



10220 270th Street NW  
Stanwood, WA 98292

**QUESTIONS ABOUT  
DRINKING WATER QUALITY**

City of Stanwood Water Department  
360-629-9781  
[www.ci.stanwood.wa.us](http://www.ci.stanwood.wa.us)

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Safe Drinking Water Hotline  
800-426-4791  
[www.epa.gov/safewater](http://www.epa.gov/safewater)

Washington State  
Department of Health  
(253) 395-6750  
[www.doh.wa.gov/ehp/dw](http://www.doh.wa.gov/ehp/dw)

**Get Involved!**

City Council meetings are held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays of each month, 7:00pm at the School District Office located at 26920 Pioneer Highway.

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**A Community Update**

**City of Stanwood 2013 Water Quality Report**

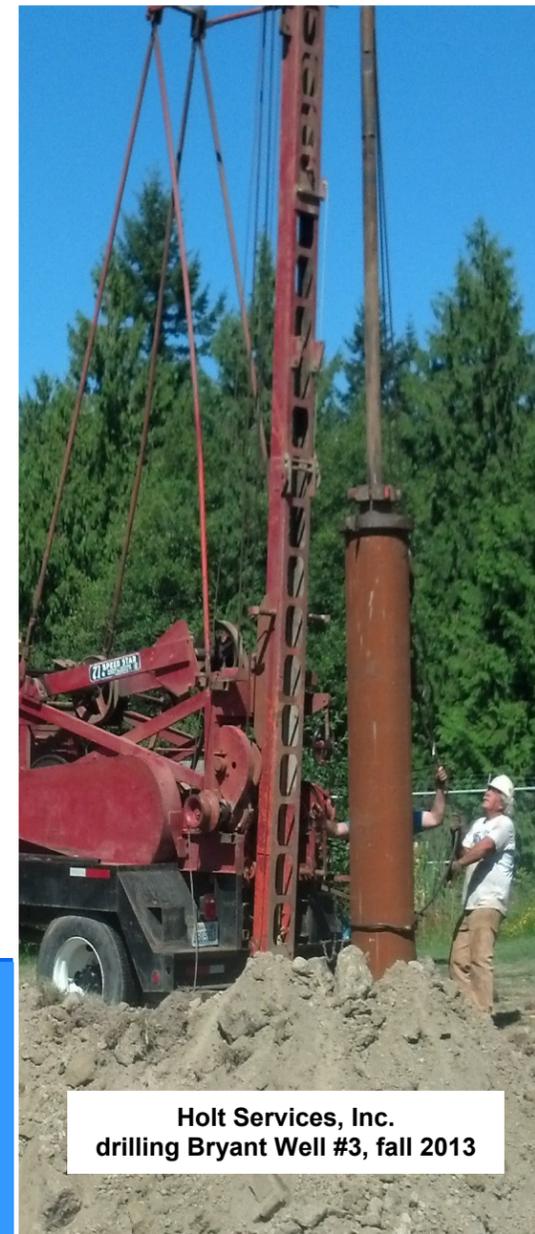
Public Water System ID #83650H

**2013 Mayor**  
Dianne White

**2013 Council Members**  
Conrad Ryer  
Elizabeth Callaghan  
Larry Sather  
Leonard Kelley  
Matt McCune  
Rick Randall  
Tim Pearce

**Interim  
Public Works Director**  
Kevin Hushagen

**Water Treatment Operators**  
Gina Melander  
Frank Cook  
Erik Holbeck



Holt Services, Inc.  
drilling Bryant Well #3, fall 2013

**City of Stanwood  
Water Quality Report  
For the Year 2013**

The City of Stanwood is pleased to present the annual Water Quality Report for the 2013 calendar year. We are committed to delivering quality drinking water. You can be confident that the water provided at your tap meets or exceeds national and state regulations. This report will inform you on the source of your water, what compounds are currently in your water, and how well your water complies with current regulations enforced by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Washington State Department of Health (DOH).

**Your Water Sources**

The City of Stanwood currently has five groundwater sources that withdraw water from aquifers. Aquifers are natural reservoirs of water found underground within layers of gravel, rock and sand. This water becomes replenished as rainwater seeps through layers of earth, which act as a natural filter. Bryant Well #1 (source 2) and Cedarhome Well (source 7) are supplied by aquifers. Hatt Slough Springs (source 1), Bryant Well #2 (source 3) and Fure Well (source 4) are not in operation at this time.

