

NAVAL AIR STATION WHIDBEY ISLAND

2024 DRINKING WATER SYSTEM CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT



Naval Air Station (NAS) Whidbey Island owns and operates a community drinking water system, which provides purchased, treated, drinking water to employees, residents, and visitors. The following water quality information is being provided to you, our consumer, in accordance with the Federal Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA), as implemented by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Washington State Department of Health (DOH) regulations.

Throughout 2024, the drinking water distributed through the Navy water system consistently met federal and state drinking water health standards.



Consumer Confidence Report NAS Whidbey Island January 1 – December 31, 2024

Where does my drinking water come from?

The NAS Whidbey Island water supply comes from the water treatment facility at Mount Vernon, owned and operated by the City of Anacortes. Raw water from the Skagit River is pumped to the plant where it undergoes full treatment including screening, filtration, and disinfection to make it safe. The treated water is then pumped to the City of Oak Harbor on Whidbey Island via pipeline. NAS Whidbey Island purchases its drinking water from the City of Oak Harbor. It passes through a booster pump station located at NAS Whidbey Island, where fluoride is added, and enters the NAS Whidbey Island water system that supplies drinking water to Ault Field and Seaplane Base. The Base Operating Services Contractor (BOSC), whose contract is managed by the installation Public Works Department, operates the NAS Whidbey Island drinking water system. The Environmental Division reports water sampling results to the EPA and DOH to ensure compliance with all applicable regulations. Water treatment aboard NAS Whidbey Island includes adding fluoride to strengthen teeth and chlorine, only as needed, to ensure adequate disinfection.

Notes:

- (1) There is no potable drinking water system servicing Navy Outlying Landing Field (OLF) Coupeville. Instead, purchased bottled water is provided to Navy personnel working at this site.
- (2) The 2024 CCR published by the City of Oak Harbor is available at <https://www.oakharbor.gov/DocumentCenter/View/1733/2024-Water-Quality-Report-PDF?bidId=>
- (3) The 2024 CCR published by the City of Anacortes is available at <https://www.anacorteswa.gov/504/Water-Quality-Reports>

What is in my drinking water?

As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and can pick up other 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 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 storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining and farming.
- ☞ Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources, such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff and residential uses.
- ☞ Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, are the potential by-products of various industrial processes, petroleum storage and handling, gas station operations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems.
- ☞ Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production, and mining operations.

How is the safety of my drinking water ensured?

To ensure your tap water is safe to drink, the EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminant levels in water provided by public water systems. Your water is monitored daily for chlorine and fluoride treatment levels, monthly for the presence of coliform bacteria, and quarterly in four locations for chlorine disinfection by-products. It is monitored every three years for lead and copper, and once every 6 years for asbestos.



Consumer Confidence Report NAS Whidbey Island January 1 – December 31, 2024

Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health. Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of 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).

Can my health be affected?

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 with HIV/AIDs or other immune system disorders; some elderly; and infants, can be at particular risk from infections.

Immunocompromised people should seek advice from their health care providers. EPA and Center for Disease Control guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

Is there lead in my drinking water?

EPA and Washington State regulations require NAS Whidbey Island to monitor for the presence of lead and copper at household and non-residential taps every 3 years. Lead was tested in 2022 with no exceedances detected at 30 sampling locations. The next round of testing is scheduled to take place in August 2025. If present in your drinking water, lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and children. It is possible that lead levels in your home may be higher compared to others due to plumbing construction and service lines. 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 it for drinking or cooking. Because lead levels may vary over time, lead exposure is possible even when your tap sampling results do not detect lead at one point in time. Additional information about lead in your water is available from the EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

What about other contaminants?

The City of Anacortes Water Treatment Plant is required to test for water contaminants at the water source. They reported no violations, and a copy of their water quality data is included later in this report. Visit the City of Anacortes' water quality report webpage for more information: <https://www.anacorteswa.gov/504/Water-Quality-Reports>

Due to the consistency with meeting requirements and not having water quality exceedances, there has been no need for a public meeting to discuss decisions affecting water quality. If such a meeting becomes necessary in the future, it will be publicized in the NAS Whidbey Island Plan of the Week, NAS Whidbey Island website (<https://cnrnw.cnrc.navy.mil/Installations/NAS-Whidbey-Island/>) and social media.

What can I do to save water?

Water is one of our most precious resources. As summer approaches and rainfall becomes scarce, it is particularly important to conserve water at home. Saving water minimizes the effects of drought and water shortages, helps to preserve the environment, and makes water available for recreational purposes.

