

Your drinking water is brought to your home by:

Spokane County Water District #3

SCWD#3 operates 7 independent water systems in Spokane County and is dedicated to making sure that every drop of water delivered to your tap is clean and safe for your family. Water District Board Meetings are held weekly on Wednesday mornings at 9:00 a.m. and public attendance is welcome.

Spokane County Water District #3
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Purpose: This report is provided to all of our customers. It describes your drinking water quality for the period of January 1st to December 31st, 2024. Your water utility is committed to supplying safe water that meets or surpasses State and Federal Standards and achieves the highest standards of customer service.

Water Source: Your drinking water comes from the **Spokane Valley Rathdrum Prairie Aquifer** (see map, page 2). This pristine and abundant aquifer lies in two states, holds ten trillion gallons of water, and is the sole source of drinking water for almost half a million people in the region. This groundwater source is recharged by the local precipitation and the snowpack in northern Idaho and western Montana. It is naturally filtered by surface vegetation and the layers of gravel above the water line. The aquifer travels through northern Idaho and into Washington where it discharges into the Spokane River and the Little Spokane River.

The SVRP aquifer is unique because of its vast size, swift flow of water, porous soils and the fact that the land over the aquifer is extensively developed. These factors make our aquifer uniquely susceptible to contamination. We must all treat the aquifer with care to keep our drinking water clean for everyone to enjoy. In the past one hundred years aquifer levels have remained constant, however scientific models have shown us that even though the aquifer is plentiful it is not limited. Careful planning will be required in the coming years to ensure that this aquifer remains clean and available for our community. Preserving our water sources for the future is a priority for SCWD#3.

To find out more about how you can be an active partner in our efforts visit: www.spokaneaquifer.org/education-awareness

SCWD#3 strives to be a good steward of the aquifer and your water system. Year-round water quality monitoring, replacing aging or leaking pipes and pumps, and planning for growth are just some of the responsibilities of the District.

Water Quality: To ensure that your water is **clean and safe**, we test for contaminants all year long. The Department of Health and 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 Department of Agriculture regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water. **We are proud to report that your water meets or exceeds all state and federal regulations.** While some contaminants were found in the water, the Environmental Protection Agency has determined that your water is safe at these levels for you and your family. Keep in mind that the presence of contaminants doesn't mean the water is unsafe. MCLs are set at very stringent levels. 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. Health related standards are set by the Washington State Department of Health. See table on page 3 for your most recent water sampling results.

Important Note: Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immune-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 providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by cryptosporidium and other microbiological contaminants or for more information about contaminants and potential health effects call the **Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.**

ENGLISH

This report contains important information about your drinking water. Have someone translate it for you, or speak with someone who understands it.

RUSSIAN

Этот отчет содержит важную информацию о вашей питьевой воде. Попросите кого-нибудь перевести это для вас или поговорите с кем-то, кто понимает это.

SPANISH

Este informe contiene información importante sobre su agua potable. Haga que alguien lo traduzca por usted o hable con alguien que lo entienda.

VIETNAMESE

Báo cáo này chứa thông tin quan trọng về nước uống của bạn. Có ai đó dịch nó cho bạn, hoặc nói chuyện với ai đó hiểu nó.

