Conserving Water Together...

In 2019, Firgrove held a public meeting and the Board of Trustees adopted water conservation measures designed to promote conservation, increase system efficiency and reliability, cut down on operating costs by reducing the need for capital improvements based solely on wasteful water consumption, and to comply with the spirit of the Department of Health's Water Use Efficiency (WUE) rule.

The Board and Management identified several areas where measures could be quantified each year. Firgrove is already fully metered for production and consumption and has begun working toward all of the following conservation efforts.

Firgrove is offering complimentary conservation kits to its customers. Please contact us at (253) 845-1542 to receive one.

HOW YOUR WATER GETS TO YOU

A majority of Firgrove's water is supplied from 16 operating wells located throughout the Firgrove service area. The wells draw water from the Firgrove, Frederickson, and Deep aquifers. The aquifers are recharged annually through precipitation that falls in the region. Firgrove supplements the demand for water through interties with Lakewood Water District and Tacoma Water. Firgrove also has emergency interties with Washington Water Service and Fruitland Water.

The number of connections at the end of 2024 was 11,099, serving a population of approximately 28,857. The total water produced by Firgrove sources was 1.27 billion gallons. Firgrove's highest production month was August with a total of 184.3 million gallons produced and the lowest month was February with 71.6 million gallons produced.

Firgrove recently completed a Lead Service Line Inventory, replaced 2-miles of water main as part of a Pierce County road widening project, and inspected all fire hydrants for operational accuracy. Current projects include bringing the Lipoma well online, and upgrading a Tacoma Intertie.

2024 Water Use Efficiency Data

Total Water Produced	1,268,204,453 gallons
Total Authorized Water Usage	1,167,214,725 gallons
Percentage of Unaccounted for Water	7.96%

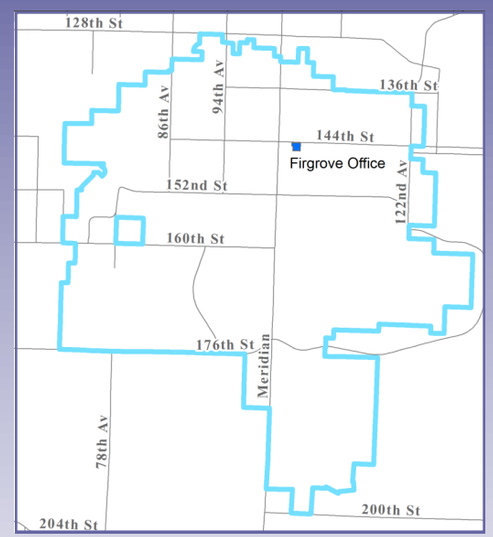
CONSERVATION GOALS

- **Reduce water demand by 65,000 gallons per day within our service area by 2024.** This will be accomplished by offering reduced flow shower heads, sink aerators, toilet tank displacement bags, and leak detection tablets to our single family and multi-family customers. Each year we plan on distributing as many water conservation kits as we have consumer demand. To date, we have distributed over 2,085 kits.
- **Promote our odd/even address outdoor watering schedule to offset peak water demand in the summer months.**
- **Continue our conservation outreach programs** such as Water 4 Life, participation in the Puyallup Fair Water Education booth sponsored by Tacoma Water, and working in conjunction with other local water purveyors to develop water use tracking for fire protection districts in the central Pierce county region.
- **Track our bulk water and rental meter customers more closely on reporting measures.**

Firgrove Mutual Water Company
10408 144th Street East
Puyallup, WA 98374
(253) 845-1542

