

# The Water We Drink

## City of Scappoose 2023 Water Quality Report

On July 15, 1999 the Oregon Health Division adopted the Federal Regulations for Consumer Confidence Reports. These rules apply to all community water systems. We are required by these rules to report annually on the condition of our water supply and are happy to do so. For the calendar year of January through December, 2023, we have one violation to report. On October 17, the maximum turbidity standard was not met for a brief period at the Keys Rd. surface filtration plant. A notice regarding this event was delivered to all water customers. Since then, multiple safeguards have now been implemented to insure against this happening in the future. Staff is confident that our drinking water is safe and consistently meets or exceeds all Federal and State requirements. Some customers have inquired about

the mineral content of our water and the resulting white residual on fixtures. This is attributable to dissolved minerals. This does not pose a health threat, nor is it easily removed from our water.

If you have any questions about this report or about your water quality, please contact Darryl Sykes at 503-543-7146. A copy of this report is available on the city's website. If you want to learn more about your water utility, please attend any of our regularly scheduled City Council meetings on the first and third Mondays of the month at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall.

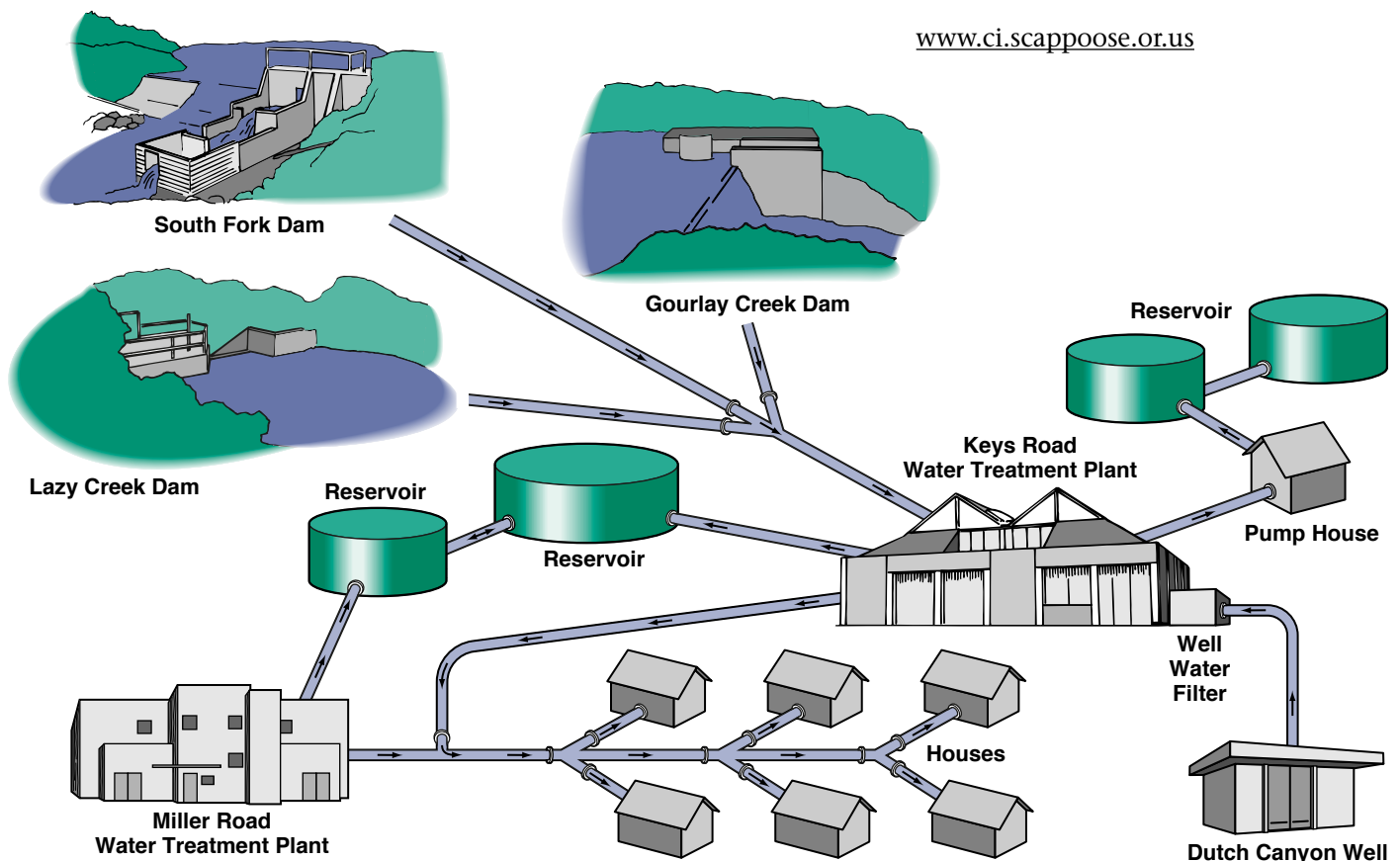
Este informe contiene información importante. El recipiente debe de tenerlo traducido en caso de necesidad.