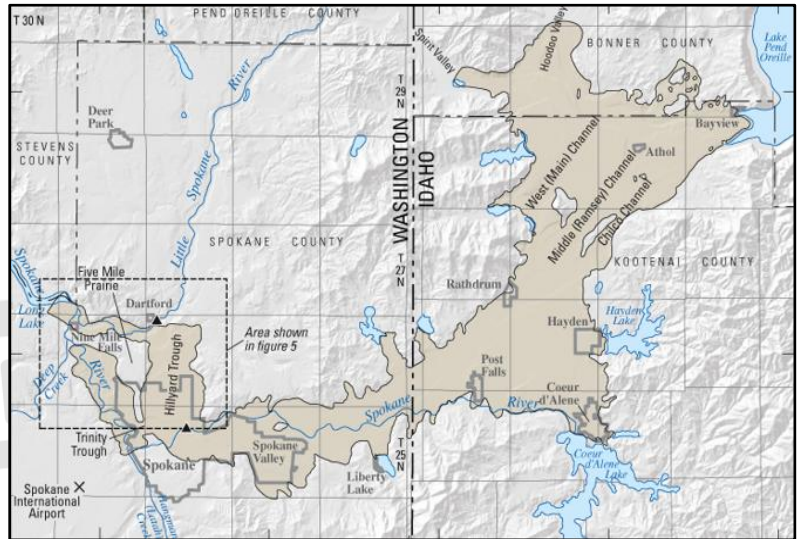
WATER CONSERVATION AND EFFICIENCY



Water Conservation Rebate

Program: In our efforts to promote water conservation and protection of the area's natural

resources, we recently adopted a rebate program for the purchase of smart irrigation controllers for customers with in-ground irrigation systems. The rebate offers a credit on customer accounts, up to \$100.00, for the proof of purchase and use of "EPA WaterSense" labeled controllers within our water district. For more information or ways to apply or terms and conditions, visit our website at <https://scwd3.org/conservation-rebate-program/> or contact our office for a copy of the rebate application.



Spokane Valley Rathdrum Prairie Aquifer

For other information regarding ways to save water, visit our website at scwd3.org, follow us on Twitter, visit outdoorwateringnerds.org/tips-to-save-water or search "water conservation tips" in your web browser.

Water Use Efficiency: In addition to monitoring the quality of the water, SCWD#3 also works to make sure we are **using water efficiently**. The District set new water use efficiency goals in 2021 (found below) and report our progress annually.

DEMAND SIDE GOAL: Reduce Residential Usage by 1/2 GPD/ERU Each Year

The District's goal in 2024 was to reduce residential water use to 454.5 gallons per day per equivalent residential unit (GPD/ERU), but customers averaged 464.5, so we were unable to meet our goal this year. We finished replacing water meters in this system with radio read meters which now allows us to read 12 months out of the year, so customers are more aware of winter usage. The meters are also equipped with leak detection alarms, which alert District staff to verify if leaks are present on the customer's side of the meter. Last, these new meters also offer a "DataLog" feature which allows our staff to pull hourly usage information from the meters, at the request of the customer, to pinpoint when a pesky leak started, or causes of high water bills, such as irrigation timers being set too long.

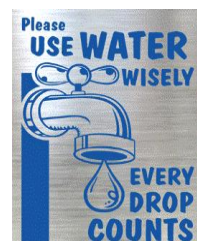
SUPPLY SIDE GOAL: Reduce the District's Average Distribution System Leakage Below 9.5% for the Next 6 Years

At 13.6%, we were unable to meet our goal for 2024. However, we hired a leak detection company to assess this entire water system this year. By doing so we were able to locate and repair 3 leaking water mains and 3 leaking service lines. We also replaced 610 feet of deteriorated water main that had a history of failures. We installed locks on all the fire hydrants in the area to stop unauthorized usage and we will continue our aggressive leak detection program with timely repairs to hopefully help reach our goal in 2025.

Free Online Bill Pay: SCWD#3 switched online bill pay providers to **xpress BILL PAY**. This change is designed to make online bill pay easier and best of all **it's free!** **xpress BILL PAY** is a secure online bill payment system that offers 24-7 access to your utility account to make payments with credit cards, debit cards, or electronic funds transfers. If you have multiple accounts, **xpress BILL PAY** gives customers the ability to manage all their service provider billing accounts from a single login. **Auto Pay** allows customers to set up automatic payments and not worry about them again. A complete history of payment confirmations, online transactions, and **Water Consumption History** are also provided. Email reminder alerts are sent to customers when bills arrive, when they're due, and when they're paid. Visit the website at www.xpressbillpay.com and sign up today! Or download the mobile app!



