

# 2018 Annual Water Quality Report King County Water District 20

Volume 20  
June 2018



Gary G. Coy, *President*  
Russ Pritchard, *Secretary*  
Darold Doell, *Commissioner*  
Michael Martin,  
*General Manager*

## News from the Manager

This is the twentieth annual Water Quality Report to our customers. This report describes the District's drinking water sources and quality for 2017 and how this quality compares to allowable EPA limits. Federal regulations require that water utilities provide information to their customers annually. Water District 20 and the City of Seattle are proud of their water systems and want to share this information with you to help you make informed decisions about your drinking water.

### 2018 Water Main Replacement Capital Improvement Project:

**Schedule A:** The 12" cast iron pipe will be upgraded to 12" ductile iron on S 96th St at 8th Ave S. Due to a King County project, the main needs to be relocated.

**Schedule B:** On 14th Ave S from 95th Ave S to S Director St, the 6" cast iron pipe will be upgraded to 8" ductile iron.

**Schedule C:** On Des Moines Memorial Dr S between S 116th St and S 112th St, 8" cast iron pipe will be replaced with 8" ductile iron.

### Annual Flushing

Water mains are flushed throughout the District annually to maintain high water quality. If you see water running down your street and you do NOT see our sign, please contact the office.



Please let us know if you have any ideas on how the District can serve you better.

Michael Martin, **General Manager**

## Information for Water District 20 Customers



**Changing of the guard!** General Manager Dick Swaab is retiring after more than 39 years of dedicated service to Water District 20. Dick started his career as a meter reader and worked his way up the ladder serving as field technician, Foreman and Superintendent. He was promoted to General Manager in March 2005. Over the past 13 years as General Manager, Dick has overseen all aspects of the operation of the District, from policy decisions and financial planning to implementing major changes to the water system to meet the future water demands of the community. Dick looks forward to spending his retirement with friends and family in the local community and would like to personally thank the District and the rate payers for having the opportunity to represent Water District 20 for the past 39 years.

Effective June 1st, the District's Board of Commissioners has appointed Cross Connection Control Specialist Michael Martin as the new General Manager. Mike has served the District over the past seven years in many capacities and is excited at the opportunity to represent Water District 20 and its ratepayers.

The Board and staff wish to acknowledge Dick for his accomplishments and wish him well in his future adventures!

### Healthy Rivers, Fish and You

May and June signal the start of summer and peak water use season. We use more water in our yards and gardens at the time of year when rainfall drops. Conserving water in summer and fall when streams are low helps protect salmon and their habitat....and saves you money! Look for the **Salmon SEEs** campaign during the summer and fall months for the latest information on when and where the fish can be found and thank you for using water wisely.

### TELL US WHAT YOU THINK ABOUT USING WATER WISELY!

2018 is the fourth year for the Annual Customer Survey. Go to [www.savingwater.org](http://www.savingwater.org) and take our survey. Enter to win a free home water and energy savings kit.

Visit the Cedar River Watershed Education Center! To redeem the offer, go online to schedule a tour using the promo code on the coupon.

- ◆ Education Center & Exhibits: Visitor's Center open April through October
- ◆ Public Programs: check the 2018 Public Field Programs catalog
- ◆ Field trips for 4th & 5th grades: Information available for teachers on the website. Register for lottery by August 1st.



### WATERSHED TOURS

The Cedar River Watershed Education Center is only 35 miles east of Seattle, at beautiful Rattlesnake Lake. The Center is open year-round, Tuesday-Sunday from 10 to 5. Visiting the Center is free.

Tours are available July - September. (\$10 adults; \$5 youth & seniors ages 55 and older.)

**\$5 OFF**  
EACH TICKET

**CEDAR RIVER WATERSHED EDUCATION TOUR**  
Register and redeem at:  
[www.seattle.gov/util/cedarriverwatershed](http://www.seattle.gov/util/cedarriverwatershed)  
Click on "Programs and Tours" PROMO CODE: WATER  
Valid July-September 2018.