## Supply Facts

The City of Scappoose has several sources for its drinking water. The water from the Dutch Canyon Well and surface water from South Fork Scappoose Creek, Gourlay Creek, and Lazy Creek is filtered at the Keys

Road water treatment plant. The Miller Road treatment plant uses four wells located on or near that property. We still encourage citizens to conserve water and limit non-essential use. For ideas you can use to help, please review the Water Conservation Plan on our website at:

[www.ci.scappoose.or.us](http://www.ci.scappoose.or.us)



# Water Facts

## Fluoride Treatment

The citizens of Scappoose approved Measure 5-231 in 2013 which requires the City to add fluoride to our water in an effort to improve the dental health of our citizens. Known for its cavity-fighting benefits, fluoride is of special interest to parents with young children. *Please contact your dental care provider for additional fluoride information.*

## Recent Improvements

In April 2023 the City's hydrogeologist, with the help of City staff, submitted a Wellhead Protection Area Delineation report to the Oregon DEQ as required by the EPA. The goal of Wellhead Protection Plans is to protect groundwater within the WHPA (wellhead protection area) by managing the potential risk of contamination that may be posed from potential contaminant sources that are located within the Zone of Contribution of the well. The report is currently under review by the OHA Drinking Water Program. Once it has been approved it will be available on the city's webpage.

Recently, two fiberglass chemical tanks that were original to the Keys Rd. treatment plant were removed. The tanks were not up to current safety specifications and posed a potential hazard. They were replaced by newer double wall tanks that meet current safety standards. In addition, this project included the removal and replacement of original chemical feed piping that was starting to fail and pose potential safety issues.

A new well has been drilled and work has started on installing a new pump, piping, and electrical. As soon as this work has been completed the water from the new well can be pumped to the Keys Rd. treatment plant and filtered for iron removal. The addition of the new well will help increase the yield from this site by 250 to 300 gallons per minute. Work should be completed by the end of June.

The water main piping work for the last phase of the Airpark Development project at Moore Rd. is now complete. This allows the water system around the airport to be looped, or continuously moving, thus reducing issues associated with water stagnation and increasing firefighting capacity in the area.

*The City is a member of the Regional Water Providers Consortium. This year the Consortium and its members celebrated 27 years of service. Find out more about the Consortium and its work in water conservation, emergency preparedness, and regional coordination at [regionalh2o.org](http://regionalh2o.org).*

## Columbia Alert Network

The City of Scappoose Water Department will use the Columbia Alert Network (CAN) to notify customers in the case of a water emergency. These may include mandatory water restrictions or other notices limiting water use. Home phones will be called for notification. If you would like your cell phone to be called, you may register the number at:

[www.columbia911.com](http://www.columbia911.com)

## Future Developments

The distribution system, consisting of underground water lines, valves, and fire hydrants, continues to grow as new homes and businesses locate in Scappoose. We have 2,739 water service meters currently and expect to add about 22 new services this year. In 2021 the water department performed a comparison test to select a sole source water meter supplier. In pilot testing, performed by city staff, the Kamstrup brand water meter performed the best. So, the department elected to standardize the water system with that brand. The new meters were found to be highly accurate with the ability to be read remotely by radio and

have a built-in feature to detect water system leaks. To date the department has installed approximately 1500 meters with plans to replace another 1000 meters this year. Staff anticipates having the system fully updated with radio reads by January 2025.