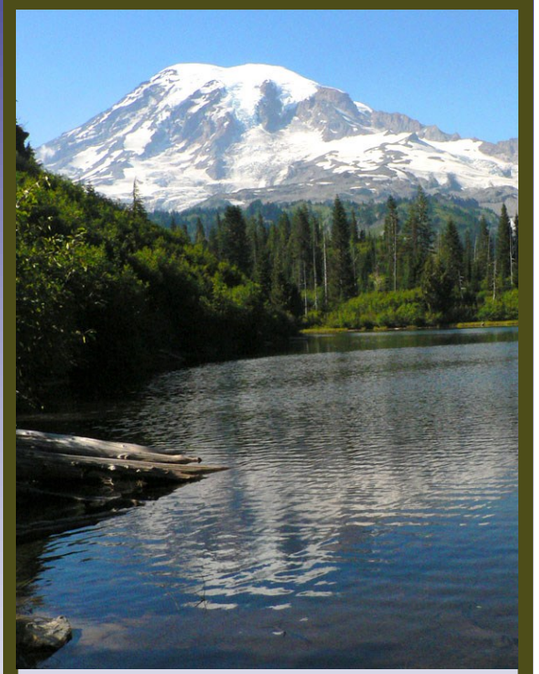
Office Hours:
7:30am-4:00pm Monday-Friday

Scheduled Closures:
Thursday, July 3 & Friday July 4, 2025
Friday, August 29 & Monday, September 1, 2025
Thursday, November 27 & Friday, November 28, 2025
Thursday, December 25 & Friday, December 26, 2025



Firgrove Mutual Water Company, PWS #25200M, is a mutually owned water company organized as a non-profit corporation in 1952, with the purpose of providing water to its customers. Each member pays a share of the cost of water mains, storage facilities, and the cost of operating the water system. Firgrove is overseen by a board of five trustees. Board of Trustee meetings are typically held on the third Tuesday of the month at 6:00pm at the Administration office. If you would like to attend a meeting or if you have a matter that you wish to bring to the Board, please contact the General Manager in advance to be placed on the agenda. Additional inquiries about water quality or questions regarding this report may be directed to Steve Sacksteder at (253) 845-1542.

2024
Consumer Confidence Report



Firgrove Mutual
Water Company
Since 1952

It is the mission of Firgrove Mutual Water Company to provide high quality drinking water and excellent customer service. We will maintain the balance of quality service and cost effectiveness that best benefits our customers. We will be an integral member of our community through positive and supportive actions as its water purveyor. We will be environmentally responsible and responsive to the needs of economic development.

2024 Water Quality Test Results

DEFINITIONS

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.

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

State Action Level (SAL)
The concentration of a contaminant or group of contaminants, without an MCL, federal action level, or treatment technique, in drinking water established to protect public health and which, if exceeded, triggers actions a water system purveyor must take.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL)
The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG)
The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

Parts Per Million (ppm) or Milligrams per Liter (mg/L)
One part of a particular contaminant which is present for every million parts of water.

Parts Per Billion (ppb)
One part of a particular contaminant which is present for every billion parts of water.

Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU)
A standard unit used to measure water clarity.

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.

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

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, stormwater runoff, and residential uses.

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, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems.

The Washington State Department of Health Office of Drinking Water has compiled Source Water Assessment Program (SWAP) data for all community water systems in Washington. An interactive map with sources of potential contaminant data within Firgrove's water system is available at: https://fortress.wa.gov/doh/swap/.

The table below lists all of the drinking water contaminants that were detected during the 2024 calendar year. The presence of these contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented below is from January 1 through December 31, 2024. The table does not list 27 inorganic chemicals, 46 volatile organic chemicals, and 44 synthetic organic chemicals, which include many industrial chemicals, herbicides, and pesticides, that Firgrove tested for and were not detected in the water. The State requires Firgrove 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.

OUR TESTING RESULTED IN NO VIOLATIONS

Substance	MCL/AL/SAL	Highest Level Detected	MCLG	Violation?	Typical Source of Substance	Source of Sample
Copper	1.3 ppm (AL)	0.499 ppm 90%	1.3 ppm	No	Plumbing Materials	Consumers' Taps*
Lead	15 ppb (AL)	3.2 ppb 90%	0	No	Plumbing Materials	Consumers' Taps*
Nitrate	10 ppm	2.85 ppm	10 ppm	No	Septic Tanks, Fertilizers	Groundwater Source
Arsenic	10 ppb	1 ppb	0	No	Septic Tanks, Fertilizers	Groundwater Source
Total Trihalomethanes	80 ppb	1.35-9.22 ppb (4.60 running avg)	NA	No	Disinfection By-products	Distribution System
Haloacetic Acids 5	60 ppb	ND - 5.41 ppb (1.35 running avg)	NA	No	Disinfection By-products	Distribution System
Chlorine Disinfectant	4.0 ppm (MRDL)	1.28 ppm	4.0 ppm (MRDLG)	No	Disinfection Additive	Distribution System
Total Coliform Bacteria	5%/month	0%	0	No	Damaged Distribution Mains	Distribution System

