2025 DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT

Precipitation and snowmelt from the Cascade Mountains are collected in Spada Lake Reservoir.

From Spada, water travels to the City's water treatment plant at Chaplain Reservoir.

Your drinking water is regulated by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), who sets drinking water quality standards, establishes testing methods and monitoring requirements for water utilities, sets maximum levels for water contaminants, and requires utilities to give public notice whenever a violation occurs.

The Everett Water Filtration Plant treats the water using coagulation, flocculation, filtration, and disinfection.

Water transmission lines carry drinking water to Silver Lake Water & Sewer District.

Treated water—falling safely within state and federal guidelines and significantly below the EPA's levels—is delivered to over 670,000 people / roughly 75 percent of all homes and businesses in Snohomish County, at a cost of less than a penny a gallon.

Silver Lake Water and Sewer District tests your drinking water before and after treatment, and while your water is in the distribution system, to ensure that high quality water is delivered to your home 365 days a year. Over 200 compounds are tested and not detected in your drinking water; most of this monitoring occurs once every several years. No asbestos monitoring is required for our District because all asbestos pipe in our system was replaced before 1991.

The Tables on the following pages list all contaminants detected in the most recent required water testing, along with the limits and goals set by the EPA and the State of Washington to ensure your tap water is safe. As this year's Water Quality Report demonstrates, your drinking water is not only an exceptional value, it is clean, safe, and great-tasting. If you have questions about your water quality, feel free to contact us at (425) 337-3647.

Silver Lake Water & Sewer District
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2025 Water Quality Analysis Results for Silver Lake Water & Sewer District

Detected Regulated Contaminants

Parameter	Major Source	Units	EPA Regulations: Ideal Goal (MCLG)	EPA Regulations: Maximum Allowed (MCL)	SLWSD Water Results: Range or Other	SLWSD Water Results: Avg. or Highest	Comply?
Total Coliform Bacteria	Naturally present in the environment	% Positive	0	5% Positive per Month	None	0%	Yes
Total coliform bacteria monitoring tracks microbial quality in the water distribution system. Beginning of the year SLWSD collected around 70 samples per month in August the District began to collect 78 per month with the total collected for the year 888. No total coliforms were detected in 2025.							
Fluoride	Dental health additive	ppm	2	4	0.2–0.7	0.6	Yes
Fluoride is added to your water in carefully controlled levels for dental health.							
Residual Disinfectant Level (free chlorine)	Added as a disinfectant to drinking water	ppm	4.0 (MRDLG)	4.0 (MRDL)	0.21–1.75	0.81	Yes
Haloacetic Acids (5) (HAA5)	By-product of drinking water chlorination	ppb	N/A	60	26.0–49.4[1]	42.3[2]	Yes
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)	By-product of drinking water chlorination	ppb	N/A	80	29.0–72.0[1]	61.0[2]	Yes
Haloacetic acids and trihalomethanes form as by-products of the chlorination process that is used to kill or inactivate disease-causing microbes. The TTHM and HAA5 results are from eight locations in SLWSD, which are monitored to determine compliance with current regulations. [1]Range of results taken from all eight locations. [2]Highest locational running annual average of the eight sites that were monitored.							
Turbidity	Soil erosion	NTU	N/A	TT	100%	0.04	Yes
Turbidity is a measure of particulates suspended in water in nephelometric turbidity units (NTU) and is used to determine the effectiveness of the treatment process. Particulates in water can include bacteria, viruses and protozoans that can cause disease. The values reported are the lowest monthly percentage of samples that met the EPA turbidity limit, and the highest four-hour combined water turbidity measurement obtained during the year. The EPA turbidity limit is 0.3 NTU. In 2025, no filtered water turbidity results exceeded 0.3 NTU so the lowest percentage that met the EPA limit was 100 percent. The plant targets production of filtered water turbidities of 0.10 NTU or less.							