For Fiscal Year 2024-25, expected projects for the water department include the replacement of 2 reservoirs at Keys Rd. with a new 3 million gallon reservoir, thus, giving the City an additional 2 million gallons of water storage at this site. Also, of great importance is that the reservoir will meet current seismic standards.

Work has started to add another well to the Miller Rd. well site. The target zone for the well is a deeper aquifer in the basalt layer. This layer is estimated to be around 350 to 500 feet deep — over a 150 feet deeper than the current onsite alluvial wells. Typically, water from basalt wells is of higher quality and quantity, but this is hard to predict due to having very little data for basalt wells in the area.

City staff is currently working to identify the material used in every customer water service line. The intent is to ensure that all water lines in the city, including water mains, are lead free as required by the EPA's Lead and Copper Revised Rule. A report with the findings must be sent to the state by October of this year.

Other planned and ongoing work includes: finish the basalt test well that is currently in progress, replace the water mains on Oak St. and Myrtle St., design the NE 5th St. water main replacement, evaluate the Bella Vista reservoirs, complete the replacement water service meter project, and continue work on water system security upgrades

## Water Conservation and Management Plan

In 2019 the City's Water Management and Conservation plan (WMCP) was updated by Carollo Engineering. The purpose of this plan is to define the City of Scappoose' current and future water resource needs and the management of its existing resources through conservation and, during times of water shortage, curtailment.

Water conservation is now considered a critical element in Oregon's water resource inventory. As such, municipal water suppliers are required to have a current, Water Resource Department (WRD) approved, WMCP or complete one within three years of approval of extension of water rights. The WMCP is a mechanism for utilities to demonstrate that they have minimized their needs and are developing resources in an environmentally responsible manner. This WMCP is designed to meet the regulatory requirements outlined by Oregon Administrative Rules (OAR) 690-086.

This WMCP describes the City's:

- Source of supply reliability and capacity
- Current and future estimated population and water demands
- Existing water rights inventory
- Current and planned Water Conservation Program
- The City's Water Curtailment Plan

A summary of this report can be found on our website:

[www.ci.scappoose.or.us](http://www.ci.scappoose.or.us)

## Backflow Prevention Device

The City of Scappoose requires a backflow prevention device on any water service that may be connected to a well, a sprinkler system, or other connection that may result in the pollution of the City's drinking water. There is an annual testing requirement for all backflow devices.

# Lead and Copper Testing

The Date Tested, shown below, is the most recent sampling and is in compliance with regulations.

Substance	Date Tested	Units	Goal	Action Level (AL)	90th Percentile	Homes Exceeding Action Level	Complies?	Source of Contaminate
Copper	2023	ppm	1.3	1.3	0.083	0	Yes	Corrosion of household plumbing
Lead	2023	ppb	0	15.5	0	0	Yes	

The 90th percentile is the highest result found in 90% of the samples when they are listed in order from the lowest to the highest results. EPA requires testing for lead and copper at customers' taps most likely to contain these substances based on when the house was built. The EPA determined that the sample results did not exceed the Action Level (AL) at the locations we are required to test.

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. The City of Scappoose is responsible for providing high quality drinking

water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in individual users' 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 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 or at:

[www.epa.gov/safewater/lead](http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead)

## Contaminants

As water travels over the land or underground, it can pick up substances or contaminants such as microbes, inorganic and organic chemicals, and radioactive substances. The City of Scappoose routinely monitors for numerous contaminants in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. The monitoring period being reported on here extends from January 1 through December 31, 2023.

