

2025 Drinking Water Quality Report

ISSUED MAY 2026 / BASED ON 2025 WATER QUALITY DATA

City of The Dalles

Our Water Utility is recognized by the State of Oregon as an Outstanding Performer



OUR GOAL Safe water in abundant supply, for today and for future generations.

2025 Water Quality Summary

What’s in our drinking water? During 2025, our water was tested by state- and federal-certified laboratories for many possible contaminants, including bacteria, turbidity, inorganic, and organic chemicals, like the disinfection by-products. Only the materials that were *actually* detected are listed in the tables below. All of the others were *not detected*. **All substances detected were present at levels considered safe by the US Environmental Protection Agency and the State of Oregon Health Authority.**

Turbidity and Regulated Chemicals (including inorganic, synthetic and volatile organic chemicals; IOCs, SOCs, VOCs)					
Substance	Ideal Maximum (MCLG)	This much allowed (MCL)	This much was found	Complies?	Major Sources Listed by EPA
Turbidity (NTU)	Not Applicable	TT, 95% under 0.3	0.05 - 0.15; 100% comply	YES	Particulate matter from soil runoff
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	0.35 - 1.10	YES	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Total Organic Carbon (ppm)	Not Applicable	TT	0.5 - 2.0	YES	Naturally present in the environment
Chlorine (ppm)	4 (MRDLG)	4.0 (MRDL)	0.26 - 1.20	YES	Water additive used to control microbes

Disinfection By-products (DBPs, a subset of VOCs)(Four locations are sampled quarterly)					
Substance	Ideal Maximum (MCLG)	Highest Running Annual Average allowed, by location (MCL)	This much was found (Individual tests)	Highest 12-month Locational Running Average	Complies? (Is it OK?)
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs) (ppb)	Not Applicable	80	10 - 27	24	YES
Haloacetic Acids (HAA-5) (ppb)	Not Applicable	60	3 - 24	18	YES

Disinfection by-products (DBPs) are substances formed when water is chlorinated to protect customers from disease-producing organisms. The challenge is to apply enough chlorine to kill microorganisms while keeping the by-products formed as low as possible.

Unregulated Contaminants				
Substance	Ideal Maximum (MCLG)	Range	Average	Typical Source
Bromodichloromethane (ppb)	0	0.88 - 1.9	1.57	By-product of chlorinating water
Bromoform (ppb)	0	Not Detected	Not Detected	By-product of chlorinating water
Chloroform (ppb)	70	8.3 - 25	14.3	By-product of chlorinating water
Dibromochloromethane (ppb)	60	Not Detected	Not Detected	By-product of chlorinating water
Dichloroacetic Acid (ppb)	0	4 - 7.3	5.6	By-product of chlorinating water
Trichloroacetic Acid (ppb)	200	5.1 - 10	8.0	By-product of chlorinating water
Sodium (ppm)	Not Applicable	6.6 - 44	27.92	Erosion of natural deposits

Lead and Copper Sampling (Sampled in December 2025, next round Spring 2026)						
Substance	Ideal Maximum (MCLG)	Action Level (AL)	90th Percentile	Homes exceeding the AL	Complies?	Major Sources Listed by EPA
Lead (ppb)	0	15	13	1* of 47 (0%)	YES	Corrosion of household plumbing
Copper (ppm)	1.3	1.3	0.11	0 of 47 (0%)	YES	Corrosion of household plumbing

The 90th percentile is the highest result found in 90% of the samples when they are listed in order from lowest to 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. Because of the quality shown by these, and previous results, the City has been allowed to reduce testing to 30 samples every three years. In 2025 additional Lead and Copper testing was conducted as a requirement for commissioning of the Riverside Well facility. * One exceedence due to sample that was collected at vacant home with stagnant water.

Key to Technical Terms

MCLG - Maximum Contaminant Level Goal - 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.

