



Haines Borough  
 PO Box 1209  
 Haines, Alaska 99827  
 907-766-2231

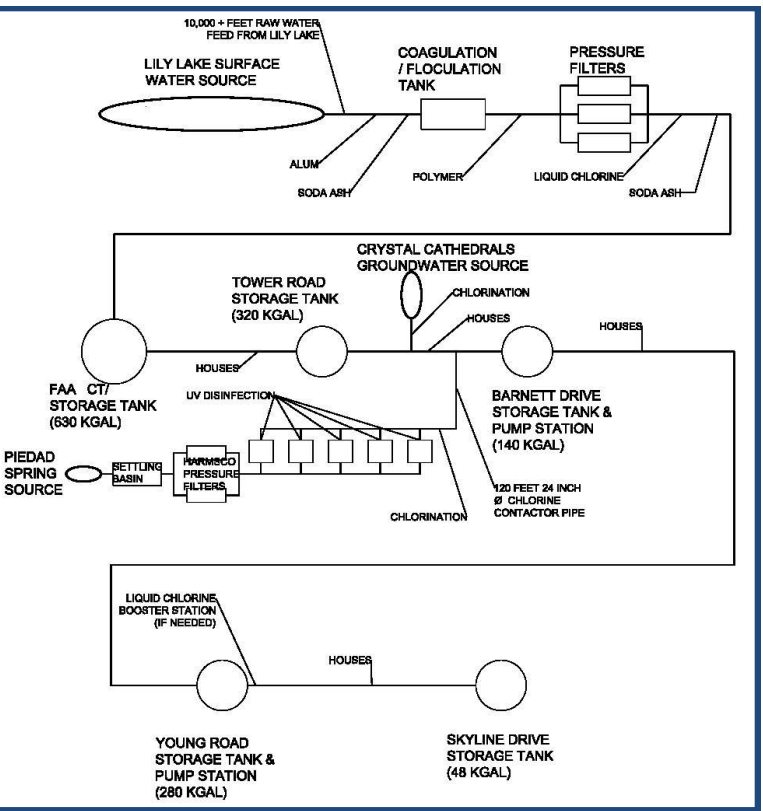
# 2021 — 2022 HAINES BOROUGH DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT

Postal Customer

PRSR1 STD  
 US POSTAGE PAID  
 HAINES, AK  
 PERMIT NO. 3



**Additional Information**  
 If you have questions about this report or need more information, contact:  
**Dennis Durr**  
 WTP Operator  
 PO Box 1209  
 Haines, AK 99827  
 907-766-2200 or  
 907-766-2716  
 ddurr@haines.ak.us



Schematic of Haines Borough Water System



Pledge to Protect Community Water Sources



# Haines Borough

## How Safe Is Your Water?

We are pleased to present this year's *Annual Water Quality Report* (Consumer Confidence Report or CCR) as required by the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA).

This report provides details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to standards set by regulatory agencies. This report is a snapshot of water quality for calendar year 2021.

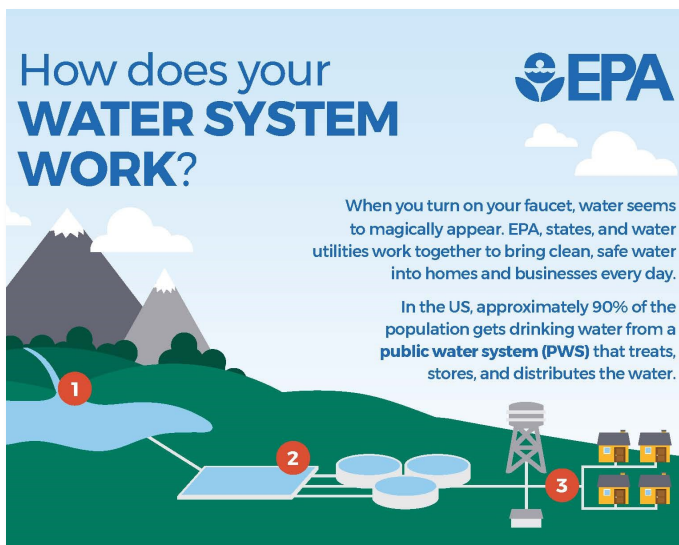
We are committed to providing you with information because informed customers are our best allies. We routinely test for over 80 contaminants as scheduled. Test results showed no levels higher than what the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC) allow.