This report is based upon the most recent tests conducted by the City of Scappoose Water Department. Testing frequency is determined by the Oregon Health Division. The Water Quality Table (below) lists the contaminant detects as required by the EPA, and although there were contaminant detects, all were below the Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL). Complete test results can be viewed at the website of Oregon Public Health, (<http://yourwater.oregon.gov/>). The Scappoose Water System ID number is 4100792. Terms used in the table below and in other parts of this report are defined here.

• **Maximum Contaminant Level or MCL:** 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.

• **Maximum Contaminant Level Goal or MCLG:** 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.

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

### Key to Water Quality Table

MCL – Maximum Contaminant Level

MCLG – Maximum Contaminant Level Goal

TT – Treatment Technique

AL – Action Level

pCi/L – pico Curies per liter

ppm – parts per million or milligrams per liter (mg/l)

ppb – parts per billion or micrograms per liter (ug/l)

NTU – Nephelometric Turbidity Unit

ND – None Detected

Contaminant	Date Tested	Detected Range Min. – Max.	Detected Level	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Meets Regs?	Major Sources
TTHMs <sup>1</sup>	2023	0.008 – 0.012	0.012	ppm	0.080	n/a	Yes	Disinfection Byproduct
HAA5 <sup>1</sup>	2023	0.001 – 0.003	0.003	ppm	0.060	n/a	Yes	Disinfection Byproduct
Turbidity <sup>2</sup>	2023	0.02 – 1.95	n/a	NTU	TT = 95% of samples < 0.3 NTU	n/a	No	Soil Runoff, Sediment
Barium <sup>3</sup>	1/16/19	n/a	0.006	ppm	2	2	Yes	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion from natural deposits
Sodium <sup>3</sup>	9/27/21	n/a	28.9	ppm	n/a	n/a	Yes	Chlorination with Sodium Hypochlorite
Fluoride <sup>4</sup>	2023	ND – 2.1	2.1	ppm	4	2	Yes	Added to promote dental health
Nitrate	2023	ND – 1.06	1.06	ppm	10	10	Yes	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaking septic tanks, sewage; Erosion from natural deposits

1 Although there is no collective MCLG for this contaminant group, there are individual MCLGs for some of the individual contaminants:

- Trihalomethanes (TTHMs): bromodichloromethane (zero); bromoform (zero); dibromochloromethane (0.06ppm); chloroform (0.07ppm)
- Haloacetic acids (HAA5): dichloroacetic acid (zero); trichloroacetic acid (0.02ppm); monochloroacetic acid (0.06ppm). Bromoacetic acid and dibromoacetic acid are regulated with this group but have no MCLGs.

2 Turbidity has no health effects but can interfere with disinfection and provide a medium for microbial growth. "TT" means a treatment technique is required if the limit is exceeded.

3 Date tested is the most recent sampling and is in compliance with regulations.

4 Fluoride is added to the City drinking water and has been since 1999 per City measure 5-231.



# Unregulated Contaminants

## Unregulated Contaminants Monitoring Regulation (UCMR5)

For 2023 our water system was selected by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to participate in the next round of Unregulated Contaminants Monitoring Regulation (UCMR5) sampling. Unregulated contaminants are those that don't yet have a drinking water standard set by the EPA. The purpose of monitoring for these contaminants is to help EPA decide whether the contaminants should have a standard. For this round of testing, the City was selected to sample for 29 per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) and lithium which have been found in the nation's drinking water systems. PFAS are manufactured chemicals that have been used in industry and consumer products since the 1940's. Because of their widespread use and their persistence in the environment, many PFAS are found in the blood of people and animals all over the world. Lithium was selected for the Fifth Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR5) to better inform research and determine whether lithium poses health risks to people through drinking water from public water systems. More information regarding PFAS and lithium can be found on

the link below regarding the EPA's UCMR5 rule.

