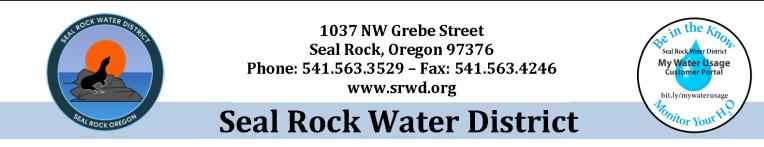
# **Your Drinking Water Quality Report**



Seal Rock Water District is an Equal Opportunity Employer and Service Provider

# Look Inside for Laboratory Tap Water Results

This report issued June 2023 contains water quality data for the year 2022. You can have confidence in the quality of your drinking water.

The Seal Rock Water District consistently delivers water that meets or exceeds all federal and state standards.





...Where your drinking water comes from? ...How your drinking water is treated? ...About the quality of your drinking water?

### **Our Mission:**

"With a goal to become a leader in the source water and distribution industry, SRWD will strive to become the supplier of choice for high quality reasonably priced water to meet the growing needs of the Central Oregon Coast"

# **The Water You Drink**

## Seal Rock Water District Water Quality Report

Safe, reliable drinking water is a basic life necessity. Seal Rock Water District (SRWD) understands this and appreciates the opportunity to provide this essential service to the Seal Rock community every day. We believe it is important for our customers to understand where their water comes from, how safe it is, and what actions we take for its continuing quality. In accordance with federal guidelines, this report provides the information you need to know about the water you enjoy.

### Is Your Water Safe?

SRWD continually delivers drinking water that meets or exceeds state and federal regulatory limits. The test results are shown on the following pages. Although the District's water supplies are tested for several regulated and unregulated constituents, only those that have been detected in the water are included in this report. The frequency of testing varies per federal and state requirements. Some people may be more vulnerable to constituents in drinking water than the general population. Immune-compromised people, such as those with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, people who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly people, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their healthcare Providers.



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The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)/Center for Disease Control (CDC) has issued guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by cryptosporidium and other microbial constituents. These are available from the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hot-line at (800) 426-4791 or at www.epa.gov.

The Oregon Health Authority (OHA) performed a source water assessment in March 2023 to comply with the 1996 Safe Drinking Water Act Amendments. OHA evaluated the district's distribution system and newly constructed Beaver Creek source water and treatment system. Due to the district's high level of response to the maintenance needs of the system, the district received recognition from the OHA as an Outstanding System Performer. Systems earning this designation recognize significant benefits as system evaluation and assessment from the State are less frequent.

The district is now fully operational on the new membrane water treatment system and we are excited to inform the Seal Rock community that achieving full project completion and certification is anticipated very soon. District customers can have the same confidence in the quality of their drinking water using the new system. The district's new system was funded by G.O. Bonds and Grants provided by the State Revolving Loan Fund Program and the US Department of Agricultural (USDA), Rural Utility Assistance Grant Program. To learn more about the district's new water treatment

facility, or to schedule a tour please visit the district's website at www.srwd.org





# **Providing Quality Water**

Clean water is essential to the health and well-being of our community. SRWD places great importance on delivering quality water to every tap every day. No matter what route your water has taken, our goal is to provide safe quality water. SRWD staff is responsible for testing water quality throughout the distribution system to make sure it meets or exceeds regulatory standards and customer expectations, and reporting results to the proper authorities. The Oregon Health Authority Drinking Water Program is responsible for promoting compliance with drinking water standards set by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

The source of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) includes 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 human activity.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include;

- Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria which may come from 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.

SRWD's water system is monitored 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. In addition to monitoring water flows and pressure, our state-of-the-art Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) system monitors several water quality parameters and security alarms. If the system identifies anything out of the ordinary, alarms alert an operator to the possible problem to allow for corrective actions if needed.

## **The Water Testing Process**

The quality and safety of your water is our number one priority. To meet our commitment to quality water every time you turn on your tap, we constantly monitor the water by taking samples. Once these samples are taken, the testing process proceeds as follows:

- Samples are refrigerated and taken to a state lab certified for testing drinking water.
- The lab sends the test results directly to the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) Drinking Water Program.
- This Water Quality Report (including sampling results from the past year) is provided to all our customers once a year.

