

# PARADISE ESTATES

2013

# WATER QUALITY AND WATER EFFICIENCY REPORTS

COPIES ALSO AVAILABLE AT THE OFFICE AND ON THE PCC WEB SITE:

[www.paradisec.org](http://www.paradisec.org)

**CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT: DRINKING WATER QUALITY AND WATER USE EFFICIENCY REPORTS FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2013.**

**💧 Is my drinking water safe?**

Last year, as in years past your water met all U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Washington State drinking water health standards. Our PCC Water Department vigilantly safeguards our water supplies, and once again we are proud to report that our system has not violated a Maximum Contaminant Level or any other water quality standard.

**💧 Do I need to take special precautions?**

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in 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 disorder, 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/ Center for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by microbial contaminants are available from the EPA Safe Drinking Hotline (800-426-4791).

**💧 Where does our water come from?**

Paradise Community receives our water from the Nisqually Aquifer and three wells located on Stevens Road, Paradise Drive and Osborn Road within Paradise Estates. This enables us to provide approximately 750 people with reliable and safe drinking water. Our water supply is regularly tested for more than 100 different substances. In 2013, overall drinking water quality here in Paradise Estates was excellent, and our water supply currently meets or exceeds all state and Federal EPA drinking water standards.

**💧 Why are there contaminants in my drinking water?**

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 Safe Drinking Hotline (800-426-4791).

**💧 How to get involved?**

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water quality, please contact the PCC Office at (360) 569- 2669, Mon, Wed or Fri between 1:00pm-5:00pm. A copy of this report is posted at the PCC Office and on the PCC website. [www.paradisec.org](http://www.paradisec.org)

**Water Quality**

Sample Type/ Regulated Substance	Last Year Tested	Next Year Due	MCL*	Detected	Violation	Typical Source
Nitrate	2013	2014	10	<0.2	No	Runoff from Fertilizer
Arsenic	2010	2014	0.01	0.007	No	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Haloacetic Acids	2011	2014	0.06	0.023	No	By-Product of Chlorination
Total Trihalomethanes	2011	2014	0.08	0.025	No	By-Product of Chlorination
Total Coliform Bacteria	2013 (monthly)	2014	None **	No	No	Naturally Present in Environment
* Maximum Contaminant Level in Parts Per Million (or milligrams per liter). ** Detection Requires Further Testing.						
Sample Type/ Regulated Substance	Last Year Tested	Next Year Due	AL***	Detected	Violation	Typical Source
Lead	2011	2014	0.015	0.002	No	Old Plumbing/Erosion of Natural Deposits
Copper	2011	2014	1.3	0.02	No	Old Plumbing/Erosion of Natural Deposits
*** Action Level (contaminant concentration that triggers treatment requirement) in Parts Per Million.						
Sample Type/ Regulated Substance	Last Year Tested	Next Year Due	MCL ****	Detected	Violation	Typical Source
Chloride	2011	2014	250	25	No	Run off/Erosion of Natural Deposits
Iron	2011	2014	0.3	0.1	No	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Manganese	2011	2014	0.05	0.01	No	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Sulfate	2011	2014	250	1	No	Erosion of Natural Deposits
****Maximum Contaminant Level for Secondary Effects (color, taste, odor issues rather than adverse health effects) in Parts Per Million						

**Paradise Estates drinking water meets or exceeds all federal and state requirements. However, 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. The EPA has determined that our water is safe.**

## Common Problems

💧 My water smells sometimes. Why is that?

See WATER FACT SHEET on our website: [www.paradisec.org](http://www.paradisec.org)

💧 My water is cloudy sometimes, but then clears up. Can I drink it?

The “cloudiness” is air trapped in the water in tiny bubbles. These harmless bubbles enter the water when air is drawn into the water transmission system that carries water from the well. This is usually temporary and the water clears in a short time.

💧 My water is dirty sometimes. What should I do?

Once in a while, you may experience muddy-brown or cloudy water. This can occur when a stand pipe is in use, when a main breaks or when flow patterns in the water main change. The source of the dirty water is harmless particles. Typically, these harmless particles settle along the bottom of water mains and do not show up in your home. Paradise Estates Water Department flushes water mains frequently to remove these harmless silt particles. If you experience dirty water, refrain from using any water for 30 minutes to an hour. The problem will usually correct itself.

💧 How should I disinfect water in an emergency?

To disinfect water in an emergency, boil for at least 3 minutes or add 10 drops (1/8 teaspoon) of household bleach to 1 gallon clear water and let stand for 30 minutes.

## Conservation

Our water is a precious resource. We can all do small things to use it well and keep it clean.

- ♥ Fix drips and leaking toilets
- ♥ Use low-flow fixture options
- ♥ Turn off the water while you brush your teeth and shave
- ♥ Install a private shut-off near your home to turn off water (or turn it off at the meter) when you are away

For more conservation ideas see **110 Ways to Conserve Water** on our website [www.paradisec.org](http://www.paradisec.org)

## **Water Efficiency Report**

In 2013, Paradise Estates pumped 4,462,784 gallons of water, sold 4,108,292 gallons of water, and used 246,430 gallons of water during water distribution operations. Total water not accounted for was 108,062 gallons or 2.4%, which compares favorably with 3.0% unaccounted for in 2012. Of the 4,462,784 gallons of water pumped in 2013, we lost 394,063 gallons or 8.8% of water pumped to consumer side leaks. Our water system continues to remain well below the state requirement of less than 10% unaccounted for water loss.

## **Our Water Department**

Water Department Manager, Alvie Whitlock is currently a Washington State Department of Health (DOH) certified Water Distribution Manager-Level 2 (WDM2) and Cross Connection Control Specialist. The Water Department Assistant Manager, Maria Niesen is also a certified WDM2 and WTPO2. Water Department Volunteer Ben Pacatte is working to obtain his WTPO1 certification. Alvie, Maria and Ben work hard to maintain and improve the quality and service provided to our community. The water department welcomes more community involvement, and is an equal opportunity employer. The water department would like to thank all of the board members, our dedicated staff, and the many community volunteers who help with maintenance, billing and other vital tasks to keep our cost down and our quality up. For the eighth year in a row there has been no increase in water charges or annual dues. We also want to thank you, the community for your support.

## **Our Community**

We want our valued Association Members to be informed about their water utility. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled board meetings. They are held on the second Sunday of every other month at the Paradise Estates Office on Nisqually Way. The PCC Board meeting starts at 1:00pm and all Association Members are invited to attend.

Again, if you have any questions about this report or concerning your water quality, please contact the PCC Office at (360) 569- 2669, Mon, Wed or Fri between 1:00pm-5:00pm. A copy of this report is posted at the PCC Office and on the PCC website. [www.paradisec.org](http://www.paradisec.org)