The DOH Office of Drinking Water rates all water sources based on their contaminant susceptibility as part of the Source Water Assessment Program (SWAP). Most of the city's sources are designated as high susceptibility due to the type of aquifer, depth of well and nearby contaminant sources. SWAP data for the City of Stanwood is online at: <http://www.doh.wa.gov/ehp/dw/sw/assessment.htm>

The Bryant Well #1 is the city's primary source of water and it provides the majority of the city's water supply. The Bryant Wells are located near Stanwood High School off 268<sup>th</sup> Street NW (Stanwood-Bryant Road). Water pumped from Bryant Well #1 is filtered for purity and chlorinated for disinfection before it is sent out to the distribution system and finally arrives at your tap. Water pumped from all other sources is chlorinated for disinfection before it is sent to the distribution system.

Our distribution system is a network of underground pipes that carry water from our sources to your tap. Our water system operators continue to track the quantity and quality of water from source to sink every day.

**Important Health Information**

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 the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

Contaminants that may be present in water include:

- ◆ **Microbial contaminants**, such as viruses and bacteria, from wildlife;
- ◆ **Inorganic contaminants**, such as salts and metals, which are naturally occurring;
- ◆ **Organic contaminants**, which are byproducts of disinfection processes; and
- ◆ **Radioactive contaminants**, which can be naturally occurring.

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 for 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.

## A Note From Your Water Department



In 2013, three of the city's reservoirs were cleaned and inspected by a dive team from Liquavision. Iron and manganese sediment was removed from the floor of the reservoirs; hatches and seams were inspected ensuring the safe storage of your drinking water.

Bryant Well #3, which will replace Bryant Well #2, was drilled in the fall of 2013, by Holt Services, Inc. The new well should go online in the fall of 2014, after the pump is installed and connection is made to the Water Treatment Plant.

Water leaks in the distribution system sometimes go unnoticed due to the location of a water line, or the leak is so small it doesn't surface. In these situations the only way to know about and locate these leaks is to do a leak detection survey. Finding these leaks and repairing them aids in lowering our water loss percentage. A leak detection survey of the

entire distribution system was conducted by Leakmasters, in the late summer. The leaks that they detected were repaired by your water department crew, pictured left to right Frank, Erik and Gina.

The water department works hard to maintain your water system and provide good customer service. If you have any water quality questions or need to report a water leak, please contact the water department at (360)629-9781.

## Help Conserve Water: Water Use Efficiency Performance Report

Water is a precious and limited resource. Through the commitment to water conservation, the average single family use per household has remained below our goal set in 2010. The goal was to reduce single family household water use to 201 gallons per day (gpd) by 2019, based on a 4-year rolling average. This average is used to assess our conservation performance, as weather can have a large impact on water use year to year. Our 4-year rolling average for 2010 to 2013 was 173 gpd per household. Your continuing to conserve water has helped us maintain our goal, and we thank you.

City of Stanwood Comparison of 2008 and 2013 Water Use Data			
	Year		Percent Change
	2008	2013	
Total Water Production	345 MG	301 MG	-14.6%
Total Authorized Consumption	271 MG	264 MG	-2.7%
Distribution System Leakage	9.6%	12.3%	2.7%
Average Single Family Use per Household	193 gpd	153 gpd	-26%

MG = million gallons gpd = gallons per day

The water department is making efforts to reduce the amount of distribution leakage by doing system wide leak detection surveys annually, replacing older water mains and services, and continuing to track all authorized consumption. We still have not met our goal of less than 10% distribution leakage, based on a 3-year rolling average. The current 3-year rolling average is 12.6%, which is 3.3% less than 2012's rolling average which was 15.9%.