#### What Happens If One of The Samples Is Outside Of The Acceptable Range?

Each element has different regulations to adhere to if they fall outside of the acceptable range. In the extremely rare occurrence that a parameter falls outside of the range, we will re-sample it. If it still falls out of the range, we will take whatever action is necessary to rectify the situation and follow the proper notification procedures.



#### Advanced Technology Enables Water Providers to Look For More Substances than Ever

As technology improves, water providers have detected extremely small levels of substances. An example includes pharmaceuticals and personal care products (PPCPs) in certain water sources. These substances have been found at trace levels that are measured in parts per trillion (ppt). A part per trillion is equivalent to one second in 32,000 years or one cent (\$0.01) in ten billion dollars (\$10,000,000,000).

The fact that a substance is detectable does not mean the substance is harmful to humans. Research regarding the identification of various substances in water is continually improving. Ultimately, as measurement and water treatment technologies continue to improve, we are able to provide our community with expanded information and better water. For more information about PPCPs, including how to properly dispose of them (not flushing them down the drain), visit <u>www.epa.gov/ppcp</u>.

### How Does the EPA Set Drinking Water Standards?

The EPA prescribes regulations that 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 protections for public health. The 1996 Amendments to the Safe Drinking Water Act require the EPA to go through several steps to determine whether setting a standard is appropriate for a particular constituent, and if so, what the standard should be. Peer-reviewed science and data support an intensive technological evaluation, which includes many factors: occurrence in the environment; human exposure, and risks of adverse health effects in the general population and sensitive subpopulations.



#### Water Quality Summary:

SRWD and the City of Toledo routinely monitor constituents in your drinking water according to Federal and State Regulations. Results are submitted to the Oregon Health Authority Drinking Water Department. The data below is divided to represent source water purchased from Toledo from January 1, 2022, to June 14, 2022, and source water treated by the district from June 15, 2022, to December 31, 2022:

Unregulated Volatile Organics (VOC)	Reporting Limit	Mill Creek Results	Siletz River Results	Units
Bromodichlormethane	0.0005	0.00641	0.00478	mg/L
Chlorodibromomethane	0.0005	0.00120	0.000740	mg/L
Chloroform	0.0005	0.0252	0.0176	mg/L

Secondary contaminants do not have health impacts, and therefore, do not have MCLs. Secondary parameters describe non-health-related characteristics of drinking water.

Parameter	Unit	Measured Level		MCL	Likely Source Standards	Meet
rarameter	Measurement	Site #1	Site #2			Standards
Total Trihalomethanes TTHMs	mg/L	0.0751	0.0834	0.080	By-products of naturally	No
Total Haloacetic Acids HAA5s	mg/L	0.0455	0.0451	0.060	occurring organics and chlorine	Yes
Turbidity	NTU		erage: 0.030 le Value: 0.12	0.30	Soil Erosion	Yes

<b>LEAD AND COPPER TEST RESULTS 2022</b> The District is required to test again by December 2023								
Parameter	MCL	Goal	Maximum Reported Value	Range	Likely Source	Meets Regs		
Copper	90% of homes tested must have copper levels less than 1.3 ppm	0 ppm	100% of the homes tested 0.000 copper levels	None of the 40 homes tested had copper levels above 1.3 ppm	Household Plumbing systems	Yes		
Lead	90% of homes tested must have lead levels of less than 15 ppb	0 ppb	2 of the samples tested in the range of 20.1 ppb to 24.4 ppb lead levels	2 of the 40 homes tested had lead levels above 15 ppb	Household Plumbing systems	Yes		

The district had two samples out of 40 lead and copper samples in 2022 that tested above the MCL. Property owners received notification of the results.

#### Safeguarding Against Lead and Copper in Drinking Water:

Elevated levels of lead and copper in drinking water can cause serious problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Materials and components used in service lines and home plumbing are the primary sources of these substances. SRWD is responsible for providing high-quality drinking water but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. If water has been exposed to these substances by sitting for several hours, any threat can be minimized by flushing the tap for a minute or two before using the water.

If customers are concerned about lead and copper, they may wish to have their water tested. Information on testing methods and steps to take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at <u>www.epa.gov/safewater/lead</u>.

