



# Shelter Bay Community

## Water System

### Consumer Confidence Report

January 1- December 31, 2022

**Introduction** – In 1996 Congress re-authorized the Safe Drinking Water Act (**SDWA**) which requires the EPA to set regulations limiting the amounts of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. As a part of this, we are providing you, our customers, with information annually regarding the types of testing done and contaminants that were detected during the previous year. The purpose of these reports is to provide consumers with information which will allow them to make informed choices regarding their drinking water.

**Service and Quality** – The Shelter Bay Community's Maintenance Department is committed to providing our customers with a safe and reliable supply of high-quality drinking water as well as superior customer service. Together with the Town of La Conner, City of Anacortes Water Department, and various governmental agencies, we are working to utilize the latest information and technologies to provide you with safe drinking water.

**Sources** – The sources of drinking water (both tap and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water moves through the air, over the surface of the land and through the ground it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive materials, and can also pick up substances resulting from the activities of humans and the presence of animals.

Our Shelter Bay water comes from a surface water source, originating at the City of Anacortes' Water Treatment Plant on the Skagit River near Mount Vernon via the transmission lines through the Town of La Conner. The Skagit River basin covers over 3,000 square miles from British Columbia Canada to Skagit Bay near La Conner, Washington. It passes through portions of Skagit, Snohomish, and Whatcom counties, and through dams, forests, farms and several cities and towns with numerous businesses and industries along the way.

Shelter Bay Community's water main starts at the south side of the Swinomish channel and runs to the Community's Maintenance Shop on Shoshone where booster pumps supply the Community's operating pressure. Additionally, the Community can provide water during emergency conditions to the Swinomish Indian Reservation via the Community's intertie connection. The Community also provides wholesale water to the

Eagle Nest Community. Our system includes approximately 10 miles of pipe ranging from ¾-inch to 8-inch in diameter. We have a 147,000-gallon reservoir (water tank), which provides system pressure balancing and emergency reserve water storage.

#### Questions and Answers –

**Is our water fluoridated?** No, our water does not contain fluoride, the City of Anacortes fluoridates their water at the entrance to their system in Anacortes but neither the Town of La Conner nor Shelter Bay adds fluoridation.

**What treatment is done to our water?** Simply put, our water is filtered and chlorinated at the Anacortes Water Treatment Plant and no further treatment is done by the Town of La Conner or Shelter Bay Water Department.

**Do I need to boil my water after a temporary water disruption?** No; following a disruption of service for repairs you do not need to boil your water afterward. The Shelter Bay Maintenance Department is required to disinfect all pipes and materials used in repairs. In the event of system contamination, flooding, or other major catastrophe, you would be notified by the Department of any necessary precautions or action on your part which may need to be taken.

**Have there been any significant changes to our water system?** No; but the communities Board of Directors and facility committee continue to research and develop a long-range plan for purchasing water and future system replacement/improvements.

**Where can I go for answers?** You may direct questions or concerns about this report to Shelter Bay's Maintenance Department at (360) 466-4747 or mail comments to Shelter Bay Community, 1000 Shoshone Drive, La Conner, WA. 98257. For answers to billing questions, you should call the Shelter Bay Community Office at 466-3805.

For questions about the Community's water system, testing, maintenance, or to report leaks you should call the **Shelter Bay Office at (360) 466-3805 during regular business hours or (360) 202-2391 after hours. Additional information can also be found on the Shelter Bay Community website [www.shelterbay.net](http://www.shelterbay.net).**

Este informe contiene informacion muy importante sobre agua potable. Truduzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

**Facts** – Drinking water, both bottled and tap, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. **The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk.** The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) establishes regulations for bottled water. A contaminant is defined as any substance or matter in water. Not all contaminants are harmful and some are of concern only above certain levels. The EPA has established both primary and secondary standards for drinking water.

**Contaminants**, which may be present in source water, include:

Inorganic Contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or resulting from urban storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater, petroleum production, mining or farming, pesticides, and herbicides, which may come from residential, urban storm water runoff and agriculture.

Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic compounds which are byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production, gas stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems.

Microbial Contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria from sewage and septic tanks, livestock, or wildlife.

Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or the result of petroleum production or mining activities.

More information about contaminants and any potential health effects can be obtained by calling the **Environmental Protection Agency’s SDWA hotline at 1-800-426-4791** or by visiting their website at: [www.epa.gov/safewater/hfacts](http://www.epa.gov/safewater/hfacts).

