

## **Arsenic**

Some people who drink water containing arsenic in excess of the MCL over many years could experience skin damage or problems with their circulatory system, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

## **Total Coliform Bacteria**

Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other potentially harmful bacteria may be present. Coliforms were found in more samples than allowed and this was a warning of potential problems.

## **Lead**

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 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>

## **Receivership Order**

In February 2011, Beacon Hill Water and Sewer District became the court appointed emergency receiver for the Columbia Crest Estates water system. The system had been under a Do Not Drink order issued by the Washington State Department of Health since June of 2010. In February this order was lifted. Customers have been able to drink their water from this time forward. The system still requires installation of an asbestos treatment system, but there are no short term restrictions on use.

Currently the District is nearing the end of its operation of the system and is preparing to turn the system over to the newly formed Columbia Crest Estates Water Association. The Water Association will take over management and operation of the system and move forward with the asbestos treatment requirements. BHWSD is confident that the Columbia Crest Estates Water Association with the ongoing support of the Department of Health will continue to provide a safe and reliable water supply for the Columbia Crest residents.

*If you have any questions about this report or its contents, please contact BHWSD at (360) 636-3860.*

## **COLUMBIA CREST**

# **2011 WATER QUALITY REPORT**

Beacon Hill Water and Sewer District is pleased to present the annual Water Quality Report for Columbia Crest Water system (ID 07200P) for 2011.

This report describes the quality and sources of drinking water delivered to you by BHWSD, and the programs undertaken to protect water quality.

This publication complies with a federal law which requires water utilities to provide water quality information to customers every year and is being provided in addition to other notices required by law.

BHWSD is committed to ensuring the continuing quality of your water. Our goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water.



Columbia Crest water is tested regularly through a certified laboratory and meets or exceeds state and federal standards for most contaminants. State and federal regulators routinely monitor our compliance and testing protocols to assure that we deliver safe drinking water to you.

If you have any questions about this report or about your water service, please contact Kim Adamson at:

### **BEACON HILL WATER AND SEWER DISTRICT**

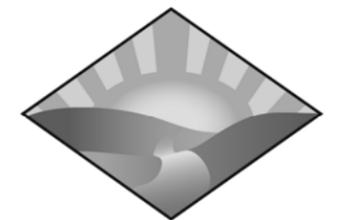
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Phone: (360) 636-3860  
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## **SOURCE INFORMATION**

Columbia Crest is a Class A groundwater system that serves the Columbia Crest Estates development in Kalama, Washington. The source for your water consist of two wells drilled in 1999. The wells draw water from the same aquifer and they are approximately 200-350 feet deep. Water is currently chlorinated prior to delivery using a temporary chlorinator. BHWSD currently operates this system for Cowlitz County which became a temporary receiver in 2011. This report was compiled by BHWSD for the 2011 period. ODW source identifications are Well # ACV 070 and #AHM 076 referred to as S05 and S06 respectively. S06 is considered a confined source. Both sources are rated as having low susceptibility to contamination. For more information on Source Water Assessment, please visit <http://www.doh.wa.gov/ehp/dw/sw/assessment.htm>.

## **BHWSD's Board of Commissioners**

Customers are welcome to comment on the quality of BHWSD water and water service at our Board of Commissioners meetings. These are open, public meetings and are held at the BHWSD (1121 Westside Highway, Kelso) on the second Wednesday of each month at 5:00 p.m.



**BEACON HILL  
WATER AND SEWER DISTRICT**

## WATER QUALITY MONITORING RESULTS

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

In February of 2011 BHWSD became responsible for water quality sampling.

BHWSD performs monthly water system tests for the presence of coliform. All coliform test samples taken in 2011 were within federal and state standards. In addition to the substances listed below, BHWSD tested for 16 inorganic contaminants, 32 synthetic organic contaminants and 19 volatile organic contaminants. None of these substances were detected at reportable levels.



Contaminants	MCLG	MCL	Your Water		Sample date	Violation?	Typical Sources
			Low	High			
<b>Inorganic Contaminant (mg/L)</b>							
Arsenic (mg/L)	0	0.010	0.010	0.032	2011	Yes	Erosion of natural deposits, runoff from orchards, runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
Nitrate (mg/L)	10	10	< 0.10	0.18	2011	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tank sewage; erosion of natural deposits.
Sodium	NA	NA	18.6	45	2007	No	
Contaminants	MCLG	AL	Amount Detected	Number Samples Exceeding AL	Violation	Typical Sources	
<b>Inorganic Contaminant (5 samples were collected in 2009)</b>							
Copper (mg/L)	0	1.3	90% of homes tested had copper below 0.052	No samples exceeded the action level	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits.	
Lead	0	0.015	Lead was not detected in any of the homes sampled	No samples exceeded the action level	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits.	

## WATER QUALITY INFORMATION

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the Washington State Department of Health (DOH) and Federal Environmental Protection Agency (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 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 materials. It can also pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

Contaminants that may be present in source water are microbes, pesticides, herbicides, organic or inorganic chemicals, and radioactive materials.

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.

**EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline:**  
Toll free: 1 (800) 426-4791

**Important notice:** 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).

### Data Table Key: Unit Descriptions and Important Drinking Water Definitions

mg/L	Milligrams per liter: number of milligrams of substance in one liter of water
ppm	Parts per million, or milligrams per liter
ppb	Parts per billion, or micrograms per liter
pCi/L	Picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)
ND	Not detected
NA	Not applicable
MCLG	Maximum Contaminant Level Goal: 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.
MCL	Maximum Contaminant Level: This is highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close as feasible using the best available treatment technology.
TT	Treatment Technique: A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
AL	Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
	MRDLG