



NEWS SPLASH

From the General Manager's Desk

With the arrival of Spring it is time to issue our annual Water Quality Report for 2009, and is a good time to update you on water company information. For those new members since our last newsletter, on behalf of the Board of Directors and staff I want to welcome you!

Since 1925 this community has worked together in building a member-owned utility to provide quality drinking water, and in sufficient quantity for fire protection. As a private company we are governed by our Bylaws, which require membership in the company before being allowed to receive water. Each membership represents equal ownership in the assets and liabilities of the company, and allows voting rights for the election of Directors and other company business.

Copies of the Bylaws are available at the office, and are also published on our website at www.mtviewwater.com. Please take a moment and familiarize yourself with these Bylaws as it is each member's responsibility to know and comply with them.

As you know, we are a non-profit company that shares expenses between our members. Since we do not have large commercial accounts and economies of scale, the Board and staff work hard to reduce costs in every possible area. The rising costs of providing service (particularly with increased regulatory costs) requires us to annually adjust our rates accordingly.

Did you know? Members are responsible to keep meters, sample stations, and valves outside of fences and clear of landscaping within a 2-foot radius. The meter must be accessible from the road at all times (don't park over meter). It is a Federal Offense to tamper with water company property, and a fee may be assessed per the fee schedule. If you require your water to be shutoff for maintenance, please use your shutoff valve or contact the office for assistance. Do not under any circumstance use our angle stop valve in the meter box.

Please keep the office apprised of your proper contact information. It is important that we have a your correct mailing address for ballots and newsletters, and your correct phone numbers so we can quickly notify you during emergencies and service disruptions. It is also a member's responsibility to inform the office within 30 days of a legal change in ownership of a property, as this affects voting and membership rights per the Bylaws.

We bill for water service every two months, after the water is used. Bills are mailed 15 days after the 2 month billing period, and payment is due within 20 days of the billing date. A late fee of \$10 will be added if payment is not received for the full amount by the 15th of the following month. Please consider using our Automatic Payment Plan; details and form are located at <http://mtviewwater.com/Forms/AutoPayPlanBrochure.pdf>. You still maintain control of your bill, but in the event you are out of town or forget you can avoid late fees or water service interruption.

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Luke Meyers

Secretary
Steve Smith

Treasurer
Steve Ellison

Members
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Don Nelson
Larry Runge

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Marc Marcantonio

Field Manager
Mike Craig

Accounting
Stephanie Christel

Customer Service
Karen Lickfelt

Field Techs
Jon Young
Mike Gass
Gene Ryan

Water System Plan - Capital Improvements

The Board of Directors and staff continue to be proactive and maintain our water system to insure many years of service at minimal cost. Because of our 85 year history we have worked diligently to replace aging infrastructure on an efficient time schedule and cost basis. We continue to replace galvanized service lines and mains, and will do so until all are replaced. Last year our upper Pressure Zone Project won the "Excellence in Engineering Award" for the Pacific Northwest by the AWWA for being the best project! Additionally, we received second place in the Field Innovations category for the Pacific Northwest Section of AWWA.

By the time you read this we will have converted all of our customer meters to Automated Meter Read (AMR) technology. Although the initial costs are significant, the payback is achieved in approximately 7 years despite a 20+ year life expectancy and benefit. AMR technology improves meter reading accuracy, frees staff to perform other critical functions, greatly improves staff safety, provides data that allows efficient system management, quickly identifies leaks, and improves customer service. Small disruptions of service were unavoidable during the change-out, and we appreciate your cooperation and understanding throughout the process.

The Meridian widening project will begin this summer. As DOT widens the road, they will be moving our water main that parallels Meridian from 24th St. north to 8th St. DOT contractors will be performing this construction, not Water Company personnel (although we will be inspecting the work).

Water Use Efficiency Information

We have completed our Annual Water Use Efficiency Performance Report for last year (2009), and submitted it to the Department of Health. A copy of the program is posted on our website (www.mtviewwater.com) for your review.

We are happy to report that Mt. View-Edgewood Water Company continues to operate efficiently and in an environmentally conservative manner, once again exceeding State standards. Every water system has distribution pipes that leak underground, and has customers with plumbing leaks. Leaks not only waste water, but also waste electrical power needed to pump our wells and fill our reservoirs. Leakage increases customer costs, and wastes our most precious natural resource.

While we use customer meters that meet or exceed industry standards, these meters by design under-register, particularly during low-flow conditions (such as a customer leak). The larger the meter, the more water is under-registered during low flow periods. This unmeasured water is in effect a "leak" and is a significant part of our "leakage percentage." As meters age they also under-register, so customers receive water for which they are not paying. By replacing all meters in 2009, all members' meter accuracy is as equal as possible.

During 2009 MTVE Water pumped a total of 333,136,329 gallons of water. Customer meters and water used for water quality maintenance (flushing) totaled 310,972,494 gallons. This puts our leakage percentage at 6.65% which easily beats the State goal of 10%.

