

**Nisqually Indian Tribe
Leschi and West Nisqually Water System
PWSID: 105300014
Year 2020**

The Nisqually Public Works Department is pleased to present our 2020 Water Quality Report, and annual report designed to inform our customers about our drinking water and the measures we take to provide a safe and health resource. We are committed to providing the heist quality water to our customers and are proud to announce that the Nisqually Community Water System continues to meet federal and state requirements as a safe and dependable drinking water source.



*We do not inherit the earth from
our ancestors.
We borrow it from our children.*

Important Health Information:

Drinking water, including bottled water may reasonably be expected to contain at least a small amount of contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health threat.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons like those with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, organ transplant recipients, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly and infants, can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advance about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/Centers for Disease Control guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline: (800) 426.4791.

Leschi and West Nisqually CWS 2020 Water Quality Report

Is my water safe?

We are pleased to present this year's Annual Water Quality Report (Consumer Confidence Report) as required by the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). This report is designed to provide details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to standards set by regulators agencies. This report is a snapshot of last year's water quality. We are committed to providing you with information because informed customers are our best allies.

Do I need to take special precautions?

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised person such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, person who have undergone organ transplant recipients, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly and infants, can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advance about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/Centers for Disease Control guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline: (800) 426.4791.

Where does my water come from?

The Leschi and West Nisqually Community Water System is supplied by three groundwater wells.

Source water assessment and its availability?

None.

Why are there contaminants in my drinking water?

Drinking water, including bottled water may reasonably be expected to contain at least a small amount of contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health threat. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Safe Drinking Water Hotline: (800) 426.4791. The source of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) includes 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 case, radioactive materials, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity:

Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, that may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operation, and wildlife; inorganic contaminants, such as salt and metals, which can be naturally occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial, or domestic wastewater discharge, oil and gas production, mining or farming; pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas station, urban storm water 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, EPA prescribes regulation that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulation establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must be provide the same protection for public health.

How can I get involved?

Contact your water system.

Description of Water Treatment Process:

Your water is treated by distillation. Disinfection involves the addition of chlorine or other disinfectant to kill dangerous bacteria and microorganisms that may be in the water. Disinfection is considered to be one of the major public health advances of the 20th century.

Water Conservation Tips:

Did you know that the average U.S. household uses approximately 400 gallons of water per day or 100 gallons per person per day? Lucky, there are many low-cost and no-cost ways to conserve water. Small change can make a big difference – try on today and soon it will become second nature.

- Take short showers – a 5 minute shower uses 4 to 5 gallons of water compared to up to 50 gallons for a bath.
- Shut off water while brushing your teeth, washing your hair and shaving and save up to 500 gallons a month.
- Use a water-efficient showerhead. They're inexpensive, easy to install, and can save you up to 750 gallons a month.
- Run your clothes water and dishwasher only when they are full. You can save up to 1,000 gallons a month.
- Water plants only when necessary.

- Fix leaky toilets and faucets. Faucet washer are inexpensive and take only a few minutes to replace. To check your toilet for leak, place a few drops of food coloring in the tank and wait. If it seeps in the toilet bowl without flushing, you have a leak. Fixing it or replacing it with a new, more efficient model can save up to 1,000 gallons a month.
- Adjusting sprinklers so only your lawn is watered. Apply water only as fast as the soil can absorb it and during cooler parts of the day to reduce evaporation.
- Teach your kids about water conservation to ensure a future generation that uses water wisely. Make it a family effort to reduce next month's water bill!
- Visit www.epa.gov/watersense for more information.

Cross Connection Control Survey:

The purpose of this survey is to determine whether a cross-connection may exist at your home or business. A cross connection is an unprotected or improper connection to a public water distribution system that may cause contamination or pollution to enter the system. WE are responsible for enforcing cross-connection control regulations and insuring that no contaminants can, under any flow conditions, enter the distribution system. If you have any of the devices listed below please contact us so we can discuss the issue, and if needed, survey your connection and assist you in isolating it if that is necessary.

- Boiler/Radiant heater (water heaters not included)
- Undergrown lawn sprinkler system
- Pool or hot tub (whirlpool tubs not included)
- Addition sources(s) of water on the property
- Decorative pond
- Watering trough

Source Water Protection Tips:

Protection of drinking water is everyone's responsibility. You can help protect your community's drinking water source in several ways:

- Eliminate excess use of lawn and garden fertilizers and pesticides – they contain hazardous chemicals that can reach your drinking water source.

- Pick up after your pet.
- If you have your own septic system, properly maintain your system to reduce leaching to water sources or consider connection to a public water system.
- Dispose of chemicals properly; take used motor oil to a recycling center.
- Volunteer in your community. Find a watershed or wellhead protection organization in your community and volunteer to help. If there are not active groups, consider starting one. Use EPA's Adopt Your Watershed to locate groups in your community or visit the Watershed Information Network's How to Start a Watershed Team.
- Organize a storm drain stenciling project with your local government or water supplier. Stencils a message next to the street drain reminding people "Dump No Waste – Drains to River" or "Protect Your Water." Produce and distribute a flyer for household to remind residents that storm drains dump directly into your local water body.

Addition Information for 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. Leschi and West Nisqually CWS 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: (800) 426.4791 and/or visit the website @ <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

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Water Quality Data Table

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA sets regulations to limit contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The table below lists all contaminants that were detected during 2020. Although many more contaminants were tested, only those substances listed below were found in your water.

All sources of drinking water contain some naturally occurring contaminants. At low levels, these substances are generally not harmful in our drinking water. Removing all contaminants would be extremely expensive, and in most cases, would not provide increased protection of public health. A few naturally occurring minerals may improve the taste of drinking water and have nutritional value.

The EPA or the State requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not vary significantly from year to year, or the system is not considered vulnerable to this contamination. As such, some of our data, though representative, may be more than one year old. Please see definitions in the table below.

Unit Descriptions	
Term	Definition
Mg/L	Milligrams per liter
ug/L	Micrograms per liter
pCi/L	Picocuries per liter

Important Drinking Water Definitions	
Term	Definition
MCL	MCL: Maximum Contaminant Level: 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.
TT	TT: Treatment Technique: A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
AL	AL: Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

2020 Regulated Contaminants Detected

CONTAMINANT	SAMPLE DATE	RESULT or RANGE	MCL	UNITS	CONTAMINANT DESCRIPTION
Chlorine	2020	0.2	4	MG/L	Water additive used to control microbes

Violations Table

DRINKING WATER REGULATION	COMPLIANCE PERIOD	VIOLATION DESCRIPTION
Lead and Copper Rule (LCR) LCR protects public health by minimizing lead and copper levels in drinking water, primarily by reducing water corrosivity. Lead and copper enter drinking water mainly from corrosion of lead and copper containing plumbing materials.		
Lead Consumer Notice	01/01/2020	We failed to provide timely lead tap water results to consumers where it was tested.
Revised Total Coliform Rule (RTCR) RTCR prevents waterborne diseases caused by E. coli bacteria whose presence indicate contamination by animal or human waste. These pathogens can cause short terms health effects, such as diarrhea, cramps, headaches or nausea.		
Total Coliform Monitoring	12/01/2020 – 12/31/2020	We did not collect all required bacteria samples during that time.