### What Precautions Do You Need to Take?

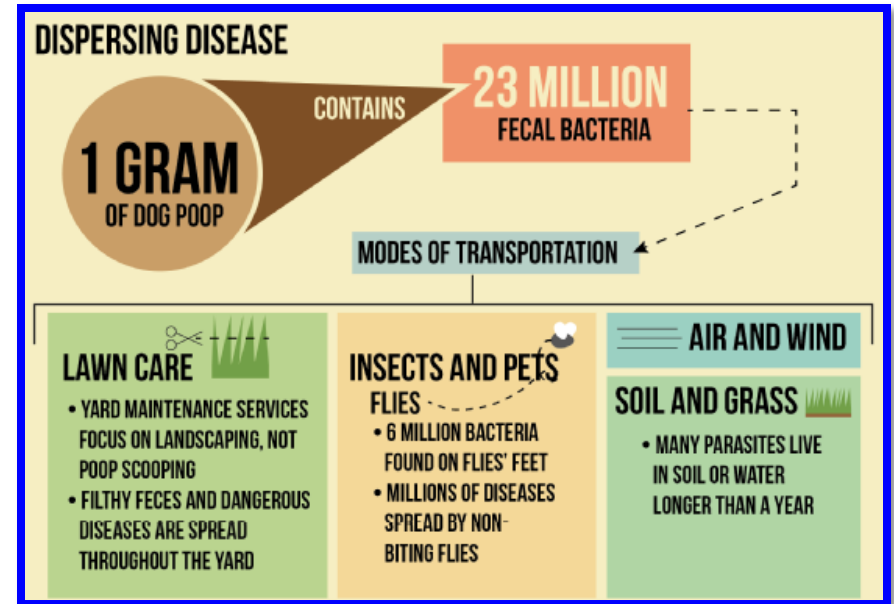
Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons, such as those undergoing cancer chemotherapy, persons who have organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS and other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at-risk from infections. These people and/or their caregivers should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers.

EPA and the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (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 at:

**800-426-4791**



- 1. Water Sources
- 2. Water Treatment
- 3. Water Storage & Distribution



## Monitoring & Reporting of Data Compliance Violations

### Violations

- Regular monitoring produced four irregularities: last year's CCR was submitted to DEC late; a low chlorine level for a March 1 sample; a high turbidity reading for an April 1 sample; and a February 1 sample was delayed due to inclement weather.

### Copper Action Level Exceeded

- Copper (Cu) is a reddish metal that is commonly used in household plumbing. It is also an essential nutrient for humans in small amounts; however, too much copper can cause adverse health effects. Water that is corrosive can leach Cu from pipes into drinking water. Water Treatment Plant Operators use soda ash to adjust the pH and reduce corrosivity. The longer water has stood idle in copper pipes, the more likely Cu will be in your water.
- The EPA Action Level for copper was exceeded at two of the 10 testing sites in 2015 and 2016. Monitoring for copper and lead was increased from 10 samples per year to 40 samples (quarterly tests at 10 sample sites) in 2015 and 2016. 20 samples were taken in 2017; 10 samples in 2018; and three samples in 2019. All the sample results from consumer taps for these three years were below the Action Level.

### How To Reduce Copper Exposure

- To reduce exposure to copper, run your household water used for cooking and drinking until the water is colder (30 to 60 seconds) anytime it has not been used for more than six hours to clear the pipes and bring in fresh water. Hot water dissolves copper more quickly than cold water; if you need hot water for cooking or drinking, take water from the cold tap and heat it.