MCL - Maximum Contaminant Level - The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLG as feasible using the best available water treatment technology.

MRDLG - Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal - The level of residual disinfectants in drinking water at which no adverse health effects are likely to occur.

MRDL - Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level - The highest level of residual disinfectants in drinking water, as an annualized average, set as close to the health goals as feasible.

TT - Treatment Technique - A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

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

ppm - parts per million/partes por millón - one part of a contaminant for every million parts of water; equivalent to milligrams per liter (mg/L)

ppb - parts per billion - one part of a contaminant for every billion parts of water; equivalent to micrograms per liter (ug/L)

ND - Not Detected - No detection above the analytical method detection level

NTU - Nephelometric Turbidity Unit - Standard unit to measure water clarity

Turbidity - Clarity of water, measured to evaluate filtration effectiveness

UCMR5 - Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule, Round 5; Federal program to determine occurrence of potential regulated items. This round includes Lithium and 29 PFAS-family compounds.

2025 Additional Water Quality Testing

During 2025, additional water testing was required ahead of pumping excess surface water into the new Aquifer Storage and Recovery (ASR) system. Water was tested by state- and federal-certified laboratories for many possible contaminants, including bacteria, turbidity, inorganic, and organic chemicals, like the disinfection by-products. Samples were taken each quarter of 2025. Only the materials that were detected in excess of the maximum contaminant level are listed in the tables below.

Disinfection By-products (DBPs, a subset of VOCs)(ASR location was sampled quarterly)					
Substance	Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG)	Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL)	This much was found on February 19, 2025 (one of four tests)	Typical Source	Complies? (Is it OK?)
Chlorine Dioxide (ppm)	0.8	0.8	1.7	Disinfection chemical	NO
Bromate (ppm)	0.0	0.010	0.024	DBP of ozone disinfection	NO

These materials were only detected in excess of maximum contaminant level (MCL) in the first quarter of 2025. They were not detected in excess of the MCL in the following three quarters of 2025.

What does this mean?

Detection of these materials in excess of the maximum contaminant level is not an emergency. If it had been an emergency, you would have been notified within 24 hours.

What should I do?

- There is nothing you need to do. You do not need to boil your water or take other corrective actions. If a situation arises where the water is no longer safe to drink, you will be notified within 24 hours.
- If you have a severely compromised immune system, have an infant, are pregnant, or are elderly, you may be at increased risk and should seek advice from your health care providers about drinking this water.

Some infants and young children who drink water containing chlorine dioxide in excess of the MRDL could experience nervous system effects. Similar effects may occur in fetuses of pregnant women who drink water containing chlorine dioxide in excess of the MRDL. Some people may experience anemia.

Some people who drink water containing bromate in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

What is the City doing?

Chlorine dioxide is a water additive that is used to control microbes (disinfect). This additive is not used by the City of The Dalles. Therefore, the City is not typically required to test for this additive.

Bromate is a disinfection by-product typically found when ozone disinfection is used. The City does not use ozone disinfection. Therefore, the City is not typically required to test for this disinfection by-product.

The City will continue to monitor

No root cause for the detection of these materials has been determined at this time. Therefore, the City will add these materials to the quarterly disinfection by-products sample schedule in addition to ASR related sampling in 2026.

For more information, please contact the Water Quality Manager at waterquality@thedalles.gov or call (541) 298-2248. For media inquiries, contact Amie Ell, Public Information Officer at amell@thedalles.gov

Pruebas Adicionales de Calidad del Agua Para 2025

Durante 2025, se requirieron análisis adicionales del agua antes de bombear el exceso de agua superficial al nuevo sistema de almacenamiento y recuperación de acuíferos (Aquifer Storage and Recovery, ASR). El agua fue analizada por laboratorios certificados a nivel estatal y federal para detectar diversos contaminantes, como bacterias, turbidez y sustancias químicas orgánicas e inorgánicas, como los subproductos de la desinfección. Se tomaron muestras cada trimestre de 2025. En las tablas a continuación, solo se incluyen los materiales que superaron el nivel máximo de contaminantes (Maximum Contaminant Level, MCL) detectado.