Here are some ways you can help us reach our water use goals by saving even more water around your kitchen:

- ◆ Scrape dishes without using water and don't rinse them before putting in the dishwasher.
- ◆ Clean vegetables in a pan of water rather than under running tap water, then use that water to give your plants a drink.
- ◆ Run the dishwasher only when it is full.
- ◆ Replace the dishwasher with an Energy Efficient model, for more information visit: [www.snopud.com/conservation/appliances.ashx?p=1139](http://www.snopud.com/conservation/appliances.ashx?p=1139)

## Wellhead Protection Program

Being an owner of a Group A public water system, the City of Stanwood is required by the Federal Safe Drinking Water Act to develop a Wellhead Protection Program (WPP). The main goal of the City's WPP is to protect the health of its customers by being proactive in preventing contamination of the groundwater that it supplies for drinking water. Protection of the City's drinking water sources is everyone's responsibility. You, as a resident in the City's water service area, can help by being careful of your own practices around your home. Please be mindful when applying fertilizers/pesticides in your yards, always use the correct dosage, minimize the use of chemical weed control products, and dispose of old or unused hazardous waste appropriately. For more information on disposing of hazardous waste go to [www.snoco.org/solidwaste](http://www.snoco.org/solidwaste)



### Fun Facts

Why is water important? It is important because no animal or plant can survive without water, without it our world would not exist!

Did you know that the water you drank this morning might have been the same water a dinosaur drank millions of years ago? Or it may have been the same water that supported Columbus' ships on the sea. There is the same amount of water on Earth today as there has always been. The water keeps moving around in an endless cycle called the **water cycle**.

Water is part of a deeply interconnected system. What we pour on the ground ends up in our water, and what we spew into the sky ends up in our water.

## 2013 Water Quality Monitoring Results

To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the DOH and the EPA prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and the Washington State Department of Agriculture regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that must provide the same protection for public health.

Each of the City's water sources is chlorinated and the chlorine concentration is monitored as it enters the distribution system. The table on the right summarizes chlorine concentrations. Chlorine is necessary to properly disinfect your water supply from bacteria and microbes.

Chlorine Monitoring Point	Average	Range	Units
Cedarhome Well	0.29	0.05 – 1.13	ppm
Water Treatment Plant	0.44	0.15 -- 0.81	ppm

The City of Stanwood routinely monitors the quality of all of our water sources and the distribution system to ensure that they meet the latest regulations. The table below summarizes the makeup of your water in the past year. In addition to the contaminants listed below, we also monitored our sources for synthetic organic compounds, volatile organic compounds, lead, copper, nickel, radon, sulfate, radionuclides and others. These contaminants measured below their MCL or action levels.

This is What is in Your Tap				This Much is Allowed		Where did this Compound Come From?
Detected Contaminants	Treatment Plant Results	Cedarhome Well Results	Units	EPA's MCL Standard	Do We Comply?	Typical Sources
Arsenic	Average: 7.0 Range: 6 - 10	None Detected	ppb	10	Yes	Erosion from natural deposits
Nitrate	None Detected	None Detected	ppm	10	Yes	Fertilizer runoff, animal waste, natural erosion
Sodium *	Not required in 2013	Not required in 2013	ppm	20	Yes	Erosion from natural deposits
Total Trihalomethanes	Average: 15.1 Range: 7.9 – 21.4		ppb	80	Yes	A byproduct of chlorination
Five Haloacetic Acids	Average: 4.72 Range: 3.2 – 6.1		ppm	60	Yes	A byproduct of chlorination
Total Coliform	Not detected in 116 Annual Samples		Positive Samples	0	Yes	Microbes naturally present in the environment
Fecal Coliform and E. Coli	Not Detected in 116 Annual Samples		Positive Samples	0	Yes	Bacterial contamination from human or animal waste

\* Note: Sodium is unregulated, but the EPA recommends a 20 mg/L guidance level.

### DEFINITIONS

**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. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

**Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG):** The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk of health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

**ppb = parts per billion** = micrograms per liter (µg/L). This can be compared to one cent in \$10 million.

**ppm = parts per million** = milligrams per liter (mg/L). This can be compared to one cent in \$10,000.

**NTU = Nephelometric Turbidity Units:** Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water.

## Arsenic and Lead Information

Arsenic is naturally present in our water source and is removed at the Bryant Well Field Treatment Facility. While your drinking water meets EPA's standard for arsenic, it does contain low levels of arsenic. There is a small chance that some people who drink water containing low levels of arsenic for many years could develop circulatory disease, cancer, or other health problems. Most types of cancer and circulatory disease are due to factors other than exposure to arsenic. EPA's standard balances the current understanding of arsenic's health effects against the cost of removing arsenic from drinking water.

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. The City of Stanwood is 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 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>.