The City of Lynden is pleased to provide you with our Annual Consumer Confidence Water Quality Report for 2014. Our water system is a surface water system served by the Nooksack River. Lynden’s treatment plant uses coagulation, sedimentation, and filtration techniques to remove suspended particles that may contaminate the water. Chlorine is added as a disinfectant to make sure the water is free of harmful microorganisms and fluoride is added for enhanced dental protection.

A new Water Treatment Plant is in the final stages of completion and is expected to be completed by the end of Summer 2015. It will replace the existing plant built in 1926. The new plant will improve treatment capacity, effectiveness, and reliability by expanding on these proven treatment technologies. It will ensure that Lynden residents continue to enjoy safe and high quality potable water for many years to come.

In 2008 the City established water conservation goals which are reported annually to the State. These goals were met for 2014 and will be updated in 2015.

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.

WATER’S WORTH IT™ is a trademark of the Water Environment Federation.

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.
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.

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 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 system disorders, 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