## 2017 Water Quality

The results of 2017 regional water quality testing are summarized in the table below. All of the compounds found in the Cedar River supply were found to be at lower levels than allowed by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

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 (800) 426-4791.

Detected Compounds	Units	Major Source	Ideal Goal (MCLG)	Maximum Allowable (MCL)	Average	Range	Complies?
Raw Water							
Total Organic Carbon	ppm	Naturally present in the environment	NA	TT	0.8	0.3 to 1.5	√ Yes
Cryptosporidium	#/100L	Naturally present in the environment	NA	NA	ND	ND	√ Yes
Finished Water							
Turbidity	NTU	Soil Runoff	NA	TT	0.3	0.2 to 2.5	√ Yes
Arsenic	ppb	Erosion of natural deposits	0	10	0.5	0.4 to 0.6	√ Yes
Barium	ppb	Erosion of natural deposits	2000	2000	1.7	1.4 to 1.9	√ Yes
Bromate	ppb	By-product of drinking water disinfection	0	10	0.4	ND-1	√ Yes
Chromium	ppb	Erosion of natural deposits	100	100	0.27	0.25 to 0.33	√ Yes
Fluoride	ppm	Water additive that promotes strong teeth	4	4	0.7	0.3 to 0.9	√ Yes
Total Trihalomethanes	ppb	By-products of drinking water chlorination	NA	80	Average = 35 Range = 26 to 43		
Haloacetic Acids (5)	ppb	By-products of drinking water chlorination	NA	60	Average = 26 Range = 13 to 30		
Chlorine	ppm	Additive used to control microbes	MRDLG=4	MRDL=4	Average = 0.9 Range = 0.7 to 1.1		

Note: Cryptosporidium not detected in any samples from the Cedar River Supply (3 samples).

**DEFINITIONS**

**MCLG:** (Maximum Contaminant Level Goal) The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLG's allow for a margin of safety.

**MCL:** (Maximum Contaminant Level) The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCL's are set as close to the MCLG's as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

**MRDL:** (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level) 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.

**MRDLG:** (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal) The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLG's do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

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

**NTU:** (Nephelometric Turbidity Unit) Turbidity is a measure of how clear the water looks. The turbidity MCL that applied to the Cedar supply in 2017 is 5 NTU.

**NA:** Not applicable      **ND:** Not detected

**ppm:** 1 part per million = 1 mg/L = 1 milligram per liter

**ppb:** 1 part per billion = 1 ug/L = 1 microgram per liter

**1 ppm :** 1,000 ppb

## About your drinking water....

The EPA sets drinking water quality standards and establishes testing methods and monitoring requirements for water utilities. The EPA sets maximum levels for water contaminants and requires utilities to give public notice whenever a violation occurs. The contaminants that might be expected to occur in water include biological contaminants such as virus and bacteria, inorganic contaminants such as salts and minerals, organic contaminants such as by-products of the water disinfection process, pesticides and herbicides, and radioactive contaminants from natural or man-made deposits.

Your drinking water was monitored 365 days a year and was tested for over 100 compounds. The tests are done before and after treatment and while your water is in the distribution system. The tables on the adjacent page show the detected contaminants and compares them to the limits and goals set by the EPA and Washington State Department of Health to ensure your tap water is safe. Please note that your water falls safely within state and federal guidelines for each and every contaminant, significantly below the EPA's levels.

Not listed are the over 100 other contaminants that were tested for, but not detected, in your drinking water. If you would like a list of the other compounds, please call Seattle Public Utilities at **(206) 615-0827**.

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, and 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/Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Water Drinking Hotline:

**(800) 426-4791.**



Chester Morse Lake in the Cedar River Watershed



## District and Regional Goals

In 2017, Water District 20 purchased 880 million gallons (1,177,081 ccf) of water from Seattle Public Utilities and had a distribution system leakage rate of 8.1% (70,984,452 gallons). The Saving Water Partnership (SWP), which is made up of Water District 20 and its 18 water utility partners, has set a six-year conservation goal: reduce per capita use from current levels so that the SWP's total average annual retail water use is less than 105 mgd (million gallons per day) from 2013 through 2018 despite forecasted population growth. In order to meet the goal, the amount of water used per person will need to decrease to offset growth. For 2017, the Saving Water Partnership met the

goal using 96.6 mgd.

