

WICKIUP WATER DISTRICT

Consumer Confidence Report 2026



Serving the Svensen Community since 1938

Water Quality Report for Public Water System #4100063

We are pleased to present this year's Annual Water Quality Report (Consumer Confidence Report) as required by the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). There are more than 120 water quality standards for potential contaminants in drinking water supplies in Oregon. We monitor for contaminants according to state and federal law. This report is designed to provide details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to standards set by regulatory agencies. This report provides information on the District's water sources and quality control from data taken during the 2025 calendar year. Please share this information with anyone who drinks this water (or their guardians), especially those who may not have received this report directly.

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, 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 Water Drinking Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

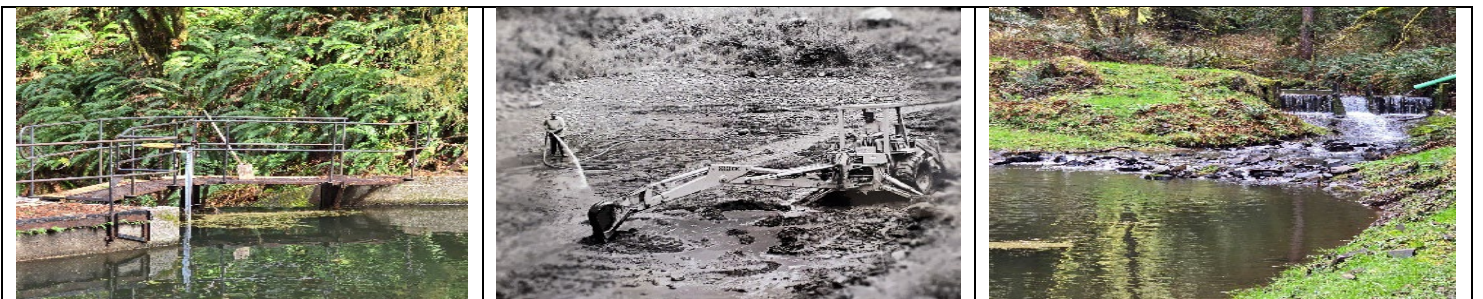
All drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least a small amount of contaminants. The presence of these contaminants does not necessarily indicate the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

WHERE DOES MY WATER COME FROM?

Wickiup Water District's drinking water is supplied by three intakes. Intakes are located in the Big Creek/Gnat Creek Watershed in the Lower Columbia Sub-Basin of the Pacific Northwest Basin. The streams that contribute to the intakes extend upstream a cumulative total of 5.56 miles and encompass a total area of 2.12 square miles.



Our slow sand treatment plant (shown above) on Akerstedt (entry point A) receives its water from John Day Creek, also known as Big Fat Buck, and a small tributary to the John Day Creek, locally known as Little Fat Buck.



Our rapid sand plant on Palmrose (entry point B) receives its water from Little Creek.

Both plants are monitored daily. At our Little Creek plant the Turbidity and Chlorine are monitored 24 hours a day and recorded on our SCADA (Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition) system. The system also tracks water flow, pressure, and key water quality indicators. If anything unusual happens, an alarm alerts our operator immediately for prompt action. For water storage and fire protection, there is an epoxy-coated bolted-steel 450,000 gallon tank at Little Creek. A 200,000 gallon welded steel tank at the Slow Sand facility, and a 200,000 gallon welded-steel reservoir on Ivy Station Rd. Each tank is inspected regularly.

SOURCE WATER ASSESSMENT AND ITS AVAILABILITY

Previously, the State of Oregon has performed an assessment of our source waters to identify potential sources of contamination to our drinking water. A total of seven potential contamination sources were identified within the District's drinking water protection area. A copy of the source water assessment is available by request.

WHY ARE THERE CONTAMINANTS IN MY DRINKING WATER?