## More Water Quality Data & Definitions

CONTAMINANTS	MCLG or MRDLG	MCL, TT or MRDL	YOUR WATER	RANGE		SAMPLE DATE	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
				LOW	HIGH			
<b>Radioactive Contaminants</b>								
<b>LILY LAKE</b>								
Alpha Emitters PCI/L	NA	15	0	NA	NA	2017	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium 226/228 PCI/L	NA	5	0.12 0.18	NA	NA	2017	No	Erosion of natural deposits
<b>CRYSTAL CATHEDRAL</b>								
Alpha Emitters PCI/L	NA	15	2.0	NA	NA	2017	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium 226/228 PCI/L	NA	5	0.11 0.69	NA	NA	2017	No	Erosion of natural deposits
<b>PIEDAD SPRING</b>								
Alpha Emitters PCI/L	NA	15	0	NA	NA	2017	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium 226/228 PCI/L	NA	5	0.048 0	NA	NA	2017	No	Erosion of natural deposits

### IMPORTANT DRINKING WATER DEFINITIONS

Term	Definition
<b>AL</b>	<b>Action Level:</b> concentration of a contaminant that triggers treatment or other requirements for the water system
<b>HAA5</b>	<b>Haloacetic Acid:</b> a byproduct of drinking water chlorination
<b>MCL</b>	<b>Maximum Contaminant Level:</b> highest level of a contaminant allowed in drinking water; MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology
<b>MCLG</b>	<b>Maximum Containment Level Goal:</b> 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
<b>MFL</b>	<b>Million Fibers per Liter</b> (fibers >10 micrometers)
<b>MNR</b>	<b>Monitored Not Regulated</b>
<b>MRDL</b>	<b>Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level:</b> highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water; convincing evidence shows that the addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants
<b>MRDLG</b>	<b>Maximum Residual Disinfection Level Goal:</b> 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
<b>NA</b>	<b>Not Applicable</b>
<b>ND</b>	<b>Not Detected</b>
<b>NR</b>	monitoring <b>Not Required</b> but recommended
<b>PCi/L</b>	<b>Picocuries per Liter</b> (a measure of radioactivity)
<b>ppb</b>	<b>parts per billion</b> or micrograms per liter (µg/L)
<b>ppm</b>	<b>parts per million</b> or milligrams per liter (mg/L)
<b>TT</b>	<b>Treatment Technique</b>
<b>TTHM</b>	<b>Total Trihalomethanes:</b> group of disinfection byproducts that form when chlorine compounds are used to disinfect water.

# 2021 – 2022 Water Report

## Where Are the Sources for Your Public Water System?

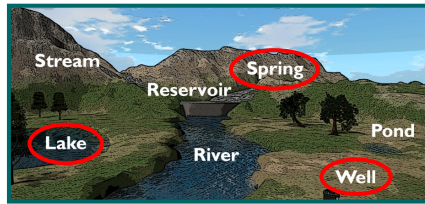
The primary source of Haines drinking water is Lily Lake, located 2.5 miles southeast of the Haines Townsite on the Chilkat Peninsula. In 2021, 45 percent of the Haines drinking water was supplied from the Piedad Spring System, a groundwater source located 1.5 miles northwest of the Haines Townsite. The Crystal Cathedral wells provided limited supplies, only 0.3 percent of the 84 million gallons of community water consumed (see page 11 for more detail).



## Learn More About Local Water Quality

### Three Source Water Assessments Very High, Medium & Low Susceptibility Ratings

The public water system for the Haines Townsite is a Community Water System consisting of three sources. The *Source Water Assessment* for each of these sources is available at the Haines Borough Administration Offices. These assessments are used by the by Haines Borough staff to assess water quality risks and can be used as a foundation for local volunteer protection efforts.



#### Lily Lake Source Water Assessment (LLSWA) - Surface Water Source

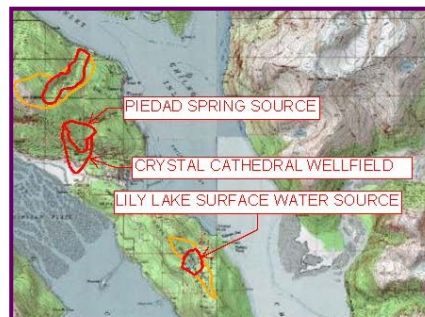
- The overall protection area received *Susceptibility Rating of Very High*.
- The overall protection area received a *Vulnerability Rating of Medium* for metals, other organic chemical and synthetic chemicals.