Subproductos de desinfección (Subproductos de desinfección, un subconjunto de compuestos orgánicos volátiles, VOCs) (La ubicación de ASR se muestreó trimestralmente.)					
Sustancia	Meta del nivel máximo de desinfectante residual (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal, MRDLG)	Nivel máximo de contaminante (MCL)	Esto se descubrió el 19 de febrero de 2025 (una de las cuatro pruebas).	Fuente típica	¿Cumple? (¿Está bien?)
Dióxido de cloro (ppm)	0.8	0.8	1.7	Químico desinfectante	NO
Bromato (ppm)	0.0	0.010	0.024	Subproductos de desinfección con ozono	NO

Estos materiales solo se detectaron por encima del nivel máximo de contaminante (MCL) en el primer trimestre de 2025. No se detectaron por encima del MCL en los tres trimestres siguientes de 2025.

¿Qué significa esto?

La detección de estos materiales por encima del nivel máximo de contaminantes no constituye una emergencia. Si esto hubiera sido una emergencia, se le habría notificado dentro de 24 horas.

¿Qué debo hacer?

- No es necesario que haga nada. No tiene que hervir el agua ni tomar otras medidas correctivas. Si surge una situación en la que el agua ya no sea segura para beber, se le notificará en un plazo de 24 horas.
- Si tiene un sistema inmunitario gravemente deprimido, tiene un bebé, está embarazada o tiene edad avanzada, puede correr un riesgo mayor y debe pedir asesoramiento a sus proveedores de atención médica sobre el consumo de esta agua.

Algunos bebés y niños pequeños que beben agua que contiene dióxido de cloro en exceso del nivel máximo de desinfectante residual (MRDL) podrían experimentar efectos en el sistema nervioso. Efectos similares pueden ocurrir en los fetos de mujeres embarazadas que beben agua con dióxido de cloro en exceso del MRDL. Algunas personas pueden experimentar anemia.

Algunas personas que beben agua con niveles de bromato superiores al límite máximo permitido (MCL) durante muchos años pueden tener un mayor riesgo de desarrollar cáncer.

¿Qué está haciendo la ciudad?

El dióxido de cloro es un aditivo para el agua que se utiliza para controlar los microbios (desinfectar). La Ciudad de The Dalles no utiliza este aditivo. Por lo tanto, normalmente no se requiere que la Ciudad realice pruebas para detectar este aditivo.

El bromato es un subproducto de la desinfección que generalmente se encuentra cuando se utiliza la desinfección con ozono. La Ciudad no utiliza desinfección con ozono. Por lo tanto, normalmente no se requiere que la Ciudad realice pruebas para detectar este subproducto de la desinfección.

La Ciudad continuará monitoreando

Por lo tanto, la ciudad agregará estos materiales al programa trimestral del muestro de subproductos de desinfección, además del muestreo relacionado con el sistema de almacenamiento y recuperación de acuíferos (ASR) en 2026.

Para obtener más información, comuníquese con el gerente de calidad del agua en waterquality@thedalles.gov o llame al (541) 298-2248. Para consultas de los medios de comunicación, póngase en contacto con Amie Ell, Oficial de Información Pública, en amell@thedalles.gov.