Within WD20, two Multi Unit building replaced 38 toilets using the Multifamily Toilet Rebate Program (Premium 1.1 gpf or less = \$200) and 25 single family residences replaced 28 toilets using the \$100 rebate for the Premium 1.1 gpf (or less) toilets.

Two schools participated in the Youth Education classroom presentations:

Water Cycle Terrariums was presented to 49 Beverly Park Elementary 2nd graders and 42 Southern Heights Elementary K/1st graders.

Visit the Saving Water Partnership website at [savingwater.org](http://savingwater.org) to learn more about reducing

water usage at your home or business. The following services are available:

- Water Conservation Hotline: 206-684-SAVE (7283)
- Regional Garden Hotline 206-633-0224
- Regional Language Line offering language interpretation by phone
- Take home items such as toilet leak detection kits and hose washers
- Technical assistance on residential and commercial irrigation and commercial indoor efficiency issues

## 2015 Lead and Copper Testing Results

Parameter/Units	MCLG	Action Level*	Results of 2015 Samplings <sup>1</sup>	Homes Exceeding Action Level	Source
Lead, ppb	0	15	4.0	0 of 50	Corrosion of household plumbing systems. These sample were collected in homes within the Cedar River service area.
Copper, ppm	1.3	1.3	0.161	0 of 50	

\*The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

<sup>1</sup>90th percentile: 90 percent of the samples were less than the values shown.

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. King County Water District No. 20 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>.



King County Water District No. 20  
12606 First Avenue South  
Burien, Washington 98168-2617  
<https://www.kcwd20.com>

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*Commissioners:* Gary G. Coy, Russ Pritchard, Darold Doell  
Michael Martin, *General Manager*, Lisa Gee, *Office Manager*, Chris Cordi, *Superintendent*



The Board of Commissioners meets on the first and third Wednesday of each month at 10:00 AM.  
The meetings are held at the District office located at  
12606 First Avenue South, Burien. For information, contact the District at (206) 243-3990  
Fax (206) 244-7514, email: [info@kcwd20.com](mailto:info@kcwd20.com)

This report contains important information about your drinking water. Have someone translate it for you, or speak with someone who understands it.

### BILLING INFORMATION

The Fixed Charge (FC) is explained on the back of your bill. All connections to the water system are charged a Fixed Charge based on the size of the meter. The Fixed Charge covers the costs of running the District including \$3 per bi-monthly billing for streetlights. Installation of streetlights became part of the Comprehensive Plan of Water District 20 in 1959. While Seattle Public Utilities retains ownership of the fixtures, the District pays for the streetlights and their upkeep. The **SPU outage hotline is 206-684-7056** or e-mail [street.light@seattle.gov](mailto:street.light@seattle.gov)

Water is billed using bi-monthly meter readings and is separate from the Fixed Charge. Consumption is billed by "ccf". 1ccf = 100 cubic feet, which is equivalent to 748 gallons. Beginning with the January 2018 bills, new billing rates went into effect as follows:

- 0 to 10 ccf is billed at \$2.25 per ccf
- 11 to 30 ccf is billed at \$2.87 per ccf
- 31 ccf and above is billed at \$3.42 per ccf

Options for making payments are:

- 1) in person with cash, check, money order or credit/debit card
- 2) by phone with credit/debit card
- 3) Electronic Funds Transfer (automatic withdrawal with checking or savings account)  
Enrollment form available on our website or contact office to have mailed or e-mailed
- 4) \*online at <https://kcwd20.com> with credit/debit card

**\*PLEASE NOTE: WATER DISTRICT 20 DOES NOT CHARGE A FEE TO PAY ONLINE—BE SURE YOU ARE ON OUR WEBSITE**

Please contact the office during business hours Monday through Friday 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM if you have any questions regarding your bill and payment options.