

CITY OF LYNDEN

# Water

## Quality Report



REPORTING FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2016

# City Of Lynden Provides EXCEPTIONAL WATER FOR YOU!

The City of Lynden is pleased to provide you with our Annual Consumer Confidence Water Quality Report for 2016. Our water system is a surface water system served by the Nooksack River. In Whatcom County—as in most areas of the Puget Sound—we have streams and rivers that rely upon a combination of rain and melting mountain snow to maintain surface water flows/levels. In the winter we sometimes have too much of it, but by the middle of the summer water has become a precious resource to be carefully managed. To conserve water, between June 1st and September 30th residents are asked to “water wisely” and only on the days shown below, based on whether your street address ends in an even or odd number.

Conservation is really about using water efficiently and not wastefully. Reducing your water use is inexpensive (in fact, it will ultimately save you money), it is quick and easy to accomplish and benefits everyone. With greater and greater competing uses looking to use this vital natural resource, conservation just makes sense. Simple things you can do include: adjusting sprinklers so that watering is efficient (sidewalks don't need to be watered), getting leaks fixed, purchase an inexpensive hose

timer to avoid over-watering, and install low flow faucet and shower heads. These and many more water saving ideas can be found at <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wr/ws/wtrcnsv.html> or at [http://www.regionalh2o.org/sites/default/files/rwpc\\_irrigation\\_tips\\_card\\_0.pdf](http://www.regionalh2o.org/sites/default/files/rwpc_irrigation_tips_card_0.pdf)

When we use water more efficiently and work to avoid waste we do our part to help ensure that we have adequate water today and into the future.

In 2008 the City established water conservation goals which are reported annually to the State. These goals were met for 2016 and will be updated in 2017.

## THE CITY OF LYNDEN REMINDS YOU TO USE WATER WISELY.

Total Water Produced	Authorized Consumption	Distribution System Leakage	Goal Met (Distribution Leakage Standards)
620 MG	609 MG	2.1%	< 10 %

Numbers reflect calendar year 2016

Per Lynden Municipal Code 13.04.300 - Irrigation - Between June 1st and September 30th of each year, irrigation may take place per the following schedule, based on street address number:

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
✓ <b>ODD</b>	⊘ <b>NO WATERING</b>	✓ <b>EVEN</b>	✓ <b>ODD</b>	✓ <b>EVEN</b>	✓ <b>ODD</b>	✓ <b>EVEN</b>



The City of Lynden is a partner of the Whatcom Water Alliance, a regional water conservation group in Whatcom County. Alliance partners share a passion in providing clean and safe water to protect your health, planet and quality of life. Your investment in our water and sewer infrastructure through utility rates helps to keep it functional for current and future generations.



Indispensable to jobs, the economy, our health and our communities, water runs through our lives in many ways. Everyone uses water and everyone is responsible for it. We must all work together to keep our water clean and healthy. To do that, we each need to learn to value water. To learn more, visit [www.watersworthit.org](http://www.watersworthit.org). WATER'S WORTH IT™ is a trademark of the Water Environment Federation.

## YOUR VIEWS ARE WELCOMED!

Inquiries about public participation and policy decisions related to your drinking water may be directed to the Public Works Department at 360-354-3446. Public Works policy decisions are discussed at the Lynden City Council Public Works Committee meetings that are held on the Wednesday after the first Monday of the month at 4:30 PM at City Hall.



City of Lynden

"The City of Lynden is an equal opportunity provider and employer"

For more information regarding this report, please contact:

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## WHY PROVIDE A

# Water Quality Report?

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from 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 stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining or farming.
- Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses.
- Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems.
- Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

## WATER QUALITY RESULTS FOR 2016

PWS# 491504

## MESSAGE FROM THE

# Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

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's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

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 Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

If present, elevated levels of the 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. We are 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 drinking 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>.

For more information on tap water quality, please visit [www.drinktap.org](http://www.drinktap.org)



Substance (units)	Goal (MCLG)*	EPA's Allowable Limits (MCL)*	Average Level Detected	Range Detected or Overall Results	Source of Substance	In Compliance?
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### RAW WATER (BEFORE TREATMENT)

<b>Total Organic Carbon (ppm)*</b>	Not applicable	Not applicable	1.0	0.7 - 1.3	Naturally present in the environment	Yes
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### REGULATED AT THE TREATMENT PLANT

<b>Fluoride (ppm)*</b>	4	4	0.7 running average	0.1 - 1.1	Water additive which promotes strong teeth.	Yes
<b>Turbidity (NTU)</b>	0.3	1.0 TT*	.01	.01 - 0.3	Soil run-off	Yes
<b>Total Organic Carbon (ppm)*</b>	Not applicable	Not applicable	0.4	0.2 - 0.8	Naturally present in the environment	Yes

### REGULATED AT THE CONSUMER TAP

<b>Chlorine (ppm)*</b>	MRDLG*= 4	MRDL*= 4	0.40 running average	Zero samples exceeded MRDL*	Water additive used to control microbes.	Yes
<b>Copper (ppm)*</b>	1.3	1.3 AL*	0.014	In 2014, zero sites exceeded AL*	Corrosion of household plumbing systems.	Yes
<b>Lead (ppb)*</b>	0	15 AL*	.001	In 2014, zero sites exceeded AL*	Corrosion of household plumbing systems.	Yes
<b>Haloacetic Acids (ppb)*</b>	Not applicable	60	12	3 - 20	By-product of drinking water disinfection.	Yes
<b>Total Coliform (positive samples/month)</b>	0	More than 1 positive sample per month	0	120 samples collected	Naturally present in the environment	Yes
<b>Total Trihalomethanes (ppb)*</b>	Not applicable	80	20	5 - 34	By-product of drinking water disinfection.	Yes

The City is required to monitor for lead and copper in our distribution system and has taken samples in residences since 1992 with no exceedances. As a result, the City is on a reduced monitoring schedule of once every three years.

**\*Key to abbreviations used in chart: UNIT DESCRIPTIONS: ppm (Parts per Million), ppb (Parts per Billion), mg/L (Milligrams per Liter)**

**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 MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

**MRDLG** Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal. 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.

**MRDL** Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level. 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 (e.g. chlorine, chloramines, chlorine dioxide).

**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.

**NTU** Turbidity: Turbidity is a measure of the water's cloudiness. It is monitored because it provides a good indicator of the filtration system's effectiveness. Turbidity is measured in NTU's nephelometric turbidity units.

**ND** Not detected

**EPA** Environmental Protection Agency

**CDC** Center for Disease Control & Prevention