Sallal Water Association
Water Quality Report
2021

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. It can pick up naturally occurring substances as well as those resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

Sallal Water Association's (Sallal's) water source is groundwater pumped from four deep wells maintained by the Association. Over 80% of the water required by the Association comes from two wells located on the Northwestern flank of Rattlesnake Ridge. The third well in this area began operating during late 2021. A fourth well, located near the Edgewick Road interchange, north of Interstate 90, provides additional water to residences and businesses within this area. All of Sallal's wells are protected from possible contamination through a Wellhead Protection Plan. The Association adds chlorine to this natural pristine water for disinfection.

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, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) prescribes regulations that limit the quantity of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. This report is a requirement of EPA and the Washington State Department of Health (DOH).

SALLAL WATER ASSOCIATION WATER QUALITY CHANGES IN 2021

After the distribution system tested positive for E. coli in 2019, Sallal began chlorinating the system. In mid-2020, the Board met with the Department of Health, evaluated all options, and came to the difficult decision to remain chlorinated. The continued use of chlorine provides an added layer of public health protection consistent with state and federal drinking water standards. Sallal staff routinely monitors the amount of chlorine in the water and adjust the chlorine injection system to keep concentrations at the lowest acceptable level – approximately 0.6 mg/L. This concentration is nearly seven times lower than the concentration EPA sets as the maximum acceptable level in drinking water.

Over the years, Sallal has remained dedicated to producing drinking water that meets all state and federal standards. Sallal continually strives to adopt new methods for delivering the best quality drinking water to you. As new challenges to drinking water safety emerge, Sallal remains vigilant in meeting the goals of source water protection, water conservation, and community education while continuing to serve the needs of all Sallal water users.

SAMPLING RESULTS FOR SALLAL WATER ASSOCIATION 2021

During the past year, Sallal Water Association (Sallal) has taken numerous water samples to determine the presence of any bacterial, inorganic, volatile organic, synthetic organic, or radioactive contaminants. The tables below show sampling results from Sallal's data files. The state allows water purveyors to monitor for certain substances less often than once a year because the concentrations of these substances do not change frequently. In these cases, the most recent sample data are included, along with the year* in which the sample was taken.

SOURCE MONITORING

Substance	Compliant	Wells 1 & 2 Concentration	Well 3 Edgewick Concentration	Well 4 Concentration	Unit Measurement	MCLG	MCL	Testing Frequency
Nitrate +Nitrite	Yes	<0.30	1.0	<0.20	ppm	10	10	Yearly
Arsenic	Yes	<0.001	0.002	<0.001	ppm	0	0.01	Yearly
Turbidity	Yes	0.2	<0.1	0.85	NTU	N/A	1	Yearly
Hardness	Yes	40	88	38	ppm	N/A	N/A	Yearly
Sodium	Yes	<5	<5	<5	ppm	N/A	N/A	Yearly
Coliform	Yes	ND	ND	ND	N/A	N/A	N/A	Monthly
Herbicides	Yes	ND	ND	ND	Mg/L	N/A	N/A	***3 Years

DISTRIBUTION MONITORING

Substance	Compliant	System Concentration	Unit Measurement	MCLG	MCL	Testing Frequency
Asbestos (2020)	Yes	<0.12	MFL	N/A	7	** Waiver
Lead (2020)	Yes	Range ND- 0.002	ppm	0	AL=.015	*3 Years
Copper (2020)	Yes	Range 0.02-0.35	ppm	1.3	AL=1.3	*3 Years
Chlorine	Yes	Range .6-.8	ppm	N/A	N/A	Daily
Trihalomethanes	Yes	ND	Mg/L	N/A	N/A	Yearly
Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS)	Yes	ND	Mg/L	N/A	N/A	Yearly

*Copper and lead results from water samples collected at 20 locations in July 2020.
**Last asbestos sampling was in October 2019 – next required monitoring due in October 2028.
***Herbicides test results from 2020 and due again in 2023.

Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 10ppm is a risk to infants of less than six months of age. High nitrate levels in drinking water can cause blue baby syndrome. Nitrate levels may rise quickly for short periods of time because of rainfall or agricultural activity. If you are caring for an infant, you should ask advice from your health care provider.

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. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

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

NTU Turbidity: Turbidity is a measure of the water's cloudiness. It is monitored because it provides a good indicator of the filtration system's effectiveness. Turbidity is measured in NTU's (nephelometric turbidity units).

MFL Million Fibers per liter. Samples above seven MFL exceed the EPA maximum contaminant level (MCL) and must be reported.

ND Not detected

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).

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. Sallal is responsible for providing high quality drinking water but cannot control the variety of materials used in home plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap water 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. For more information on tap water quality, please visit www.drinktap.org.

SALLAL ASSOCIATION PROFILE

The Sallal Water Association supplies potable water to more than 1,997 meter connections serving more than 6,000 people throughout our service area. We also provide wholesale water to the Wilderness Rim Association for their members, which has over 600 users. The system currently supplies approximately 212 million gallons of water each year using four wells to meet the demand of its members.

The Sallal Water Association began as a grassroots effort by residents in the spring of 1967 due to concerns about the availability of water in shallow wells during summer months. As a result of these efforts, a loan was negotiated from the Federal government in the spring of 1969, and construction began that summer for securing a water supply from the City of Seattle. Sallal was a wholesale customer of Seattle Water from 1970-1986, relying on chlorinated surface water from the Masonry Pool portion of Chester Morse reservoir. In 1983 and 1985, two deep wells were drilled near Rattlesnake Lake. During 1986, the Sallal water system converted from City of Seattle surface water to groundwater. In 1987, a third well was drilled near the Edgewick Interchange to meet the demands in this portion of the Association's service area. In 2020, Sallal began construction of a new well in the Rattlesnake Lake area to provide redundancy for the system. This well became available during 2021.

The Sallal Water Association is a non-profit, member-owned corporation, which is administered by a seven-member Board of Trustees. Each board member serves a three-year term with open elections held during each annual meeting of the association's membership to fill the two or three expiring terms. A "Water Distribution Manager lll" serves as Sallal's Water System Superintendent. One additional Certified Water Distribution Operator provides maintenance and day-to-day operations of the system, and we recently added a third operator, working on his certification. Licensed professional engineers, a professional hydrologist, a rate specialist, an accounting firm, and an attorney provide engineering and consulting services on a contractual basis. The Director of Finance and Administration, the Office Manager, and the part-time Administrative Assistant manage the Association's North Bend Office at 44021 S.E. Tanner Road, Suite #E in North Bend.

YOUR VIEWS ARE WELCOMED!

You are invited to attend Sallal's regular Board Meetings and voice your concerns about your drinking water. The Board of Trustee's meet the 3rd Tuesday of every month, beginning at 6:00 p.m. Please contact the Sallal office at 425-888-3650 or email admin@sallal.com for meeting details.