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 material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

- Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, that may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.
- Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can naturally occur or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial, or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.
- Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses.
- Organic Chemical Contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems.
- 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 regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

PER- AND POLYFLUOROALKYL SUBSTANCES (PFAS)

As part of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Fifth Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR 5), Wickiup Water District is currently participating in a nationwide effort to monitor for per-and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) in drinking water. PFAS are a group of man-made chemicals that have been used in a variety of industrial and consumer products and are known for their persistence in the environment and the human body. UCMR 5 requires public water systems like ours to test for 29 PFAS compounds and lithium using highly sensitive analytical methods capable of detecting contaminants at extremely low levels (parts per trillion). These tests are designed to help the EPA determine how frequently these substances occur in drinking water systems and at what levels, as a step toward potentially setting future regulatory limits. Our participation ensures transparency, proactive planning, and continued protection of public health.

Wickiup Water District has started initial monitoring under the EPA's Fifth Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR 5). Testing was conducted for 29 PFAS compounds using EPA-approved analytical methods capable of detecting contaminants at extremely low concentrations. The results of initial sampling showed no detectable levels of any of the 29 PFAS compounds analyzed. These results provide additional assurance regarding the quality of Wickiup Water District's drinking water and reflect the District's continued commitment to proactive monitoring and public health protection. Customers may review PFAS monitoring results through the Oregon Health Authority's Drinking Water Data Online website. Please note that, according to the Oregon Health Authority, PFAS monitoring data from UCMR 5 is currently being entered into the state's database as resources allow, and a specific timeline for posting all results is not yet available.

DESCRIPTION OF WATER TREATMENT PROCESS

Water received from the John Day Creek at our slow sand plant is treated with a "slow sand" process. The water flows slowly through the sand and particles are trapped between the grains while a Schmutzdecke biofilm breaks down the organic matter and pathogens, enhancing water quality. Once filtered, water is collected in an underdrain beneath the

sand bed. Water is treated with chlorine and soda ash, which protects the water as it flows to our storage tanks and eventually to the distribution system.

Water from Little Creek is treated in a "treatment train" (a series of processes applied in a sequence) that includes coagulation, flocculation, sedimentation, filtration, and disinfection. Coagulation removes dirt and other particles suspended in the source water by adding chemicals (coagulants) to form tiny sticky particles called "floc," which attract the dirt particles. Flocculation (the formation of larger flocs from smaller flocs) is achieved using gentle, constant mixing. The heavy particles settle naturally out of the water in a sedimentation basin. The clear water then moves to the filtration process where the water passes through sand, gravel, charcoal, or other filters that remove even smaller particles. A small amount of chlorine or other disinfection method is used to kill bacteria and other microorganisms (viruses, cysts, etc.) that may be in the water before water is stored and distributed to homes and businesses in the community.

CORROSION CONTROL

Corrosion of pipes, plumbing fittings, and fixtures may cause lead and copper to enter drinking water. To assess corrosion of lead and copper, Wickiup Water District conducts tap sampling for lead and copper at selected sites every three years. We treat water using soda ash to control corrosion, which was designated as the optimal corrosion control treatment by the Authority. To ensure the treatment is operating effectively, we monitor water quality parameters set by the Authority.

INFORMATION FOR LEAD

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), under the Lead and Copper Rule, required all water systems to complete an inventory of water service lines to identify any lead containing pipes. What is a service line? Service lines are the smaller pipes that connect to the larger water main pipes that bring water to your home.

The Service Line Inventory is part of Wickiup Water District's ongoing work to provide safe, reliable drinking water. Service lines were inspected by the former DRC when new radio read meters were installed and it was reported there are no lead service lines in our system. To view the full inventory, visit <https://wickiupwater.specialdistrict.org/service-line-inventory>.

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. Wickiup Water District is responsible for providing high quality drinking water and removing lead pipes but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components in your home. You share the responsibility for protecting yourself and your family from the lead in your home plumbing. You can take responsibility by identifying and removing lead materials within your home plumbing and taking steps to reduce your family's risk.