#### Piedad Spring Source Water Assessment (PSSWA) - Ground Water Source under Direct Influence of Surface Water

- The combined score for the Wellhead and Aquifer has a natural *Susceptibility Rating of Medium* (the Wellhead and Aquifer each received an individual *Susceptibility Rating of Medium*).
- The combined score for the Wellhead and Aquifer received a *Susceptibility Rating of Low* for:
  - \* Bacteria/ Viruses
  - \* Nitrites/ Nitrates
  - \* Volatile Organic Chemicals
  - \* Heavy Metals
  - \* Synthetic Organic Chemicals
  - \* Other Chemicals

#### Crystal Cathedral Source Water Assessment (CCSWA) - Ground Water

- The combined score for the Wellhead and Aquifer has a natural *Susceptibility Rating of Medium* (the Wellhead and Aquifer each received an individual *Susceptibility Rating of Medium*).
- The combined score for the Wellhead and Aquifer received a *Susceptibility Rating of Medium* for:
  - \* Bacteria/ Viruses
  - \* Nitrites/ Nitrates
- The combined score for the Wellhead and Aquifer received a *Susceptibility Rating of Low* for:
  - \* Volatile Organic Chemicals
  - \* Heavy Metals
  - \* Synthetic Organic Chemicals
  - \* Other Chemicals



CONTAMINANTS	MCLG or MRDLG	MCL, TT or MRDL	YOUR WATER	RANGE		SAMPLE DATE	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
				LOW	HIGH			
Barium - ppm	2	2	0.04	NA	NA	2013	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge of drilling wastes & metal refineries
Chromium - ppb	100	100	1.24	NA	NA	2013	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from steel & pulp mills
Fluoride - ppm	4	4	0.17	NA	NA	2013	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive; Discharge from fertilizer & aluminum factories
Selenium - ppb	50	50	0.90	NA	NA	2013	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from mines, petroleum & metal refineries
Beryllium - ppb	4	4	0.27	NA	NA	2009	No	Discharge from metal refineries & coal-burning factories, electrical, aerospace & defense industries
Arsenic - ppb	10	10	0	NA	NA	2017	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass & electronics wastes

#### Piedad Spring Expansion

Additional sources to be added to original spring

#### December 2021 Severe Weather Recovery

Repairs and improvements continue to maintain water and wastewater systems assets

# 2021 Water Quality Data

CONTAMINANTS	MCLG or MRDLG	MCL, TT or MRDL	YOUR WATER	RANGE		SAMPLE DATE	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
				LOW	HIGH			
<b>LILY LAKE &amp; PIEDAD SPRING</b>								
<b>Inorganic Contaminants</b>								
Barium - ppm	2	2	0.016	NA	NA	2013	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge of drilling wastes & metal refineries
Chromium - ppb	100	100	0	NA	NA	2013	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from steel & pulp mills
Fluoride - ppm	4	4	0	NA	NA	2013	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive; Discharge from fertilizer & aluminum factories
Selenium - ppb	50	50	0	NA	NA	2013	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from mines, petroleum & metal refineries
Beryllium - ppb	4	4	0	NA	NA	2013	No	Discharge from metal refineries & coal-burning factories, electrical, aerospace & defense industries
Arsenic - ppb	10	10	0	NA	NA	2017	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass & electronics wastes

**2021 System Milestones**

- **Water Conservation with Leak Detection Program**  
Data tables on page 11 show the community usage reduction for 2020 and 2021. Leak Detection Program implemented in 2020.

## What Contaminants Are Found in Your Drinking Water?

Drinking water, including bottled water, may be reasonably 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 (EPA) Safe Drinking Water Hotline at:

