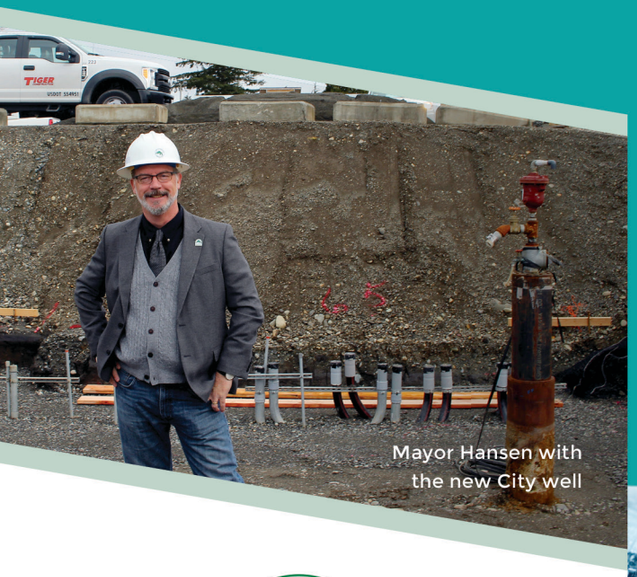
CITY OF FERNDALE

WATER QUALITY

REPORT 2019



Mayor Hansen with the new City well

CITY OF FERNDALE PROVIDES

EXCEPTIONAL WATER FOR YOU!

A WORD FROM OUR MAYOR

In our home where fresh water regularly falls from the sky, it always seems ironic that we have to talk so much about water in Ferndale. Water, even in the Pacific Northwest, is a precious resource; the lifeblood of a community. We need water to sustain us, our agriculture and the beautiful wilderness we all enjoy.

In Ferndale, our community is making significant investments to ensure that everyone has a clean and reliable source of water at a cost that is fair to all. Our Public Works Director, Public Works crew, and Water Treatment Plant staff work tirelessly to make sure that the water flows, but individuals must also do their part. In the summer months, please follow the City watering schedule and where possible, conserve water. You can find water conservation tips at www.cityofferndale.org/water By the end of 2020, our city will begin to integrate water from an additional new source, a new 1,037-foot-deep well, that should provide safe and consistent water for generations to come. The next time you pour a cold glass of water, take a moment to think about the work that went into making that as easy as turning on a faucet.

Greg C. Hansen
Mayor – City of Ferndale

The City has implemented a mandatory watering schedule effective June 1st through September 15th. Residents with odd numbered street addresses are mandated to water only on Wednesdays, Fridays and Sundays. Residents with even numbered street addresses water only on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays. Mondays are non-watering days to allow the City's reservoirs to recharge after the weekend. For more information visit www.Cityofferndale.org or contact the City at 360-384-4302.

WATERING EXEMPTIONS:

The Mandatory Watering Schedule does not apply to the following situations:

- Drip irrigation systems or handheld watering
- Watering of flower and vegetable gardens
- Watering of outdoor potted plants and hanging baskets
- Watering newly planted lawns

MANDATORY WATERING SCHEDULE: JUNE 1 – SEPTEMBER 15

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
✓ ODD	⊗ NO WATERING	✓ EVEN	✓ ODD	✓ EVEN	✓ ODD	✓ EVEN

WHATCOM WATER ALLIANCE Partner

The City of Ferndale is a partner of the Whatcom Water Alliance, a regional water conservation group. The Alliance shares a passion in providing clean and safe water to protect your health, planet and quality of life.

WATER'S WORTH IT

We must all work together to keep our water clean and healthy. To do that, we each need to learn to value water. To learn more, visit www.watersworthit.org.

WATER'S WORTH IT™ is a trademark of the Water Environment Federation.

City of Ferndale
P.O. Box 936, Ferndale, WA 98248

Your Comments Are Welcomed!

The Ferndale City Council meets the first and third Mondays of every month at the City Hall Annex Building located at 5694 2nd Avenue, Ferndale, starting at 6:00 p.m. Public comment is taken at the beginning of each meeting.

For more information, please call City Hall at (360) 384-4302.

The City of Ferndale's water source is a system of two ground water wells. The two wells tap into a thick layer of coarse sand and gravel within the Regional aquifer. The aquifer is recharged by precipitation that falls on the upland and the lowlands within several miles of the City's wells. The ground water is treated at the City's Water Treatment Plant where it is softened and chlorinated (to protect against microbial contaminants).

WHY PROVIDE A

WATER QUALITY REPORT?

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, 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 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 byproducts 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 which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

WATER QUALITY RESULTS FOR 2019

PWSID#24850M

Substance (units)	Level Detected	MCL	MCLG	Likely Source	In Compliance?
RAW WATER (Before Treatment)					
Total Organic Carbon (ppm)	Range Detected: 0.58 - 1.65 Average: 0.72	TT		Naturally present in the environment.	**Yes**
REGULATED AT THE TREATMENT PLANT					
Arsenic (ppm)	0.002	0.010	0	Erosion of natural deposits.	**Yes**
Barium (ppm)	0.041	2	2	Erosion of natural deposits.	**Yes**
Copper (ppm)	0.035	SMCL =1		Erosion of natural deposits.	**Yes**
Nitrate (ppm)	Annual Sample: ND	10	0	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaking from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.	**Yes**
Free Chlorine Residual (ppm)	Range Detected: 0.6 - 0.8 Average: 0.7	4 (MRDL)	4 (MRDLG)	Water additive used to control microbes.	**Yes**
REGULATED IN THE DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM					
Copper (ppm) (Tested 2018)	90th Percentile Copper: 0.082 Range Detected: 0 - 0.109	Action Level 1.3	1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems.	**Yes**
Lead(ppm) (Tested 2018)	90th Percentile Lead: 0.002 Range Detected: 0 - 0.004	Action Level 0.015	0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems.	**Yes**
Total Coliform (presence/absence)	180 samples collected Zero positive samples	≥2 positive samples per month	0	Naturally present in the environment.	**Yes**
Halo-Acetic Acids (ppb)	Range Detected: 7.9 - 13.3 Average: 10.6	60		By-product of drinking water disinfection.	**Yes**
Total Trihalomethanes(ppb)	Range Detected: 21.4 - 43.5 Average: 32.5	80		By-product of drinking water disinfection.	**Yes**

UNIT DESCRIPTIONS

ppm Parts per Million

ppb Parts per Billion

mg/L Milligrams per Liter

pCi/L Picocuries per Liter

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

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.

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.

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 mivcrobial contaminants (e.g. chlorine, chloramines, chlorine dioxide).

SMCL Secondary Maximum Contaminant Level: The maximum concentration or level of certain water contaminants in public water supplies set by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to protect the public welfare. The secondary levels are written to address aesthetic considerations such as taste, odor, and color or water, rather than health standards. Also see Primary Drinking Water Standards, Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL), and Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG).

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

ND Not detected

EPA Environmental Protection Agency

CDC Center for Disease Control & Prevention

City of Ferndale Water Treatment Plant
Phone (360) 384-4607 | www.cityofferndale.org
Mike Olinger • Public Utilities Superintendent

MESSAGE FROM 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 (1-800-426-4791).

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

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. We are 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 drinking 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.