Things you can do to save water at home include:

- ☞ Turn off the water while brushing teeth or shaving.
- ☞ Take shorter showers.
- ☞ Use your dishwasher and washing machine for full loads only.
- ☞ Check pipes, faucets, and outdoor spigots for slow leaks.



Consumer Confidence Report NAS Whidbey Island January 1 – December 31, 2024

Additional Information on Lead in Drinking Water

Lead can cause serious health effects in people of all ages, especially pregnant people, infants (both formula-fed and breastfed), and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and parts used in service lines and in home plumbing. NAS Whidbey Island uses NSF/ANSI/CAN Standard 61 certified materials, which meets strict health and safety standards, for drinking water infrastructure in new construction and facility maintenance projects.

The EPA published the revised Lead and Copper Rule on January 15, 2021, requiring all public water systems to complete a Lead Service Line Inventory by October 16, 2024. A comprehensive service line inventory was recently completed to identify the material of drinking water services lines throughout NAS Whidbey Island. As of December 31, 2024, no lead service lines were found; however, 38 service lines were identified where the material classification remains as unknown. NAS Whidbey Island is working to identify the material classifications of these 38 service lines and updates to the inventory will be made as additional information is collected. The service line inventory is available online at <https://cnrnw.cnrc.navy.mil/Operations-and-Management/Environmental-Stewardship-and-Compliance/Water-Quality-Information/>

While NAS Whidbey Island continues to investigate water line infrastructure, you can use a filter certified to reduce lead in your home, if you have concerns. Using a filter, certified by an American National Standards Institute accredited certifier to reduce lead, is effective in reducing lead exposures. Follow the instructions provided with the filter to ensure the filter is used properly. Use only cold water for drinking, cooking, and making baby formula. Boiling water does not remove lead from water. Before using tap water for drinking, cooking, or making baby formula, flush your pipes for several minutes. You can do this by running your tap, taking a shower, doing laundry or a load of dishes. If you have a lead galvanized service line, you may need to flush your pipes for a longer period. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at <https://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

For drinking water quality or conservation comments or questions, please contact the NAS Whidbey Island Environmental Compliance Supervisor, Jennifer Stewart at (360) 207-5898.



Consumer Confidence Report NAS Whidbey Island January 1 – December 31, 2024

The following table presents the regulatory limits and sampling results for contaminants routinely monitored by NAS Whidbey Island:

LEAD AND COPPER – Testing is completed through the customers’ taps every 3 years. The 2022 results are below:						
Contaminant	Action Level	MCLG	90 th percentile	Samples Exceeding Limits	Violation	Typical Sources
Lead	90% of tested homes less than 15 ppb	0 ppb	2 ppb	0 out of 30	NO	Corrosion of household plumbing systems.
Copper	90% of tested homes less than 1.3 ppm	1.3 ppm	0.182 ppm	0 out of 30	NO	Corrosion of household plumbing systems.
INORGANIC CHEMICALS - Chloride and Fluoride tested daily. The 2024 results are below:						
Contaminant	EPA's MRDL	MRDLG	Highest Result	Results Range	Violation	Typical Sources
Chlorine	4 ppm	4 ppm	1.2 ppm	0.8 – 1.2 ppm	NO	Added as a drinking water disinfectant.
Contaminant	MCL	Ideal Goal	Highest Result	Range Results	Violation	Typical Sources
Fluoride (ppm)	4 ppm	4 ppm	0.88 ppm	0.54 – 0.77 ppm	NO	Erosion of natural deposits, or water additive that promotes strong teeth.
DISINFECTION BY-PRODUCTS - Tested quarterly at 4 locations in the water system The 2024 results are below:						
Contaminant	MCL		Average Detected	Range Results	Violation	Typical Sources
Total Trihalomethanes	80 ppb		28.3 ppb	12.9 – 47.3 ppb	NO	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
Total Haloacetic Acids	60 ppb		16.8 ppb	12.6– 23.7 ppb	NO	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
How to Read the Water Quality Data Table: EPA establishes the safe drinking water regulations that limit the amount of contaminants allowed in drinking water. The table shows the concentrations of detected substances in comparison to regulatory limits. Substances not detected are not included in the table.						
Action Level (AL). Action Level is the concentration of lead or copper in drinking water which, if exceeded, may trigger additional water treatment or other corrective actions.						
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.						
Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL). The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water.						
Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG). 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.						
N/A = not applicable; ND = non-detectable by EPA required lab analysis method (DOH reporting limit is 1 ppb).						
Units in the Table: ppm is an abbreviation for parts per million; ppb is an abbreviation for parts per billion.						