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Microbiological/Organic Contaminants	MCLG	MCL	Your Water	Tested	Violation	Typical Source
Total Coliform	0	1	0	2022	No	Naturally Present
Total Xylene	0	10.0	0.0016200	2022	No	Organic Compond
Ethyl Benzene	0	0.7	0.0005100	2022	No	Organic Compod

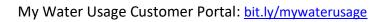
Seal Rock's water was tested for Asbestos in 2020 and none was detected. We are required to test again in 2029.

#### Some abbreviations in the above table may not be familiar. Please refer to the following definitions:

- (MCL) Maximum Contaminant Level is 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. MCLs are set at very stringent levels. To understand the possible health effects for many regulated constituents, a person would have to drink 2 liters of water every day at the MCL level for a lifetime to have a one-in-a-million chance of having the described health effect.
- (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.
- (N/A) not applicable. (ND) non-detect.
- (NTU) Nephelometric Turbidity Units a measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.
- **Turbidity** indicates how cloudy the water is. Turbidity is measured in NTUs.
- (ppm) Parts per million or Milligrams per liter (mg/L) one part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in \$10,000.
- (ppb) Parts per billion or Micrograms per liter (μg/L) one part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years or a single penny in \$10,000,000.

#### WATER MANAGEMENT AND CONSERVATION

With the successful completion of the district-wide Smart Meter installation where the Seal Rock Water District's water meters are communicating reads via wireless radio frequencies - just like wireless Internet and cable TV, we are pleased to announce that the My Water Usage Customer Portal is available to our Seal Rock Water District customers. In the Customer Portal, you can view your usage, set up alerts, and be smart with your water usage. Our staff has been calling customers alerting them to high usage that is due to leaks or continuous water flow, but we want our customers to take a proactive part in finding and fixing leaks. Thus, with the Customer Portal, you are in the driver's seat where you can monitor your water usage. Join us in preserving and protecting our environment by monitoring your water usage for unnecessary water use. We invite you to sign up for the Customer Portal so that you can Be in the Know!





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## **Frequently Asked Questions**

## How Can I Check For a Water Leak?

Finding water leaks can save you water, which means saving money on water bills. Please visit the district's website for helpful information on how to check for water leaks, and conservation tips.

## What Can I Do to Conserve Water?

Water conservation is the most cost-effective and environmentally sound way to reduce our demand for water. This stretches our supplies further. There are a number of ways to save water, and they all start with you. There are many effective ways to conserve water in and around your home. Look through this list for ways that will work for you. When you save water, you save money on your utility bills too. Saving water is easy for everyone to do:

- When washing dishes by hand, don't let the water run while rinsing. Fill one sink with wash water and the other with rinse water.
- Some refrigerators, air conditioners, and icemakers are cooled with wasted flows of water. Consider upgrading with air-cooled appliances for significant water savings.
- Adjust sprinklers so only your lawn is watered and not the house, sidewalk, or street.
- Run your clothes washer and dishwasher only when they are full. You can save up to 1,000 gallons a month.
- Turn off the water while brushing your teeth and save 25 gallons a month.
- Install covers on pools and spas and check for leaks around your pumps.
- Use the garbage disposal sparingly. Compost vegetable food waste instead and save gallons every time.
- Plant in the fall when conditions are cooler and rainfall is more plentiful.
- Monitor your water bill for unusually high use. Your bill and water meter are tools that can help you discover leaks.
- Water your lawn and garden in the morning or evening when temperatures are cooler to minimize evaporation.
- Know where your master water shut-off valve is located. This could save water and prevent damage to your home.
- Install an instant water heater near your kitchen sink so you don't have to run the water while it heats up.
- Turn off the water while you wash your hair to save up to 150 gallons a month.

### Is There an Easier Way to Have My Backflow Assembly Tested?

Do you have a backflow assembly? For your convenience, SRWD has a list of approved state-certified backflow technicians available to complete annual testing of backflow devices within the district.



Property owners are responsible for having their backflow assembly tested annually. Annual testing and certification results must be delivered to the district.

We invite you to contact the district office at **541-563-3529** if you have questions or comments. You can also visit us online at www.srwd.org. Thank you.