Detected Unregulated Contaminants

Parameter	Units	Ideal Level / Goal (MCLG)	SLWSD Results: Range Detected	SLWSD Results: Average Value
Bromodichloromethane	ppb	0	1.1–2.3	1.7
Chloroform (trichloromethane)	ppb	70	27.6–70	40.1
Dichloroacetic Acid	ppb	0	ND–20	12.7
Monochloroacetic Acid	ppb	70	ND-3.4	0.8
Trichloroacetic Acid	ppb	20	12–27.2	19.5

These substances are disinfection by-products for which no MCL standard has been set, but which must be monitored to determine compliance with the USEPA Stage 2 Disinfection By-products Rule MCLs for Total Trihalomethanes and Haloacetic acids (5). ND (Not Detected) indicates that the parameter was not detected above the State Reporting Limit.

Voluntary Info

Parameter	Units	Everett Water Results: Range Detected	Everett Water Results: Average Value
Alkalinity[1,2]	ppm	13.2–26.1	17.1
Aluminum[1]	ppm	0.008–0.021	0.02
Arsenic[3]	ppb	<0.1–0.14	0.11
Calcium Hardness[1,2]	ppm	7.6–14.1	9.8
pH[1]	s.u.	7.7–9.3	8.1
Sodium[3]	ppm	4.9–7.1	6.0
Total Hardness[1,2]	ppm	10.2–15.8	12.5

[1]Results from samples collected from 26 locations in the Everett distribution system. [2]Hardness and alkalinity units are in ppm as $CaCO_3$ (calcium carbonate equivalent units). [3]Arsenic and Sodium were monitored at the treatment plant effluent.

Lead, Copper, and pH

Parameter	Major Source	Units	EPA Regulations: Ideal Level/ Goal (MCLG)	EPA Regulations: Action Level (AL)	EPA Regulations: 90th % Level	Everett / SLWSD Water Results: Homes Exceeding the Action Level	Comply?
Lead	Plumbing, erosion of natural deposits	ppb	0	15	4	2 of 109 (1.8%)	Yes
Copper	Plumbing, erosion of natural deposits	ppm	1.3	1.3	0.080	0 of 109 (0.0%)	Yes
USEPA and state regulations require water systems to monitor for the presence of lead and copper at household taps every three years. Lead and copper monitoring is conducted by Everett and many of the water systems that it supplies in the combined service area as a regional group. The above data was collected in 2024. To request a copy of the most recent lead tap sampling data, email everettpw@everettwa.gov. The next required round of sampling will be in 2027. The 90th percent level is the highest result obtained in 90 percent of the samples collected when the results are ranked in order from lowest to highest. In the past, the results for water tested before it enters household plumbing were even lower than the tap results. This indicates that there is virtually no lead or copper in the water, but household plumbing may contribute to lead and copper at the tap.							
pH	Soda ash is added to reduce water corrosivity by increasing pH and alkalinity	Standard Units	Daily Avg 7.6	Min. Daily Avg. 7.3	Avg. 7.6	Min. 7.1	Yes
The Washington State Department of Health requires Everett to operate corrosion control treatment at or above a minimum daily average pH of 7.4. Everett measures pH six times per day (once every four hours). The average daily pH cannot be below 7.4 for more than nine days every six months. In 2025, the average daily pH was below 7.4 for one day from the east clearwell discharge point.							

Table Definitions

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

Contaminant - Any physical, chemical, biological, or radiological substance or matter in water.

MCL: Maximum Contaminant Level

The highest level of a contaminant allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

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.

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. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

NA / Not Applicable

The EPA has not established MCLGs for these substances.

ND / Non Detectable

NTU: Nephelometric Turbidity Unit

Nephelometric Turbidity Unit - a measure of how clear the water looks.

ppm: Parts per Million
ppb: Parts per Billion

A part per million means that one part of a particular contaminant is present for every million parts of water. Similarly, parts per billion indicate the amount of a contaminant per billion parts of water.

