

A close-up photograph of a person's hand held palm-up, with numerous clear water bubbles trapped in the creases and between the fingers. The hand is positioned over a white ceramic sink, and the background shows a glimpse of a blue and white patterned surface, likely a towel or countertop. The lighting is bright, highlighting the texture of the skin and the clarity of the water.

# **TOUTLE COMMUNITY REGIONAL WATER QUALITY REPORT**

Water System ID # 88905H



## Water Quality Summary

The following report provides detailed information concerning the Toutle Community Regional Water System which serves the Toutle and Streeter communities. This information is required to be reported to our customers by the US EPA and the Washington Department of Health. This report contains information about the results of samples collected from January 1, 2024, through December 31, 2024. The Toutle Community Regional Water System provides domestic drinking water to 917 customers. This system met or exceeded all federal and state drinking water standards and requirements during 2024. This report is provided to each of the customers via paper copy upon request and at the Cowlitz County website ([www.co.cowlitz.wa.us/1520/consumer-Confidence-Reports](http://www.co.cowlitz.wa.us/1520/consumer-Confidence-Reports)). If you have any questions about this report or the water system, please contact Cowlitz County at (360) 577 – 3030 or via email at [publicworks@cowlitzwa.gov](mailto:publicworks@cowlitzwa.gov) or the Department of Health Southwest Region at (360) 236-3030.

## Water Source and Treatment Information

**Water Source:** The water system purchases water from the City of Castle Rock. This water system draws water from the Cowlitz River approximately 2 ½ river miles upstream of the mouth of the Toutle River. The City of Castle Rock also has six deep-water class “A” wells, located in the northeast section of the city and is available as an alternate water source.

**Treatment:** The source water is filtered and disinfected at the regional plant that is operated by the City of Castle Rock. Additional chlorine is added at the first booster pump station to maintain a residual level of chlorine in the distribution system serving residences along State Route 504 and the Community of Toutle. Sufficient chlorine is added to kill any bacteria that have passed through the filter and to maintain a residual level of chlorine in the distribution system.

**Sampling:** Your water is sampled on a regular basis according to both State and Federal regulations. The purpose of the sampling is to ensure that treatment methods are adequate. It also ensures that harmful substances don’t exceed regulated levels and identifies if they are present or entered the water supply.

## Water Quality Monitoring Results

The table below represents the analytical results of water samples collected from your system. These were no samples collected that showed fecal coliform presence prior to entering the distribution



system. The presence of contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk.

Element	Sample Date	Violation	Results	Unit	MCLG	MCL	Typical Source
County Distribution System							
THMs	Quarterly	N	36.23Avg. (19.1 – 49.96)	ppb	NA	80	By-product of drinking water chlorination
HAA5s	Quarterly	N	22.28 Avg. (14.4 – 39)	ppb	NA	60	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Lead	8/23/2022	N	<0.001	Mg/L	NA	0.015	Corrosion from household plumbing
Copper	8/23/2023	N	0.0383 Avg. (0.002 – 0.079)	Mg/L	NA	1.3	Corrosion from household plumbing
Asbestos	10/17/2017	N	<0.184	MFL	NA	7	Erosion of natural deposits
Castle Rock Data							
Fluoride	Various	N	0.56 Avg. (0.33 – 0.71)	Mg/L	NA	4	Erosion of natural deposits or added for dental hygiene.
Gross Alpha	7/26/24	N	<3.00	Pci/L	NA	---	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium 128	7/26/24	N	<0.170	Pci/L	NA	5	Erosion of Natural deposits



## Definitions

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

**Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL):** 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.

**Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG):** 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.

**Parts per Billion (ppb):** Unit of measurement that describes the levels of detected contaminants. One part per billion corresponds to a single penny in \$10,000,000.

**Million Fibers per Liter (MFL) –** A measurement of the presence in water of asbestos fibers longer than 10 micrometers in length.

**Picocuries per liter –** A measurement of radiation.

## General Information

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, parasites, and bacteria that may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, or wildlife.
- *Inorganic contaminants*, such as salts and metals, which can occur naturally or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, and farming.
- *Pesticides and herbicides*, which may come from various sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses.
- *Organic chemical contaminants*, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production. They can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems.
- *Radioactive contaminants*, which can occur naturally or result from oil and gas production and mining activities.



## **Important Information about 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 Safe Drinking Water Hotline (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 (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. Cowlitz County Public Works 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>.

## **Current and Upcoming Projects**

**Water Meter Replacement** – The County is in the process of replacing all of the meters in the system. The meters are being upgraded to remote read meters. These new meters will increase the accuracy of the meter reads.

**Pressure Zone Improvements** – The County is in the construction phase of a pressure zone improvement project in the Tower Road area and the Juanita Road area. This project is planned to be completed in the fall of 2025.