Additional information can be found at the Department of Health [www.doh.gov](http://www.doh.gov) and the American Water Works Association [www.awwa.org](http://www.awwa.org). To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the EPA prescribes regulations which limit the number of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems.

#### **Definitions and Abbreviations –**

**ADD: Average Day Demand** used by the Community (expressed in gallons or cubic feet/day).

**AL: Action Level;** the concentration of contaminate(s) which if exceeded, triggers treatment or other required actions that the water purveyor must follow.

**DOH: Washington State Department of Health;** The State agency charged with ensuring water quality.

**EPA: Environmental Protection Agency;** The federal agency charged with ensuring water quality.

**Finished Water:** Treated water entering the distribution system.

**MCL: Maximum Contaminant Level;** The highest level of contaminant allowed in drinking water at which level there is no known or expected health risk. MCL’s are set as close to MCLG’s as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

**MCLG: Maximum Contaminant Level Goal;** The level of a contaminant in drinking water at which there is no known or expected health risk. MCLG’s allow for a margin of safety.

**MFL: Million Fibers per Liter;** The measurement of asbestos fibers within the drinking water supply.

**mg/L: Milligrams per Liter,** converts to parts per million.

**Microbiological:** These are potentially harmful microorganisms, which may be naturally occurring or introduced by humans or animals. Cryptosporidium and Giardia are microscopic organisms that, when ingested, can cause fever, diarrhea, vomiting, and abdominal pain that can last from a few days to months, with onset of symptoms within 2 to 12 days after exposure. The disease can be transmitted by ingesting the organism in contaminated water or food, person-to-person contact and other exposure routes. The disease cryptosporidiosis can be fatal to young children, the elderly or immune-compromised individuals.

**PPM: Parts per million,** the approximate equivalent of one drop in 22 gallons.

**PPB: Parts per billion,** the approximate equivalent of one drop in 22,000 gallons.

**Primary Standards:** The mandatory standards established and enforced by the State of Washington **DOH** and the U.S. **EPA**. These include maximum contaminant levels (**MCL**), and maximum contaminant level goals (**MCLG**), action levels (**AL**), and treatment techniques (**TT**).

**TT: Treatment Technique;** The process intended to reduce the level of contaminate in drinking water.

**ug/L: Micrograms per Liter,** converts to parts per billion.

***Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons undergoing chemotherapy, people with transplanted organs, people with AIDS/HIV or other immune system disorders, as well as the elderly and infants can be at higher risk for infections. These people should seek advice from their health care providers. Information is also available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4971.***

**Water Use Efficiency/Conservation Goals** – In 2007 Washington State enacted the Water Use Efficiency Rule (WUE) into law. This requires all water systems to establish water efficiency goals and to monitor and report progress annually to their customers and the DOH. In May 2017, the Shelter Bay Community Board of Directors adopted the following water efficiency/conservation goals:

- Maintain system water loss below 10%.
- Maintain average daily per person usage rate at 70 gallons/day or less.

Total Water Purchased	8,243,000 cubic feet	
Total Metered Water Consumption (Shelter Bay)	7,921,145 cubic feet	
Distribution System Loss (water not accounted for)	285,759 cubic feet	
System Water Loss	3.59 %	Meeting Goal
Average Daily Use Per Person	64.11 Gallons/Day	Meeting Goal

**Notes:**

1. Distribution system loss is adjusted for water system flushing, water system maintenance and known system leaks.
2. Daily use per person data based on a community population of 2,200 people.

**How can you help?** Always use water wisely, install low water flow devices where warranted and residents who may suspect a water leak should call the Shelter Bay Office at (360) 466-3805 during Business hours or (360) 202-2391 after hours.

**Tested / Monitored Disinfectant and Contaminate Levels –**

Throughout the year Water Department has been collecting a minimum of four water samples per month to test for the presence of coliform bacteria and daily monitoring of residual chlorine levels. The samples are taken throughout the Community, tested by EDGE laboratories, and results forwarded to the DOH. **None of the samples taken in 2022 showed the presence of coliform bacteria.**

