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# 2017 Water Quality Report

Glen Alder Community Water System

PWS ID # 27900 N

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H2O Management Services is pleased to present to you this year's Water Quality Report. This report is designed to inform you about the quality of your water and the services we deliver to you every day.

The Glen Alder Water & Improvement Association has contracted with H2O Management Services since January 2007 to provide professional management and operation of the system by qualified personnel. You will see H2O in and about the community as we perform routine preventative maintenance and repairs

## Where does my water come from?

Your water source at Glen Alder is a ground water well at a depth of 135 ft. This well is located at the pumphouse property within the Glen Alder development and is designated by the Office of Drinking Water as S01.

## 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 Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

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. **Microbial contaminants**, such as viruses and bacteria, may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife. **Inorganic contaminants**, such as salts and metals, can be naturally occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming. **Pesticides and herbicides** may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses. **Organic Chemical Contaminants**, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems. **Radioactive contaminants** 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, the Washington State Department of Health and the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency prescribe regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and the Washington State Department of Agriculture regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

## Do I need to take special precautions?

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/Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Water Drinking Hotline (800-426-4791).

## Variances and Exemptions (Waivers)

An assessment of Glen Alder's source water was done by the Department of Health to determine the susceptibility of your source to contaminants. This is important because the assessment determined that the susceptibility of your water to contaminants is moderate. Based on this assessment and on prior testing which showed low or no detection of these contaminants, the Department of Health granted the Glen Alder water system a waiver which allows reduced testing for Inorganic Contaminants (IOC) through 2019, reduced testing for Synthetic Organic (SOC) Contaminants through 2013 and a full waiver from testing for Volatile Organic Contaminants through 2013.

## Source protection information

Source Water Assessment Program (SWAP) data is available for all community PWSs in Washington. SWAP data for your PWS is online at: <https://fortress.wa.gov/oh/eh/dw/swap/maps/>

If you don't have access to the Web, we encourage you to use the Internet service available through the public library system.

## Water Quality Data Table

The table below lists all of the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the calendar year January 1 thru December 31, 2017. The presence of contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table is from testing done in the calendar year of the report. The EPA or the State requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the

concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year. Some of the data, though representative of the water quality, is more than one year old.

Contaminants	MCL	MCLG	Your Water	Exceeding MCL	Sample Date	Typical Source
<u>Inorganic Contaminants</u>						
<b>Nitrate</b> [measured as Nitrogen] (ppm)	<b>10</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>0.9</b>	<b>0 of 1 Sample</b>	<b>11/15/17</b>	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Contaminants	AL:	Your Water 90 <sup>th</sup> %	Violation	# Samples Exceeding AL	Sample Date	Typical Source
<b>Lead</b> - action level at consumer taps (ppm) 90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile Results	<b>15</b>	<b>.0018</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>0 of 5 Samples</b>	<b>9/26/17</b>	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
<b>Copper</b> - action level at consumer taps (ppm) 90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile Results	<b>1.3</b>	<b>0.17</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>0 of 5 Samples</b>	<b>9/26/17</b>	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits

**Unit Descriptions**

**ppm:** parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/L)

**ppb:** parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (ug/L)

**ND:** Not Detected

**Important Drinking Water Definitions**

**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

**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

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

**Lead & Copper 90<sup>th</sup> Percentile:** Out of every 10 homes sampled, 9 were at or below this level.

**Variations and Exemptions:** State or EPA permission not to meet an MCL or a treatment technique under certain conditions.

**About Lead in Drinking Water**

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. Glen Alder and Improvement water system 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 the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>

Este informe contiene informacion importante acerca de su agua potable. Haga que alguien lo traduzca para usted, o hable con alguien que lo entienda. (English translation: This report contains important information about your drinking water. Have someone translate it for you, or speak with someone who understands it.)

**Additional information for Nitrate**

Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 10 ppm is a health risk for infants of less than six months of age. High nitrate levels in drinking water can cause blue baby syndrome. Nitrate levels may rise quickly for short periods of time because of rainfall or agricultural activity. If you are caring for an infant, you should ask for advice from your health care provider.

**Water Use Efficiency Report (WUE)**

On August 16, 2011, an open meeting was held to give the public an opportunity to comment on Glen Alder and Improvement water systems' proposed WUE goal as follows: To reduce summer water consumption by one percent per year over the next six years. We plan to accomplish this goal by: Public outreach; make available water saving devices; and utilizing conservation rates. No public comment was received as a result of the open meeting.

You can help meet the 2018 summer savings WUE goal of 1% savings system-wide by following these simple guidelines.

#### **Car Washing**

- Use a shut-off nozzle on your hose that can be adjusted down to a fine spray, so that water flows only as needed. Check hose connectors to make sure plastic or rubber washers are in place to prevent leaks.
- Consider using a commercial car wash that recycles water.
- Wash your car on the lawn, and you'll water your lawn at the same time.

#### **Lawn Care**

- More than 50 percent of residential irrigation water is lost due to evaporation, runoff, over watering, or improper system design/installation/maintenance.
  - Don't over water your lawn. Lawns only need 1 inch of water per week. Buy a rain gauge so that you can better determine when to water.
  - Water the lawn or garden early in the morning during the coolest part of the day. Consider installing an automatic timer. Don't forget to adjust your watering schedule, as days get longer or shorter.
  - Raise your lawn mower cutting height—longer grass blades help shade each other, reduce evaporation, and inhibit weed growth.
  - Use a broom or blower instead of a hose to clean leaves and other debris from your driveway or sidewalk.
  - Don't leave sprinklers or hoses unattended. Set a kitchen timer when watering your lawn or garden to remind you when to stop. A running hose can discharge up to 10 gallons a minute.
  - Adjust sprinklers so only your lawn is watered and not the house, sidewalk, or street.
  - To water sloping lawns, apply water for 5 minutes and then repeat 2-3 times.
  - If water runs off your lawn easily, split your watering time into shorter periods to allow for better absorption.
  - Don't water your lawn on windy days when most of the water blows away or evaporates.
  - Use sprinklers for larger areas of grass. Water small patches by hand to avoid waste.
- Let your lawn go dormant during the summer. Dormant grass only needs to be watered every 3 weeks or less if it rains.

**If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact:  
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