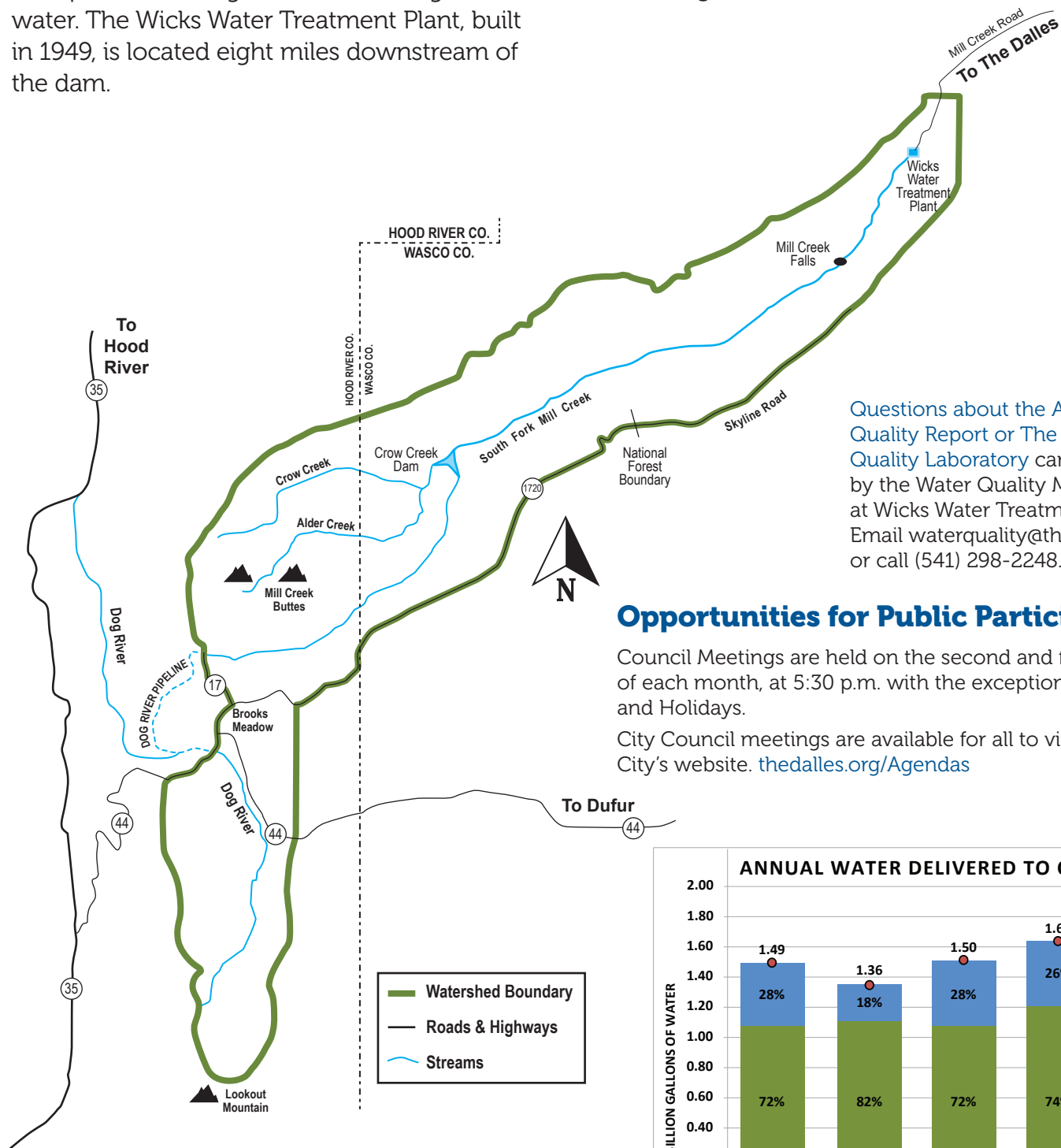
Comparta esta información con todas las demás personas que beben esta agua, especialmente las que pueden no haber recibido este aviso en forma directa (por ejemplo, las personas que están en apartamentos, hogares de ancianos, escuelas y empresas). Puede hacerlo colocando este aviso en un lugar público o distribuyendo copias personalmente o por correo postal.

Usted ha recibido este aviso de parte del Sistema Público de Agua de la Ciudad de The Dalles. N.º de ID del sistema de agua del estado: 00869.
Fecha de distribución: Mayo de 2026.