**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 grounds, it dissolves other substances, including:

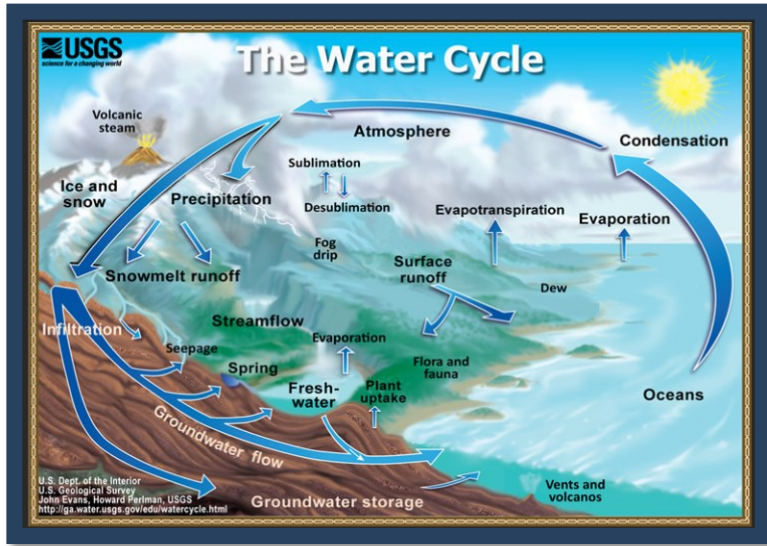
- Naturally occurring minerals
- Substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity
- Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria (that may come from sewage treatment plants, residential / commercial wastewater systems, livestock operations, wildlife and pets)

- Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals (which can occur naturally or result from urban storm-water 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, urban storm-water runoff, and residential uses)
- Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals (which are byproducts of industrial process and petroleum production and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and residential / commercial wastewater systems)
- Radioactive contaminants (which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities)

**DOG POOP ON THE TRAIL:**

- IMPACTS HIKER AND VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCES
- CONTAINS PATHOGENS AND EXCESS NUTRIENTS THAT NEGATIVELY AFFECT WATER QUALITY
- CAN TRANSMIT HARMFUL BACTERIA AND PARASITES TO HUMANS AND WILDLIFE





# POTABLE WATER USAGE: TREND DATA

## LEAK DETECTIONS CONSERVES WATER

CONTAMINANTS	MCLG	AL	YOUR WATER	SAMPLE DATE	# OF SAMPLES EXCEEDING AL	EXCEEDS AL	TYPICAL SOURCE
<b>Inorganic Contaminants</b>							
<b>Lily Lake</b>							
Asbestos - MFL	7	7	0	2021	0	No	Decay of asbestos cement in water mains; Erosion of natural deposits
<b>System Wide</b>							
Copper - ppm Consumer taps	1.3	1.3	0.29	2019	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Lead - ppb Consumer taps	0	15	1.03	2019	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits

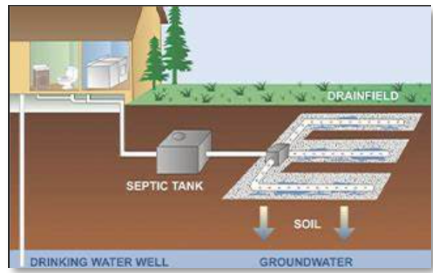
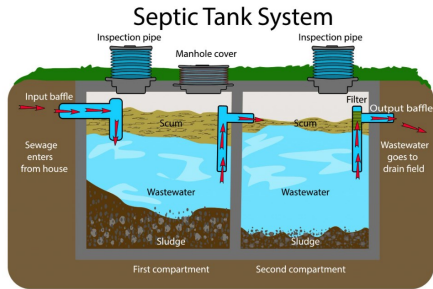
### Citizen Involvement: Public Meetings & Protective Actions

Citizens may get involved by attending the Haines Borough Assembly meetings. The dates and agenda are posted online at: [www.hainesborough.us](http://www.hainesborough.us)  
 Meeting dates and agenda are also posted at the Borough Offices, Library and Post Office.

### Source Water Protection Tips

Protection of drinking water is everyone's responsibility. You can help protect community drinking water source in several ways:

- Pick up after your pets.
- Eliminate excess use of lawn and garden fertilizers and pesticides; they contain hazardous chemicals that can reach drinking water sources.
- If you have a residential wastewater system, properly maintain your system with regular septic tank pumping or ATU servicing to reduce leaching to water sources.
- Dispose of chemicals properly; take used motor oil to a recycling center.