*Lead and Copper are regulated at the consumers' taps, not at the source, which is what these results represent. This is because lead and copper in drinking water do not typically come from the water source. They come from the plumbing that serves, or is inside, the consumer's home, from corrosion of lead- and copper-containing plumbing or fixtures, or the lead solder that connects copper pipes.

ENSURING YOUR WATER IS SAFE

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 can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animal or human activity.
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 at 800-426-4791.

Firgrove treats its water with sodium hypochlorite to protect against harmful bacteria and microorganisms.

Notice: Important Information
Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised 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 at 800-426-4791.

Special Notice Regarding Lead and Copper

The EPA regulates maximum contaminant levels for lead in drinking water. Lead and copper in drinking water result primarily from corrosion of materials containing lead installed in household plumbing. These materials include lead solder, brass, bronze, and other alloys in contact with water. In 1986, Congress banned the use of lead solder containing greater than 0.2% of lead and restricted the lead content of faucets, pipes, and other plumbing materials to a maximum of 8%. Homes built prior to 1986 are more susceptible to lead and copper levels above EPA's MCL.

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. Firgrove 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 drinking 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 at http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

Information About PFAS

Washington State

PFAS are a broad class of chemicals, which includes PFOA, PFOS, PFHxS, PFNA, and PFBS. In 2021, the Washington State Board of Health adopted State Action Levels (SALs) for five PFAS compounds. SALs are Washington State Department of Health (WADOH) health-based regulatory levels. The SALs are the level at which water suppliers should take action to reduce concentrations to protect human health, including for sensitive populations, and are based on the best available science at the time. WADOH required that all Group A water systems test for PFAS in each drinking water well between 2023 and 2025. Firgrove, a Group A system, tested all active sources in its distribution system in 2023 for 29 PFAS compounds, including the ones now regulated by Washington State and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and has developed an ongoing monitoring plan.

Although Firgrove has found some PFAS in a few of its sources, detections have not exceeded Washington's SALs.

For additional information, visit: https://doh.wa.gov/community-and-environment/contaminants/pfas

2 per-and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) are manmade compounds that have been used to make carpets, clothing, fabrics for furniture, paper packaging for food, and other materials (e.g., cookware) that are resistant to water, grease, or stains. Though banned in recent years, these compounds have been used for firefighting at airfields for decades, which is one way they have found their way into groundwater in certain areas.

Studies indicate that long-term exposure to PFAS over certain levels could have adverse health effects, including developmental effects to fetuses during pregnancy or breastfed infants; cancer; or impacts on liver, immunity, thyroid, and other functions. Potential health effects related to PFAS are still being studied, and research is still developing on this issue.

Substance	MCL/AL/SAL	Highest Level Detected	MCLG	Violation?	Typical Source of Substance	Source of Sample
PFOA	10 ppt (SAL)	Range 2.1—2.8 ppt Avg 2.5 ppt	NA	No	AFFF (firefighting foam) Industrial Processes	Groundwater Source
PFOS	15 ppt (SAL)	Range 2.4—2.8 ppt Avg 2.6 ppt	NA	No	AFFF (firefighting foam) Industrial Processes	Groundwater Source
PFBS	345 ppt (SAL)	Range ND—4.1 ppt Avg 2.6 ppt	NA	No	AFFF (firefighting foam) Industrial Processes	Groundwater Source

Environmental Protection Agency

In April 2024, the EPA adopted the final water quality regulation for PFAS:

• Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) of 4 parts per trillion (ppt) for PFOS and PFOA.

• MCL of 10 ppt for PFHxS, PFNA, and GenX.

• Hazard Index of 1.0 combined for PFHxS, PFNA, PFBS, and GenX.

