos in 2026.

** Federal law requires **copper and lead** testing every three years. BHWSD will next test for the presence of copper and lead in 2020.

***Results are Running Annual Average (RAA)

Definitions in Table

Action Level (AL): The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers a treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.

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.

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 (e.g. chlorine, chloramines, chlorine dioxide).

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 contaminants.

Million Fibers per Liter (MFL): A measurement of the presence in water of asbestos fibers longer than 10 micrometers in length.

Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU): A unit of measurement for light refraction.

Picocuries per liter (pCi/l): A measurement of radiation.

Parts per million (ppm); Parts per billion (ppb): These units describe the levels of detected contaminants. One ppm is about 1/2 of a dissolved aspirin tablet (162.5 mg) in a full bathtub of water (about 50 gallons). One ppb is about one dissolved aspirin tablet (325 mg) in a typical 25-meter length swimming pool (about 100,000 gallons).

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

Turbidity: A unit of measurement for water clarity and may indicate the presence of contaminants.

2017 Water Quality Report

Beacon Hill Water and Sewer District

BHWSD took 96 coliform samples of distribution water and had those samples analyzed by ALS Environmental in Kelso, Washington. All samples for the year were negative for coliform.

Water

BHWSD and the City of Longview are partners in the Longview Regional Water Treatment Plant (RWTP). The RWTP produces the water used by most BHWSD customers, including those in the Columbia Heights, Beacon Hill, Lexington, and Ostrander areas.

Longview's water source (Water System ID No. 48100) is situated on an approximately 10-acre site in the south-central portion of the Mint Farm Industrial Park in Longview, Washington. Geochemical data indicate the primary source of Longview's groundwater is a gravel aquifer that is recharged from the Columbia River. The total depth of the four production wells range from 352 to 385 feet. The wells are screened in the coarse sand and gravel deposits of the deep confined aquifer. The treatment process design includes six greensand filters operating at a flow rate of 5.5 gallons per minute per square foot.

Water Use: Drop It When It's Hot

When the mercury rises on your thermometer, so does your water use. "Peak" water use describes the time of year when residential water use is at its highest, usually in late July or early August. From lawn watering to car washing to filling backyard pools to even washing beach towels more frequently—it all adds up to about four times as much water or more than you use the rest of the year!

- Use the garbage disposal sparingly. Compost vegetable food waste instead and save gallons every time.
- Monitor your water bill for unusually high use. Your bill and water meter are tools that can help you discover leaks.
- For a summer refreshment, keep a pitcher of water in the fridge instead of running the tap until it's cold.
- Use a broom instead of a hose to clean your driveway and sidewalk.
- We're more likely to notice leaks indoors, but don't forget to check outdoor faucets, sprinklers and hoses for leaks.
- Adjust your lawn mower to a higher setting. A taller lawn shades roots and holds soil moisture better than if it is closely clipped.
- Put food coloring in your toilet tank. If it seeps into the toilet bowl without flushing, you have a leak. Fixing it can save up to 1,000 gallons a month.

REMEMBER... conservation not only saves water, it saves you money as well.

Reduce Lead Exposure

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. BHWSD 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 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 (800-426-4791) or at http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.