Where does our **DRINKING WATER** come from?

The Dalles Municipal Watershed is the source for most of the drinking water delivered to our service area. The 22,000-acre protected watershed collects rainfall and snow melt from Dog River, Alder Creek, Crow Creek and the South Fork of Mill Creek, which is then stored behind Crow Creek Dam. Built in 1967, the dam provides storage for 267 million gallons of water. The Wicks Water Treatment Plant, built in 1949, is located eight miles downstream of the dam.

Surface water treated at the Wicks Water Treatment Plant normally provides about 70-80% of the City's annual water supply. Five wells supplement the surface water supply year-round. All city wells draw from "The Dalles Pool", an aquifer located under The Dalles that extends slightly beyond the City's urban growth area.

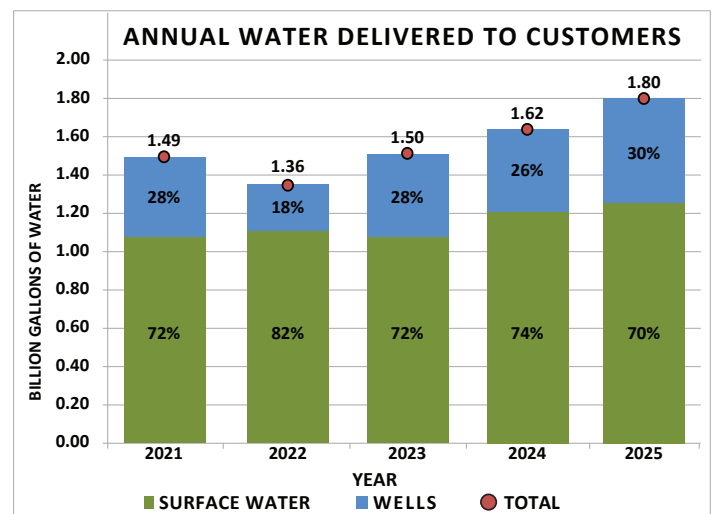


Questions about the Annual Water Quality Report or The Dalles Water Quality Laboratory can be answered by the Water Quality Manager at Wicks Water Treatment Plant. Email waterquality@thedalles.gov or call (541) 298-2248.

Opportunities for Public Participation

Council Meetings are held on the second and fourth Monday of each month, at 5:30 p.m. with the exception of August and Holidays.

City Council meetings are available for all to view live on the City's website. thedalles.org/Agendas



Generational Investments: Drinking Water System

The City is responsible for ensuring its residents have access to safe and reliable water for maintaining public health, fire protection, supporting a vibrant economy and the overall quality of life we enjoy. To continue to achieve this, it is necessary to make



Wicks Water Treatment Plant built in 1949

generational investments just as those who invested before us.

The Water Master Plan Update was approved for adoption on December 9, 2024 during the City Council meeting. A 20 year build out timeline in the Plan is designed

to guide strategic investments. The goal of the Plan is to ensure access to safe and reliable water supplies now and in the future.

Replacement and expansion of the Wicks Water Treatment Plant (WTP) is the first priority project in the Plan. In 2025, the 20-year-old Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) system was replaced to meet U.S. EPA cybersecurity standards. In 2026, the City is beginning the first steps toward design and construction of a new WTP on the existing site with expanded capacity of approximately 9.5 MGD. The new WTP is needed due to age and condition of the existing Wicks WTP and to provide expanded capacity for future demands. The new expanded WTP will incorporate improved water clarification and filtration processes to maximize treatment capacity across a wide range of water temperature and turbidity levels.

Learn about future projects at www.thedalles.org/watermasterplan

Water Management and Conservation Plan (WMCP)

City Council recently adopted the updated Water Management and Conservation Plan. The purpose of the plan is to:

- (1) Guide development, financing, and implementation of water management and conservation policies, programs, and practices that ensure long-term sustainable water use by the City and its customers; and
- (2) Assess the City's water supply and document a plan to meet the City's future water needs.