As our customers, you have a right to know the results of these data. For general information on UCMR5, go to:

<http://water.epa.gov/dwucmr/fifth-unregulated-contaminant-monitoring-rule>  
or contact the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at:

(800) 426-4791

or at:

<http://water.epa.gov/drink/contact.cfm>

## UCMR5 Results for 2023

In each quarter of 2023, treated water samples from both water plants were collected and sent to an EPA contracted laboratory for analysis. We are happy to report that all the samples tested were less than the MRL which is the lowest concentration that can be reported for the UCMR5. This means that the levels are below the enforcement levels for PFAS and lithium that have been established by the EPA. Results for the city's drinking water can be found on the City's or the EPA's websites.

# Scappoose Source Water Assessments

In 2003 and 2005, the Oregon Health Authority and the Department of Environmental Quality completed a source water assessment and report for the City's three water sources. The reports identified and inventoried surface areas supplying water to the Scappoose Watershed intakes, and the capture zone around the Dutch Canyon and Miller Road well sites for potential contaminant sources that may affect the water supply.

In the Scappoose surface water protection area, a total of eleven potential contaminant source areas were identified. Ten of the eleven areas are located in "sensitive areas" and are identified as high-to-moderate risk sources. Sensitive areas are defined as areas where the potential contamination area includes land with high soil erosion and a location within 1000 feet of streams. These sensitive areas have a greater potential to impact a water supply.

Within the City's groundwater protection area, which includes the Dutch Canyon Wells and the Miller Road

wells, a total of 30 potential contaminant sources were identified. Of those, 10 ten are within the two-year time-of-travel zone and all pose a high-to-moderate risk to the drinking water supply. The included rural homes, non-irrigated crops, and the drinking water treatment plant, present a lower risk. The two-year time-of-travel zone for the Miller wells is primarily dominated by residential land use. The travel zone for the Dutch Canyon wells is dominated by a mix of commercial, agricultural, and residential land use.

These are the existing potential sources of contamination that could, if improperly managed or released, affect the water quality of the City's water sources.

To view a summary of the assessments and reports—  
email: [dsykes@scappoose.gov](mailto:dsykes@scappoose.gov)

call: 503-543-5894, or go to:

<http://www.ci.scappoose.or.us/publicworks/page/water-treatment>

## Service Facts

All sources of drinking water are subject to potential contamination by substances that are naturally occurring or man made. These substances can be microbes, inorganic or organic chemicals, or radioactive substances. All 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 the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

### Special Notice for Immuno-Compromised Persons

*Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population.*

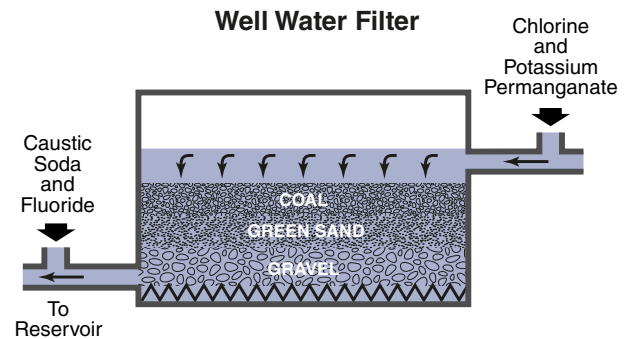
Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by cryptosporidium and other microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

Please call our office if you have questions. We can be reached by one of the following methods:

Phone: 503-543-7146

FAX: 503-543-2688

E-mail: [dsykes@scappoose.gov](mailto:dsykes@scappoose.gov)



Another source of information is the State of Oregon Drinking Water Program. Their website is:

<https://yourwater.oregon.gov>

Go to the Data Online section and search for the City of Scappoose. Our water system ID number is 4100792.

Thank you for allowing us to continue providing your family with clean, quality water this year. In order to maintain a safe and dependable water supply we sometimes need to make improvements that will benefit all of our customers. These improvements are sometimes reflected as rate structure adjustments. An example of these types of improvements include construction of the Miller Road treatment plant and the two million gallon reservoir. Thank you for understanding.

We at the City of Scappoose work hard to provide top quality water to every tap. Please help us protect our water sources. Together we can ensure unspoiled drinking water for all our children.