S.U.: Standard Units

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

Turbidity - A measure of the number of particulates suspended in water expressed in nephelometric turbidity units (NTU) that is an important test in determining drinking water quality. Particulates in water can include bacteria, viruses and protozoans that can cause disease.

Your Drinking Water Facts and Figures

The following statements are required by the US Environmental Protection Agency

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water flows 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, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations and wildlife.
- Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or result from urban surface water, 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 surface water and residential uses.
- Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and may also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff and septic systems.
- Radioactive contaminants, which can occur naturally or result from oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) prescribes regulations which 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.

Potential contaminants are often measured and regulated in parts per million all the way to parts per trillion. One part per million (ppm) is like dropping two drops of ink into a 10-gallon fish tank. One part per trillion is equal to one drop of water in approximately 20 Olympic-sized swimming pools.

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 any the US Environmental Protection Agency Safe Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

People With Special Concerns

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised people, such as people with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, people 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 and US Center for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

Required Treatment Polymer Statement

During water treatment, organic polymer coagulants are added to improve the coagulation and filtration processes that remove particulates from water. The particulates that are removed can include viruses, bacteria and other disease-causing organisms. The USEPA sets limits on the type and amount of polymer that a water system can add to the water. In addition to the EPA limits, the State of Washington requires that all polymers used be certified safe for potable water use by an independent testing organization (NSF International). During treatment, Everett adds only NSF approved polymers and the levels used are far below the safe limits set by USEPA.

We test your drinking water 365 days a year

Ensuring Our Water Source Continues to Meet its Many Demands

Your drinking water comes from the Spada Lake Reservoir, located about 30 miles east of Everett, at the headwaters of the Sultan River. Created in 1964, this 50 billion gallon storage facility collects rain and snowmelt from the Cascade Mountains, via the Upper Sultan River Watershed. This 80+ square mile watershed is one of the wettest in the continental United States, with an average annual rainfall of 165 inches—five times the rainfall in Everett. To protect the naturally pristine water in Spada Lake Reservoir, water quality in the Sultan Basin is carefully monitored, the watershed is patrolled, and human activities are limited to minimize the impact on water quality; security measures are evaluated and adjusted on an ongoing basis.

Conserving water is critical to ensure the needs of people, industries, businesses, and farms are all met by this unique and exceptional water source, while simultaneously protecting our region's unique habitat for salmon, trout, and other native species.

As a member of the Everett Water Utility Committee (EWUC), Silver Lake Water and Sewer District participates in a regional Water Use Efficiency (WUE) Conservation Program coordinated through the City of Everett. This program is planned, developed, and administered in collaboration with all of the water systems served by the City of Everett, and is funded by water systems revenue.

Close to $9.4 million has been invested in regional water conservation activities since 2001. Our current water use efficiency program includes such activities as school education, indoor and outdoor water conservation items, leak detection kits and support, and indoor/outdoor commercial water audits.

Through these efforts, we have saved more than 9.03 million gallons per day (MGD)—enough water to fill more than 213,176 bathtubs every day.

Conservation planning occurs on a 10-year cycle as part of Everett's Comprehensive Water System Plan. The current plan (2020 – 2029) was issued in mid-2021 and states that the WUE program will reduce the regional demand for water by approximately 1.4 MGD on an annual basis through school education and conservation kits, along with continued support of large water users.

In 2025, 397 workshops were conducted in classrooms throughout Snohomish County, reaching 10,205 students. Water systems provided 1,550 indoor conservation kits, 1,150 kitchen aerators and 4,860 outdoor conservation items. These activities saved an estimated 0.69 million gallons per day (MGD) regionally.. For more information, visit: ***www.everettwa.gov/2819/Water-conservation-and-education-program***

Lead and Copper Monitoring Results

Our regional water supply does not contain lead or copper, nor did Silver Lake Water & Sewer District or the City of Everett discover any lead service lines during the EPA's required Lead Service Line Inventory in 2024, as reported on our respective websites. However, it is possible that lead levels at your home may be higher than other homes in the community as a result of your home's plumbing materials.