From Your Local Water Utility
Spokane County Water District #3
<https://SCWD3.org>



SOURCE WATER TESTING (sample taken at the well)

CONTAMINANT	SAMPLE YEAR	UNITS	MCLG	MCL	HIGHEST DETECTION	POSSIBLE SOURCE
Nitrate	2024	ppm	10	10	1.13	Runoff from Fertilizer Use; Leaching from Septic Tanks, Sewage; Erosion of Natural Deposits
Arsenic	2019	ppb	0	10	4.2	Erosion of Natural Deposits; Runoff from Orchards; Runoff from Glass and Electronics Production Wastes
Gross Alpha	2022	pCi/L	n/a	15	ND	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Radium 228	2022	pCi/L	n/a	5	ND	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Synthetic Organic Chemicals	2023	ppb + ppt	Varies by chemical	Varies by chemical	ND	Varies by Chemical
Volatile Organic Chemicals	2022	ppb	Varies by chemical	Varies by chemical	ND	Varies by Chemical

DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM TESTING (sample taken at the tap)

CONTAMINANT	SAMPLE YEAR	UNITS	MCLG	AL	90 TH PERCENTILE	POSSIBLE SOURCE
Lead	2024	ppb	0	15	1.2	Corrosion of the Household Plumbing Systems; Erosion of Natural Deposits; Leaching from Wood Preservatives.
Copper	2024	ppb	1300	1300	45	
CONTAMINANT	SAMPLE YEAR	UNITS	MCLG	MCL	HIGHEST DETECTION	POSSIBLE SOURCE
Total Trihalomethanes	2024	ppb	0	80	ND	By-product of Chlorination
Haloacetic Acids	2024	ppb	0	60	ND	By-product of Chlorination
E.coli Bacteria	2024		0	A routine sample and a repeat sample are total coliform positive, and one is also E.coli positive	ND	Human and Animal Fecal Waste

RADON is a naturally occurring radioactive gas that is common in the Spokane area. Exposure to excessive amounts of radon may increase cancer risk. Your drinking water, in most cases is a very small source of radon in indoor air. For local assistance concerning radon in your home, contact the Spokane County Health District at (509) 324-1560 ext. 5

LEAD: 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. Spokane County Water District #3 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 EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at **1-800-426-4791** or online at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>

ARSENIC: While your drinking water meets EPA's standard for arsenic, it does contain low levels of arsenic. EPA's standard balances the current understanding of arsenic's possible health effects against the costs of removing arsenic from drinking water. EPA continues to research the health effects of low levels of arsenic, which is a mineral known to cause cancer in humans at high concentrations and is linked to other health effects such as skin damage and circulatory problems.

ABBREVIATIONS:

AL – Action Level – The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

MCL – Maximum Contaminant Level – The highest level of a contaminant allowed in drinking water.

MCLG – Maximum Contaminant Level Goal – The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health.

ND – Not Detected

NA – Not Applicable

pCi/L – Pico Curies per Liter – a unit of radioactivity

90th Percentile – 90% of at-risk homes had this concentration or less of lead/copper.

Ppm – Parts per million or milligrams per liter. About 4 drops in a 55-gallon barrel or 1 second out of 12 days would represent 1 ppm.

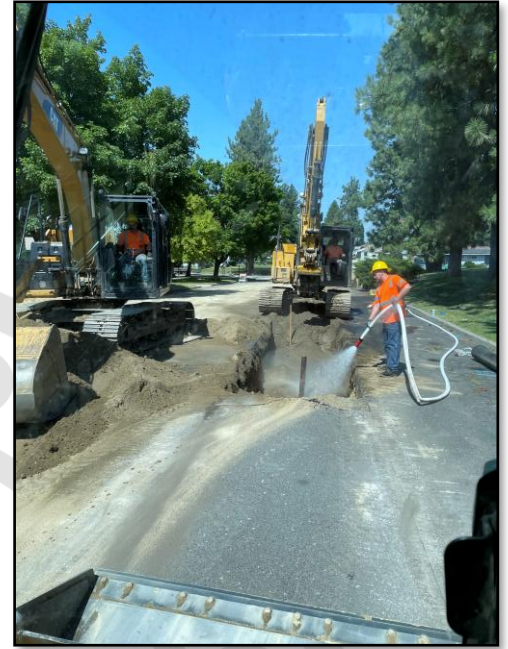
Ppb – Parts per billion or micrograms per liter. About 1 drop of water in a swimming pool or 1 second out of 32 years would represent 1 ppb.