**Consumer Confidence Report
NAS Whidbey Island
January 1 – December 31, 2024**

The following table presents the regulatory limits and sampling results for contaminants routinely monitored by the City of Anacortes (NAS Whidbey Island water source):

**2024 Water Quality Data
City of Anacortes Water Treatment Plant
Wholesale Customers**

Compounds and Units	Average Level Detected	Range of Detections	Violations
RAW WATER			
Total Organic Carbon (ppm)	0.61	0.43 – 0.85	NONE
FINISHED WATER			
Total Organic Carbon (ppm)	0.39	0.28 – 0.50	NONE
Nitrate (ppm)	0.12	ND – 0.12	NONE
Total Coliform Bacteria	Absent	Absent	NONE
Chlorine (ppm)	1.21	1.13 – 1.32	NONE
Haloacetic Acids 5 (ppb)	15.8	9.0 – 23.8	NONE
Total Trihalomethanes (ppb)	19.1	12.3 – 33.4	NONE
Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS)	N/D	N/D	NONE
Sodium (ppm)	3.9	3.8 – 4.0	NONE
Barium (ppm)	0.0120	0.0087 – 0.0150	NONE
Fluoride (ppm)	N/D	N/D	NONE
Turbidity (NTU)	0.014	0.012 – 0.021	NONE

For more information, see the City of Anacortes webpage:
<https://www.anacorteswa.gov/504/Water-Quality-Reports>



Consumer Confidence Report NAS Whidbey Island January 1 – December 31, 2024

What are Per- and polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) and where do they come from?

Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) are a group of thousands of man-made chemicals. PFAS have been used in a variety of industries and consumer products around the globe, including in the U.S., since the 1940s. PFAS are found in many consumer products, as well as in industrial products, like certain firefighting agents called aqueous film forming foam (AFFF). PFAS is also found in essential use applications such as in microelectronics, batteries, and medical equipment. PFAS chemicals are persistent in the environment, and some are persistent in the human body – meaning they do not break down and they can accumulate over time.

Is there a regulation for PFAS in drinking water?

On April 26, 2024, the EPA published a National Primary Drinking Water Regulation (NPDWR) final rule on drinking water standards for six PFAS under the SDWA. The rule establishes the following maximum contaminant levels (MCLs):

Compound	Final MCLG	Final MCL (enforceable levels)
PFOA	Zero	4.0 parts per trillion (ppt) (also expressed as ng/L)
PFOS	Zero	4.0 ppt
PFHxS	10 ppt	10 ppt
PFNA	10 ppt	10 ppt
HFPO-DA (commonly known as GenX Chemicals)	10 ppt	10 ppt
Mixtures containing two or more of PFHxS, PFNA, HFPO-DA, and PFBS	1 (unitless) Hazard Index	1 (unitless) Hazard Index

Under the NPDWR, regulated public water systems (PWS) are required to complete initial monitoring by April 26, 2027. Beginning April 26, 2027, regulated PWSs will conduct ongoing compliance monitoring in accordance with the frequency dictated by the rule and as determined by the initial compliance monitoring results. Regulated PWSs must demonstrate compliance with the Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs) by April 26, 2029. City of Anacortes (NAS Whidbey Island water source) will continue to publish their compliance with the above MCLs under the NPDWR at <https://www.anacorteswa.gov/504/Water-Quality-Reports>

Additionally, the EPA has a program called the Unregulated Contamination Monitoring Rule (UCMR). This program helps the EPA learn more about certain chemicals that aren't currently regulated under the SDWA. By collecting data on these substances, the EPA can better understand any potential health risks and decide whether they should be regulated in the future.

Every five years, the EPA creates a new list of unregulated contaminants for water systems to test. The current round of testing is called UCMR5 and focuses on 29 types of PFAS and lithium. As part of this program, NAS Whidbey Island collected drinking water samples in September and December 2024 from the point where water enters the distribution system. The results showed that all levels were below the minimum reporting level (MRL), which means the amounts found were too low to be reliably measured. Two additional samples were collected in 2025, and the results will be included in the next Consumer Confidence Report.

Protecting the health of personnel, their families, and the communities that we serve is a priority for the Department of Defense (DoD). NAS Whidbey Island is committed to ensuring compliance with the requirements of the SDWA and the continued provision of safe drinking water to those that work and live on NAS Whidbey Island.