Before drinking tap water, flush your pipes for several minutes by running your tap, taking a shower, doing laundry or a load of dishes. You can also use a filter certified by an American National Standards Institute accredited certifier to reduce lead in drinking water. If you are concerned about lead in your water and wish to have your water tested, contact Wickiup Water District by calling 503-458-6555 or emailing: matt@wickiupwaterdistrict.com. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at: <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

CROSS CONNECTION AND ANNUAL BACKFLOW TESTING

To ensure clean, safe, potable water, Wickiup Water District maintains a Cross Connection Control Program as required by the Oregon Health Authority. This program is designed to protect the water system from potential contamination through cross connections. All customers with a backflow device are required to have it tested annually by a state-certified tester. The results from those tests are due to the District no later than **September 30, 2026**.

WATER QUALITY DATA

Our staff is committed to providing safe, high-quality water to our customers. We achieve this by continuously monitoring for contaminants and pollutants to ensure compliance with regulatory standards. Specifically, water is monitored daily for proper disinfectant and turbidity. In order to ensure the tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Our water is tested for both regulated and nonregulated contaminants as required by state and federal guidelines. 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. A contaminant is defined as any substance in water. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate the water poses a health risk. Some contaminants are only of concern if they are detected at certain levels. To ensure safety and compliance, Wickiup Water District follows a rigorous testing protocol. Samples are collected and refrigerated immediately. They are then sent to a certified laboratory for analysis. Results are sent directly to the Oregon Health Authority (OHA). We then compile this annual report to share those findings with you. In the event any sample exceeds its limit, if the rare event that happens, we re-test immediately. If the exceedance is confirmed, we take immediate corrective action. We notify our affected customers and relevant authorities. Safety is always our top priority.

CONTAMINANT MONITORING

Slow Sand – Entry Point A	Violation	EPA	Your Water	Common Source of Contamination
Bromodichloromethane	No	.0005 mg/l	.0057 mg/l	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Chloroform	No	.0005 mg/l	.0216 mg/l	By-product of the chlorination process
Dibromochloromethane	No	.0005mg/l	.0008 mg/l	
Nitrate	No	10.0 ppm	.473 ppm	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks; sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Turbidity	No	1.0 ntu	.77 ntu	Soil runoff TT=100% of daily reading less than 1 NTU
Little Creek – Entry Point B	Violation	EPA	Your Water	Common Source of Contamination
Bromodichloromethane	No	.0005 mg/l	.0048 mg/l	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Chloroform	No	.0005 mg/l	.0059 mg/l	By-product of the chlorination process
Dibromochloromethane	No	.0005 mg/l	.0026 mg/l	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Nitrate	No	10.0 ppm	.750 ppm	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks; sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Turbidity	No	1.0 ntu	.32 ntu	Soil runoff TT=100% of daily reading less than 1 NTU
Distribution System – Keller Rd.	Violation	EPA	Your Water	Common Source of Contamination
Haloacetic Acids:	No	0.060	0.0407	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Dichloroacetic Acid			0.0192	
Trichloroacetic Acid			0.0215	
Trihalomethanes:	No	0.080	0.0585	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Chloroform			0.0488	
Bromodichloromethane			0.0078	
Dibromochloromethane			0.0019	

LEAD & COPPER TEST RESULTS -- 2023

The District is required to test again in 2026

	Violation	EPA	Your Water	Common Source of Contamination
Lead – sample count 10	No	.015	.0040 mg/l	Household plumbing systems
Copper – sample count 10	No	1.3	0	Household plumbing systems

Unit Descriptions and Important Drinking Water Definitions

<u>Term</u>	<u>Definition</u>	<u>Term</u>	<u>Definition</u>
ppm	parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/L)	ND	ND: Not detected
ppb	parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (µg/L)	NR	NR: Monitoring not required, but recommended
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. 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	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.		
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.		
MNR	Monitored Not Regulated		
MPL	MPL: State Assigned Maximum Permissible Level		

To learn more, view test results, or ask questions: • Visit the Oregon Health Authority Drinking Water Program at www.oregon.gov/oha • Contact us at (503) 458-6555 • Visit us online at <https://wickiupwater.specialdistrict.org>. The commissioners meet on the second Tuesday each month, in the district office at 92648 Svensen Market Rd., Astoria, OR 97103, at 6:00 p.m. Community participation is welcome.