Ppt – Parts per trillion or nanograms per liter. About 1 drop in 20 Olympic-sized swimming pools or 1 second out of 31,710 years would represent 1 ppb.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS (COMPLETED IN 2024)

Whitehouse Waterline Replacement: In 2024, the District replaced another section of depreciated 6" steel main on Whitehouse, between Houston and Francis. This portion consisted of installing 610 feet of new 8" ductile iron pipe, replacing 12 service lines, 10 meter pits, and a new fire hydrant totaling \$241,805. This is the second phase of a 4-year steel main replacement program to alleviate some troublesome waterlines prone to developing leaks. The overall project includes replacing pipe between Houston and Francis on Calispel, Whitehouse, Washington, Stevens, and Howard with a total lineal footage of 4,000 feet and total project cost of \$1,080,000.

Cascade Way Waterline Design: Spokane County Public Works informed us last fall that they were doing a full road rehabilitation on Cascade Way between Wall and Normandie in the Summer of 2025. Within that roadway we have deteriorated 8" steel main that eventually needs to be upsized to 12" and other portions that need to be upsized to 16". This is small portion of a multi-phase transmission main backbone being installed in the area to increase fire flow and reliability to the area. Currently our wells feed our water towers through a single 14" steel water main running north and south on Wall Street. This new transmission main will run between Carolina Way and Rhodes Ave and create a secondary path for water to travel while replacing a bunch of old 8" steel main running through residential neighborhoods in the area. Even though this portion of the project on Cascade Way wasn't included in our 10-year capital improvement plan, we felt the need to pair up with Spokane County Public Works while the road was being replaced to complete these improvements. By doing so, we were able to save money on asphalt costs and traffic control and prevent digging up the County's brand-new roadway to replace this pipe in the future. This project is anticipated to reach finalized design and go out for bid in the Spring of 2025, with construction completed ahead of the County's paving project scheduled for mid-summer 2025. Total anticipated costs are expected to be \$1,196,700.



Construction Crew Installing New Water Main on Calispel Road Between Houston and Francis

Future Improvements:

PROJECT	PURPOSE	TOTAL COST	YEAR
Replace Steel Mains with 10" Between Houston and Francis on Calispel, Whitehouse, Washington, Stevens, and Howard (4,000 LF)	Depreciation/ Fire Flow	\$1,080,000	2024-2027
Cascade Way Waterline Replacement Between Wall and Normandie (2,000 LF)	Depreciation/ Fire Flow	\$1,196,700	2025
Steer Inn Well Pump Replacement	Depreciation	\$50,000	2028
5-Mile Booster Pump Station Replacement (Pre-1980)	Operational Efficiency/ Reliability/ Capacity	\$640,000	TBD
Replace 600,000 Gallon Reservoir	Depreciation	\$1,990,000	TBD
Replace Steel Main in Wedgewood with 12" from Monroe to Country Homes Blvd (1,800 LF)	Depreciation/ Fire Flow	\$510,000	TBD
Install 10" Ductile Iron Loop in Holyoke from Monroe to Lynwood (650 LF)	Fire Flow/ Reliability	\$370,000	TBD
Replace Steel Main in Beacon with 10" from Monroe to Argonaut (600 LF)	Depreciation/ Fire Flow	\$180,000	TBD
Replace Steel Main with 8" Parallel to Division Between Wedgewood and Houston (1,400 LF)	Depreciation/ Fire Flow	\$400,000	TBD
Install 12" Ductile Iron Loop from Rainer North Parallel to Division (1,000 LF)	Fire Flow/ Reliability	\$290,000	TBD



Spokane Aquifer Joint Board
Local Water Utilities United for Safe Drinking Water