The City holds water rights with priority dates ranging from 1862 to 1999. The plan for managing these water rights was approved by the Oregon Water Resources Department in February 2026.

View the plan at www.thedalles.org/WMCP

A SPECIAL NOTE TO PEOPLE WITH HEALTH CONCERNS

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 microbial contaminants are available from the U.S. EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800) 426-4791.

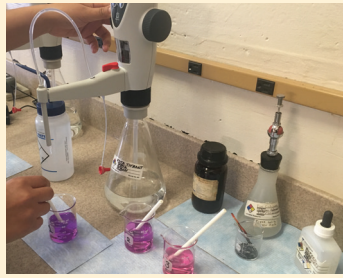
FLUSH YOUR TAP FOR BEST WATER QUALITY

The City adds food-grade phosphates at the Wicks Water Treatment Plant and the City wells to produce a protective coating in the pipes that prevents lead from leaching from household plumbing. All in-home lead sampling conducted since 1994 indicates that lead levels in drinking water are below regulated limits. However, if you are concerned about lead in your drinking water, please refer to the EPA recommendations below.

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 used in service lines and home plumbing. The City is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When water has been sitting for several hours in your home's pipes, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your cold-water tap 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 epa.gov/safewater/lead.

Why do we treat the water?

As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally-occurring substances. Water may also carry contaminants from animals or human activity into water sources. The City manages The Dalles Municipal Watershed to reduce or eliminate the risks of these substances that may be present in a surface water source:



- Viruses, parasites and bacteria from wildlife, livestock and human sewage
- Salts, metals or other inorganic contaminants may be naturally occurring or human caused
- Pesticides, herbicides and other chemicals including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals
- Radioactive material may be naturally occurring or human caused

The EPA requires water providers to routinely test drinking water after filtration to ensure that it is safe to drink. The Dalles submits test results to the State of Oregon.

To view test results go to yourwater.oregon.gov and enter The Dalles Public Water System No. 00869.