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. Silver Lake Water & Sewer District 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 two 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 1-800-426-4791 or at: epa.gov/safewater/lead To learn more about Washington state's efforts addressing lead in schools and licensed childcare facilities, visit doh.wa.gov/community-and-environment/drinking-water/contaminants/lead/lead-schools.

Got one of these?


Sprinkler / Irrigation System


Hot Tub or Jacuzzi

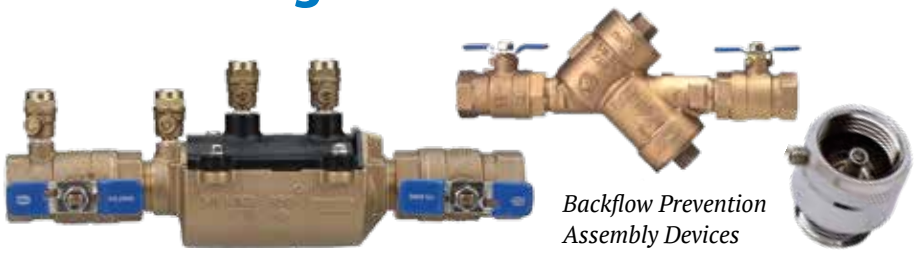

Boiler or Radiant Heat


Water Feature


In-Ground Pool


Fire Sprinkler System

You might need one of these to keep your drinking water safe:


Backflow Prevention Assembly Devices

Keeping our water safe is a two way street. If you have any of the features shown above, OR if you are a business of (most) any kind, we rely on you to 1) be aware of any possible cross-connection to the water system that you might have on your property; 2) to protect those connections with a backflow prevention assembly device; and 3) to have the device tested annually to ensure the safety of public drinking water.

What's a Cross-Connection?

A cross-connection is a point in a plumbing system where a non-potable substance might "backflow" and come into contact with the potable drinking water supply. For homeowners, these typically include irrigation systems, boilers (e.g., for radiant heating), and pool or pond equipment.

To ensure clean, safe drinking water, Washington State Administrative Code (WAC) 246.290.490 requires the District to have a cross-connection control program that monitors backflow protection. For those of you with a backflow assembly device, we'll send you an annual reminder letter when your test is due—***be sure your contact info is up to date for receiving reminders so you can schedule your annual test in advance.*** If you're not sure of your due date, need a list of registered testers, or have questions, please contact us.

Not sure if you already have a backflow prevention assembly device on your property, or whether you need one? Contact us, we're here to help!

Email: backflowtests@slwsd.com • Phone: (425) 659-2304

CONSERVE
BE INFORMED
GET INVOLVED

We at Silver Lake Water & Sewer District encourage public interest and participation in the decisions that affect our drinking water. If you would like to learn more about water quality, please don't hesitate to contact us:

Silver Lake Water & Sewer District
(425) 337-3647 • slwsd.com

City of Everett Water Quality Office
(425) 257-8800 • everettwa.gov/water

State Department of Health
1-(800)-521-0323
https://doh.wa.gov/you-and-your-family/healthy-home/drinking-water

US Environmental Protection Agency
1-(800)-426-4791 • epa.gov/safewater

YOUR OPINION MATTERS

Your water rates pay for everything it takes to operate our system, from treatment, storage, and system improvements, to delivering clean, safe, reliable water to your tap. If you have any questions about your water, feel free to call, email, or join us at our District Commissioner meetings, held in-person and via teleconference, on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of each month at 5:30 p.m. Find upcoming agendas and meeting schedules on our website at www.slwsd.com

Silver Lake Water & Sewer District Elected Officials:

- Commissioner Anne Backstrom
- Commissioner John Warner
- Commissioner Shauna Willner