Water systems must begin monitoring for these PFAS by 2027 and must comply with the regulation by 2029. Firgrove has been sampling for PFAS since 2018.

Before EPA adopted the MCLs listed above, Firgrove made operational changes to ensure compliance with the new MCLs .

Protecting our customers' health and safety is Firgrove's highest priority, and we are committed to complying with all requirements set by public health experts. Firgrove has evaluated the impact of the new EPA regulation and is better prepared to comply with its final MCLs.

Additionally, we believe a comprehensive approach is needed to properly address the situation. We urged the EPA to establish a consistent, science-based standard as quickly as feasible, and strongly supported state legislation that will prohibit the sale and use of certain products that contain PFAS, require the certification of accurate testing methods for PFAS, and establish a publicly accessible database that houses the sources of PFAS entering water supplies. We are also participating in lawsuits to hold PFAS manufacturers responsible and ultimately prevent our customers from bearing the costs of treatment to the extent possible.

Firgrove is working closely with WADOH and EPA to conduct extensive monitoring and identify avoidance methods or the best available treatment technology for removal of PFAS from drinking water.

Lakewood 2024 Water Quality Test Results

Tacoma 2024 Water Quality Test Results

The tables below list all of the drinking water contaminants that were detected during the 2024 calendar year. The presence of these contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. The table does not list inorganic chemicals, volatile organic chemicals, and synthetic organic chemicals, which include many industrial chemicals, herbicides, and pesticides, that Lakewood and Tacoma tested for and were not detected in the water.

Substance	MCL/AL	Highest Level Detected	MCLG	Violation?	Typical Source of Substance
Copper	1.3 ppm (AL)	0.19 ppm (2023)	1.3 ppm	No	Plumbing Materials
Lead	15 ppb (AL)	1.10 ppb (2023)	0	No	Plumbing Materials
Nitrate	10 ppm	1.82 ppm	10 ppm	No	Septic Tanks, Fertilizers
Total Trihalomethanes	80 ppb	6.73 ppb	NA	No	Disinfection By-products
Haloacetic Acids	60 ppb	1.19 ppb	NA	No	Disinfection By-products
PFOS	15 ppt (SAL)	Range ND—6.3 ppt Avg 0.53 ppt	NA	No	AFFF (firefighting foam), Industrial Processes
PFOA	10 ppt (SAL)	Range ND—5.0 ppt Avg 0.42 ppt	NA	No	AFFF (firefighting foam), Industrial Processes
PFBS	345 ppt (SAL)	Range ND—9 ppt Avg 0.75 ppt	NA	No	AFFF (firefighting foam), Industrial Processes
PFHxS	65 ppt (SAL)	Range ND—10 ppt Avg 0.83 ppt	NA	No	AFFF (firefighting foam), Industrial Processes

Substance	MCL/AL	Highest Level Detected	MCLG	Violation?	Typical Source of Substance
Arsenic	10 ppb	1.7 ppb (2021) 0-1.7 ppb	0	No	Natural Erosion
Nitrate	10 ppm	4.26 ppm (2024) Range: 0—4.26 ppm	10 ppm	No	Agricultural Uses, Septic
Trichloroethylene	5 ppb	1.4 ppb (2020) Range: 0—1.4 ppb	0	No	Industrial Contamination
Chloroform	Not Regulated	0.72 ppb (2020) Range: 0-0.72	Not Regulated	No	Treatment
Fluoride	4 ppm	0.96 ppm Range: 0.54-.096	4 ppm	No	Treatment Additive
Turbidity	1 NTU	0.034 NTU Range: 0.015—0.034	NA	No	Soil Erosion
Total Trihalomethanes	80 ppb	13.2 ppb (running avg) Range: 5.6-36.6 ppb	NA	No	Disinfection By-products
Haloacetic Acids 5	60 ppb	1.9 ppb (running avg) Range: <1-3.57 ppb	NA	No	Disinfection By-products
Chlorine Disinfectant	4.0 ppm (MRDL)	0.30-1.46 ppm Range of level detected	4.0 ppm (MRDLG)	No	Disinfection Additive
Total Coliform Bacteria	5%/month	0.039%	0	No	Sampling Technique