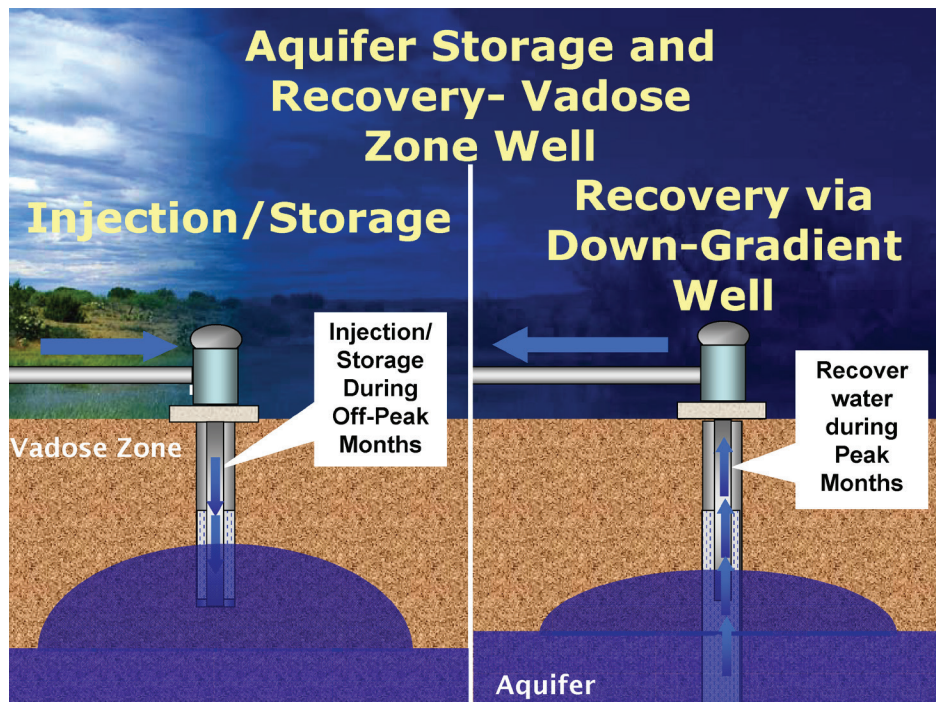
Tap water and bottled water safety

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of substances from source water. The presence of such substances in water does not necessarily pose a health risk. U.S. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regulations restrict the amount of certain contaminants in tap water.

Call the EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791 for information about contaminants and potential health effects or visit epa.gov/safewater

Two New Wells in 2025

In 2025, Riverside Well #1 and #2 became operational. The City holds eleven groundwater rights for municipal use that authorize a total of 17.3 million gallons per day, including the water rights for the Riverside Wells that were transferred to the City by Google to help diversify the City's portfolio of water sources. Priority dates for the City's groundwater rights range from 1910 to 1962.



Riverside Well #1 is a dual purpose aquifer storage and recovery (ASR) well. The first feasibility study for ASR in The Dalles was published in 1967. This long-planned project was made possible by a community investment. Google completed and fully funded the Aquifer Storage and Recovery (ASR) system, transferring ownership to the City upon completion. This system pumps excess surface water into an underground aquifer, helping with summer demand for all customers by increasing storage. It boosts aquifer levels for healthier groundwater and improves water quality by storing treated surface water.

The vadose zone is the soil layer which lies between the earth surface and the groundwater table



City of The Dalles

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The Dalles, OR 97058

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Our Ongoing Commitment: Safe Water, Abundant Supply

We are proud to present our annual water quality report. This issue covers all testing performed between January 1 and December 31, 2025. We are committed to delivering the highest quality drinking water possible. To that end, we remain vigilant in meeting the challenges of new regulations, while continuing to serve the needs of all of our water users.

Questions about the [Annual Water Quality Report](#) or [The Dalles Water Quality Laboratory](#) can be answered by the Water Quality Manager at Wicks Water Treatment Plant. Email waterquality@thedalles.gov or call (541) 298-2248.

Informe Sobre de Calidad del Agua

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua potable. Tradúscalo o hable con un amigo quien lo entienda bien.

Printed on recycled paper.



Partnership For Safe Water

City of The Dalles has been a member of the Partnership for Safe Water since 1997. Members of this nationwide partnership, which includes six drinking water organizations and more than 400 water utilities throughout the United States, seek water system excellence by optimizing operations rather than relying solely on significant capital improvements. The Wicks Water Treatment Plant has achieved the Director's Award each year since the year 2000 for meeting goals for continuous improvement and producing high quality drinking water. Optimization has greatly extended the life of the treatment plant that was built in 1949. After more than 75 years in operation, the City must prepare to fully replace the plant. Learn more about the Partnership for Safe Water at awwa.org/wp-content/uploads/PSW-Fact-Sheet-2020.pdf

What phone number do I call for help with water issues?

Who do I call about my water service?

- Emergency Water Shutoff
- Water quality, low pressure, leak investigation
- Backflow prevention assembly installation/testing
- Water meter insulation (to prevent freezing)
- Request a copy of the most recent water service line inventory

Call the Public Works Department: (541) 296-5401
Monday–Friday, 7:00a.m.–4:00p.m.

After hour water emergencies (541) 980-7703

More information at thedalles.org/waterdistribution

Who do I call about a new City water and sewer account or about my bill?

- Water/sewer billing questions
- Stop water or sewer service
- High water/sewer bill concerns

Call the Finance Department: (541) 506-2031
Monday–Friday 8:00a.m.–5:00 p.m.

Sign up for water/sewer service in person
City Hall 313 Court Street 9:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Applications for service at thedalles.org/watersewerbilling