As we have now changed all customer meters from manual read to the new AMR technology, we anticipate that our leakage percentage will be further reduced in future years.



MT. VIEW-EDGEWOOD WATER COMPANY

2009 Water Quality Report

This report describes the Mt. View-Edgewood Water Company's drinking water sources and quality, and programs that protect the high quality of our water supply. It conforms to the federal regulation requiring water utilities to provide this information to their consumers annually and contains information with specified language and data that must be repeated each year.

Safe drinking water is an essential resource for our consumers. **The bottom line is this: our water is safe to drink. Our water quality meets or exceeds state and federal standards.**

The information in this report is also submitted to the Washington State Department of Health (DOH). Both DOH and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) monitor our compliance with the many regulatory standards and testing protocols required to ensure safe drinking water.

MT. VIEW-EDGEWOOD'S WATER SYSTEM

The Mt. View-Edgewood Water Company currently utilizes groundwater from 8 wells for its public water supply. In the central area, Wells #3 (S04), #6 (S06) and #7 (S07) draw water from a perched system aquifer. In the south and southwest areas wells #1R (S10), #5 (S05), #8 (S08), and #9 & #11 (S12) draw water from the Redondo-Milton aquifer. All wells are in deep aquifers making them less susceptible to contamination. Wells #1R and #11 were the most productive wells in 2009, and both are equipped with an emergency generator for operation during power outages.

There are two steel tanks in the southern part of our service area (referred to as the South Reservoirs) that provide a combined total of 1.2 million gallons of storage, and one steel reservoir (North Reservoir) that stores 1 million gallons in the north portion of the service area (and is equipped with an emergency generator).

Due to the high quality water provided by our groundwater sources we do not currently treat our water with any chemicals. Water quantity also continues to be excellent, with no future shortages anticipated!

In March of 2005 we completed a comprehensive Wellhead Protection Plan (WHPP). The WHPP identifies our well recharge area and potential sources of contamination. Wells 3, 6, and 7 have a low contamination susceptibility rating and wells 5, 8, 9, 11 and 1R have a moderate contamination susceptibility rating. The WHPP is available for viewing at our office and on our website.

DEFINITIONS:

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) - The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCL's are set as close to the MCLG as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG) - The level of contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected health risk. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

ND - Not detected

Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU) - The unit of measure for turbidity (clarity or purity).

Part Per Million (ppm) - One part per million or one milligram per liter (mg/L) corresponds to one penny in \$10,000.

Action Level (AL) - The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers a treatment or other requirement which a water system must follow.

Picocuries per Liter (pCi/l) - A measure of radiation.

WATER QUALITY DATA

The following table lists all of the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the calendar year of this report. 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 concentration of these contaminants do not change frequently. Some of the data, though representative of the water quality, is more than one year old.

Not shown in the table are 29 inorganic chemicals, 81 synthetic organic chemicals, and 63 volatile organic chemicals which were tested for but not detected. Not shown are over 155 microbiological samples taken throughout the distribution system. All compliance samples tested negative for total coliform bacteria.

Inorganic Contaminants	MCL	MCLG	Highest Level	Range of Detection	Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source of Contamination
Nitrate (ppm)	10	10	3.6	0.2 - 3.6	Sep 09	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.
Microbiological Contaminants							
Turbidity (NTU)	5	NA	0.8	N/A	Sep 09	No	Iron or Manganese particles.
Radioactive Contaminates							
Radium 228 (pCi/L)	NA	0	0	ND - 2	Sep 09	No	Decay of natural and manmade deposits.
Contaminants with action levels rather than MCL's							
Inorganic Contaminants	AL	MCLG	Highest Level	Sample Date	# Samples Exceeding AL	Exceeds AL	Typical Source
Copper (ppm)	1.3	1.3	0.79	July 09	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems.
Lead (ppm)	0.015	0	0.0009	July 09	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems.

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 Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

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 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, EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

Additional questions or comments about the Water Company's water quality, water supply, or other general drinking water issues can be directed to the following contacts:

- Mt. View-Edgewood Water Company, 11610 - 32nd St E, Edgewood, WA 98372-2099, 253-863-7348, Mike Craig. System I.D. #568203
- Environmental Protection Agency, Safe Drinking Water Hotline, 1-800-426-4791.
- State Department of Health, NW Drinking Water Regional Office, 20435 72nd Ave. So., Suite 200-K-17-12, Kent, WA 98032-2358, 253-395-6750.

The Board of Directors meet at 6 p.m. on the first Wednesday following the 10th of each month. Member comments and involvement are welcome. Comments, concerns, or other issues should be brought to the attention of the General Manager prior to the first of the month for scheduling purposes. Members are encouraged to participate by running for the Board of Directors. Please call our office at 253-863-7348 or consult our website at www.mtviewwater.com for more information.