ANNUAL VOLUME BY SOURCE, 2016 - 2021						
YEAR	PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL VOLUME					
	LILY LAKE	PIEDAD	WELLFIELD	TOTAL	AVERAGE	TOTAL
2016	78.2	21.2	2.0	100.0	71.9	100.0
2017	73.9	25.7	0.4	100.0	71.9	100.0
2018	78.4	21.6	0.0	100.0	71.9	100.0
2019	78.0	22.0	4.5	100.0	71.9	100.0
2020	67.9	32.1	1.4	100.0	71.9	100.0
2021	55.0	45.0	0.3	100.0	71.9	100.0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>71.9</b>	<b>27.9</b>	<b>1.4</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>71.9</b>	<b>100.0</b>

ANNUAL VOLUME BY SOURCE, 2016 - 2021						
YEAR	MILLIONS OF GALLONS					
	LILY LAKE	PIEDAD	WELLFIELD	TOTAL	AVERAGE	TOTAL
2016	82.574	22.434	2.106	105.613	71.9	591.147
2017	75.795	26.329	0.415	102.539	71.9	591.147
2018	83.723	23.020	0.000	106.743	71.9	591.147
2019	78.986	22.222	4.556	101.208	71.9	591.147
2020	61.851	29.251	1.260	91.102	71.9	591.147
2021	46.205	37.737	0.276	83.942	71.9	591.147
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>429.134</b>	<b>160.993</b>	<b>8.613</b>	<b>591.147</b>	<b>71.9</b>	<b>591.147</b>

# 2021 Water Quality Data

CONTAMINANTS	MCLG or MRDLG	MCL, TT or MRDL	YOUR WATER	RANGE		SAMPLE DATE	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
				LOW	HIGH			
<b>Disinfectants &amp; Disinfectant By-Products</b> There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.								
TTHMs - ppb	NA	80	50.1	29.2	65.6	2021	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
HAA5 - ppb	NA	60	27.9	23.3	30.0	2021	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
<b>Nitrates</b> There is health concern with nitrates in drinking water, especially for infants under 6 months of age, as exposure can result in methemoglobinemia. One of the Haines Borough public water system sources, Piedad, had a detectable limit of nitrates.								
Nitrate – ppm	10	10	0.03	0	0.09	2021	No	Agriculture runoff and septic tanks
<b>Volatile Organic Compounds</b> Haines Borough staff sample for a variety of volatile organic compounds quarterly. Of the 21 chemicals regularly tested, none were above detection limits. All three Haines Borough public water system sources had no detectable amount.								
Xylenes, Total - ppm	10	10	0	0	0	2021	No	Discharge from petroleum and chemical factories

6	<b>C</b>	Carbon	12.011
8	<b>O</b>	Oxygen	15.999
1	<b>H</b>	Hydrogen	1.008
14	<b>Si</b>	Silicon	28.086
29	<b>Cu</b>	Copper	63.546
82	<b>Pb</b>	Lead	207.2
56	<b>Ba</b>	Barium	137.328
24	<b>Cr</b>	Chromium	51.996
9	<b>F</b>	Fluorine	18.998
34	<b>Se</b>	Selenium	78.971
4	<b>Be</b>	Beryllium	9.012
33	<b>As</b>	Arsenic	74.922

## Water Conservation Tips

Do you know that the average U.S. household uses approximately 300 gallons of water per day or 75 gallons per person per day? Luckily there are many low-cost and no-cost ways to conserve water. Small changes can make a big difference. For more information on water conservation visit:

[www.epa.gov/watersense](http://www.epa.gov/watersense)

- \* Take short showers: a five-minute shower uses four to five gallons of water compared to up to 50 gallons for a bath.
- \* Shut off water while brushing your teeth, washing your hair and shaving to save up to 500 gallons a month.
- \* Use a water-efficient showerhead; these are inexpensive, easy to install, and can save up to 750 gallons a month.
- \* Run your clothes washer and dishwasher only when they are full to save up to 1,000 gallons a month.
- \* Fix leaky toilets and faucets. Faucet washers are inexpensive and take only a few minutes to replace. To check your toilet for a leak, place a few drops of food coloring in the tank and wait; if it seeps into the toilet bowl without flushing, you have a leak. Fixing it or replacing it with a new, more efficient model can save up to 1,000 gallons a month.
- \* Adjust sprinklers to water only your lawn. Apply water as fast as the soil absorbs it and during the cooler part of the day to reduce evaporation.
- \* Teach your kids about conserving water to ensure future generation uses this resource wisely. Make conservation a family effort.