**Chlorine** – Average chlorine residual was 0.82 ppm with the range of detection ranging from 0.58 – 1.29 ppm

Contaminant	Units	MCLG	MCL	Level Detected	Range of Detections	Violations	Date of Sample	Typical Source of Contamination
<b>Volatile Organic Chemicals</b>								Leaching of minerals, industrial activities, mining.
Shelter Bay	ug/L	0	0.015	0.001	ND - .015	None	2016	
La Conner	ug/L	0	0.015	0.002	ND - .002	None	2018	
<b>Asbestos (MFL)</b>								Breakdown of pipes in the distribution system.
Shelter Bay	MFL	0	7	0.098	<0.098	None	2022	
La Conner	MFL	0	7	ND	.000 - .090	None	2018	
<b>Total Trihalomethanes</b>								By-product of drinking water chlorination.
Shelter Bay	ug/L	NA	80	16.7	0 – 16.7	None	2022	
La Conner	ug/L	NA	80	13.9	0 – 13.9	None	2022	
<b>Halo-Acetic Acid (HAAS)</b>								By-product of drinking water chlorination.
Shelter Bay	ug/L	NA	60	11.2	0 – 11.2	None	2022	
La Conner	ug/L	NA	60	12.9	0 - 12.9	None	2022	
Compounds and units	MCL		90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile Level		Homes Exceeding Action Level		Date of Sample	Typical Source of Contamination
<b>Copper</b>								Corrosion of household plumbing. Erosion of natural deposits. Also, the leaching of wood preservatives.
Shelter Bay	1.3		0.0056 – 0.117		0 out of 10		2019	
La Conner	1.3		1.3		0 out of 10		2020	
<b>Lead</b>								
Shelter Bay	0.015		ND		0 out of 10		2019	
La Conner	0.015		.015		0 out of 10		2020	

**NOTICE:** Shelter Bay Community will conduct water system sampling in the calendar year 2023 for Halo acetic Acid (HAA5) and Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) with DOH and EPA regulations/monitoring schedules.

The City of Anacortes, which provides water to the town of La Conner, did not have any testing violations or water quality samplings that did not meet DOH standards during the calendar year of 2022. More information can be obtained at [www.cityofanacortes.org](http://www.cityofanacortes.org).

In 2002 the EPA lowered the maximum allowable levels of Arsenic from 50 ppb to 10 ppb. There was no detectable (ND) level of Arsenic found in our water, from testing by both the Town of La Conner Water Department and Shelter Bay Community. Arsenic is a known carcinogen and can cause circulatory problems and skin damage.

NOTICE FROM DOH: 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. Shelter Bay Community 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>.

### City of Anacortes Water Quality Data - 2022

Compounds and Units	Average Level Detected or Highest Result	Range of Detections	Violations
<b>RAW WATER</b>			NONE
Total Organic Carbon (ppm)	0.90	0.61 - 1.15	NONE
<b>FINISHED WATER</b>			NONE
Nitrate (ppm)	0.10	ND - 0.10	NONE
Total Coliform Bacteria	0%	ND	NONE
Chlorine (ppm)	1.23 AVG	1.03 - 1.36	NONE
Halo-acetic Acids 5 (ppb)	14.5 AVG	8.2 – 20.9	NONE
Total Trihalomethanes (ppb)	13.9 AVG	9.2 - 21.7	NONE
Fluoride (ppm)	ND	ND	NONE
Turbidity (NTU)	0.018	0.013 - 0.041	NONE
Sodium (ppm)	2.9	4.0 - 4.2	NONE
Barium (ppm)	0.0062	ND - 0.0062	NONE
Total Organic Carbon (ppm)	0.47	0.37 - 0.75	NONE
	<b>90th Percentile Level</b>	<b>Homes Exceeding Action Level</b>	<b>Date of Sample</b>
Lead (ppb)	0.00015	0 out of 32	2019
Copper (ppm)	0.041	0 out of 32	2019

### PROTECTING THE PUBLIC HEALTH

To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) prescribes regulations, which limit the number of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health. A contaminant is defined as any substance or matter in water. However, not all contaminants are harmful, and some contaminants are of a concern only above a certain level. The EPA has established primary and secondary standards for drinking water. All treatment plant operators are certified as required by Washington State Department of Health (DOH). All the Wastewater Treatment Plants located above our river intake are regulated and permitted by the Department of Ecology (DOE). The Anacortes Water Treatment Plant maintains good communication with the upstream Wastewater Treatment Plants to assure timely notification of any potential discharge concerns. Also, the DOE is aware of the need to protect our drinking water Intake Structure and assures this through the secondary standards that are incorporated into the wastewater permits.

**Secondary Standards** are non-enforceable guidelines that relate to the taste, odor, and appearance of drinking water.