### HUMAN DISEASES TRANSMITTED BY DOG POOP

**FROM BACTERIA**

- Campylobacteriosis
- E. coli
- Salmonellosis
- Yersiniosis



**FROM PARASITES**

- Cyclospora
- Cryptosporidium & Giardia
- Worms: Round, Hook & Whip
- Tapeworms
- Toxoplasmosis

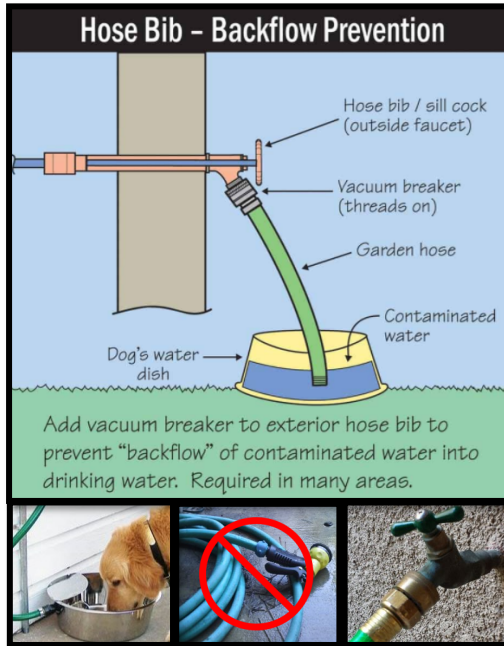
## More Source Water Protection Tips

- \* Contact Takshanuk Watershed Council and volunteer to help at: [www.takshanuk.org](http://www.takshanuk.org) or 907-766-3542
- \* Organize a storm-drain stenciling project with the local government. Stencil a message next to the street drain reminding people: *Dump No Waste - Protect Our Water.*
- \* Produce and distribute a flyer for households to remind residents that storm drains dump directly into local water bodies.

## Cross Connection Control

It is important to determine whether a cross-connection may exist at your home or business. A cross-connection is an unprotected or improper connection to a public water distribution system that may cause contamination or pollution to enter the system. The Haines Borough is responsible for enforcing cross-connection control regulations and insuring that no contaminants, under any flow conditions, can enter the distribution system. A vacuum breaker, available from a local hardware store, installed on a hose bib prevents back siphoning. Do not leave a hose in a puddle on the ground or in a bucket full of water as back siphoning could occur. If you have any of the devices listed below, please contact us to discuss the issue, and, if needed, to survey your connection and assist you in isolating it if that is necessary.

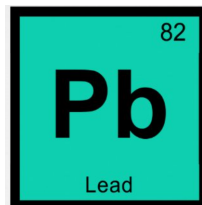
- \* Boiler / radiant heater (water heaters not included)
- \* Underground lawn sprinkler system
- \* Pool or hot tub (whirlpool tubs not included)
- \* Additional source(s) of water on the property
- \* Decorative pond
- \* Watering trough



## More Information about Lead

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. Haines Borough 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 can 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:

[www.epa.gov/safewater/lead](http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead)



## 2021 Water Quality Data

### Water Quality Regulations

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The table below lists all of the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the calendar year of this report. Although many more contaminants were tested, only those substances listed below were found in your water. All sources of drinking water contain some naturally occurring contaminants. At low levels, these substances are generally unharmed in drinking water. Removing all contaminants would be extremely expensive, and in most cases, would not provide increased protection of public health. A few naturally occurring minerals may actually improve the taste of drinking water and have nutritional value at low levels.

In 2016, the two Public Water Systems — Haines Borough and Crystal Cathedral — were combined into a single water system. The following data tables show information for the combined system as well as some data for the original PWSIDs. Testing is done in the calendar year of the report (2021).

The EPA or ADEC requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not vary significantly from year to year, or the system is not considered vulnerable to this type of contamination. As such, some of these data, though representative, may be more than one year old. (Data for 2021 is highlighted blue.) In these tables you will find terms and abbreviations that might be unfamiliar. A table of terms and definitions follows (see page 14).

### Water Treatment Process

Our water is treated by disinfection. Disinfection involves the addition of chlorine or other disinfectant to kill dangerous bacteria and other microorganisms that may be present. Disinfection is considered one of the major public health advances of the 20th Century. However, disinfection creates disinfection by-products that are monitored to ensure they remain at a safe level. Lily Lake and the Piedad Spring are also filtered prior to disinfection.

