



## Arch Cape Domestic Water Supply District

32065 East Shingle Mill Lane  
Arch Cape, OR 97102

# 2021 Consumer Confidence Water Quality Report

The Arch Cape Domestic Water Supply District is pleased to submit its Annual Water Quality and Consumer Confidence Report to our customers for 2021. This report is designed to inform you about the quality of the water and services we deliver to you every day. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve and upgrade the water treatment process and to protect our water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water, and want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled meetings. We also have an email distribution list to better inform the public.

If you are interested, please send your email address to:

[archcapebilling@gmail.com](mailto:archcapebilling@gmail.com) to stay informed with the latest news.

You can always 'unsubscribe' at any time. ***Regular public Board of Commissioner meetings are held the third Thursday of each month at 6:00 pm.*** We welcome your attendance at our Board meetings, and the agenda provides for public comment. More information on meeting schedules and the Arch Cape Water District may be found on the District website at [www.archcapewater.org](http://www.archcapewater.org)

In our continuing efforts to maintain a safe and dependable water supply, it may be necessary to make improvements to your water system. The costs of these improvements are reflected in our rate structure and System Development Charges.

The District's primary water supply comes from Shark Creek. The District has a diversion dam that supplies water to our treatment plant where your water is filtered with membranes and chlorinated. Treated water is then pumped into our 520,000 gallon storage tank and distributed throughout Arch Cape.

The District's secondary source of water comes from Asbury Creek. This source was developed in 1999.



The District diverts water from Asbury Creek during the driest months. Initially developed to supply much needed water to existing homes, it also provides additional capacity for future development within our District boundaries. This surface water source was developed in a way that protects the environment and the native fish population within our watershed. The water intake facility on lower Asbury Creek feeds water to a pump station where it is then transferred to the District's treatment plant for processing.

An Updated Source Water Assessment was completed in October 2016 by the Oregon DEQ and Oregon Health Authority to identify sensitive areas susceptible to contamination within the Arch Cape watershed area. Potential contaminant sources include soil erosion and sediment deposition, as well as forest land management activities and herbicide application. A complete list of potential contaminants is provided in the Source Assessment Report. The assessment was prepared under the requirements of the Federal Safe Drinking Water Act, and is available for review at the Arch Cape Water District office.

### *The Arch Cape Forest – Permanently Protecting Your Water at the Source*



A healthy forest with diverse streamside vegetation is essential to holding soil in place, preventing erosion, and improving water quality downstream. After 5 years of actively pursuing this goal, the Arch Cape Domestic Water Supply District recently closed on the purchase of 1,447 acres of forest land bordering Arch Cape, securing the majority of the community's drinking watershed. This natural infrastructure investment is a pioneering effort in source water protection, and offers generational benefits in drinking water quality and quantity. Source Water Protection is the most effective means in securing a safe, abundant supply of water for the future. The goal of the Arch Cape Forest is to

provide clean, safe, and affordable drinking water to the residents and visitors of Arch Cape, through the creation of a working, community-owned forest that sustains the rich character and beauty of Oregon's coastal rainforest for generations. The \$4,700,000 purchase was made possible by grants from the USDA's Forest Legacy Program, Business Oregon, Clatsop County, numerous private donations, and countless volunteer hours.

To learn more, please visit <https://www.archcapeforest.org/>

Arch Cape Water District routinely monitors for constituents according to Federal and State laws. The District uses Alexin Analytical Laboratories (Oregon Certified Lab # OR100013) to test our water for EPA regulated contaminants. All drinking water, including bottled water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some chemical constituents. The presence of these constituents does not necessarily pose a health risk. I am not only pleased to report that Arch Cape's drinking water is safe and exceeds Federal and State requirements, but also that the Arch Cape Domestic Water Supply District was recognized as *Outstanding Performers* by the Oregon Health Authority's Drinking Water Program this past April. Congratulations to the Staff and Board on this accomplishment in service to the community!

The District's treatment plant went online in November of 2014. The skids are equipped with Toray PVDF hollow fiber ultra-filtration membrane modules. PVDF membranes are the industry standard for superior durability and effectiveness in the removal of suspended solids, micro-organisms, and pathogens.



Water Plant Membrane Skids

The following is a short list of scientific terms and measurements commonly used in the treatment and testing of your drinking water:

- **Maximum Contaminate Level (MCL):** The highest level of contaminate that is allowed in drinking water.
- **Mg/l:** milligrams per liter or parts per million - or one ounce in 7,350 gallons of water.
- **Ug/l:** micrograms per liter or parts per million - or one ounce in 7,350,000 gallons of water
- **ND:** Non Detect
- **Action level (AL):** The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
- **Action level goal (ALG):** The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health.
- **Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU) -** Nephelometric Turbidity Unit is a measurement of the clarity of water.
- **EPA:** Environmental Protection Agency

**V.O.C Volatile Organic Compounds EPA 524.2:** The District tested for 21 regulated compounds and received Non Detect on all 21.

**S.O.C. Synthetic Organic Chemicals:** The District tested for 42 regulated chemicals in 2019 and received Non-Detect on all tested.

**I.O.C. Inorganic Contaminants:** The District tests for I.O.C. every 9 years, and last tested in 2019. The table below represents the most recent monitoring done in compliance with regulations. The District Received Non-Detect on all contaminants tested except for Barium and Sodium, which were below the MCL:

Contaminant	Level Detected	Unit of Measure	MCL
Barium	.00513	Mg/L	2
Sodium	8.4	Mg/L	N/A

**Gross Alpha, Radium and Uranium Code 4000, 4010, and 4006:** Testing on these parameters is required every 9 years. Test results from 2019 indicated none detected.

**Lead and Copper:** Testing was completed in August 2019. Results were detected below the MCL. Lead and Copper testing is required to be conducted every three years.

Contaminant	Level Detected	Unit of Measure	MCL
Lead	.0070	Mg/L	.0150
Copper	.2880	Mg/L	1.3

**Nitrate EPA Code 1040:**

Contaminant	Level Detected	Unit of Measure	MCL
Nitrate	.382	Mg/L	10

The district 2021 test results came in at .382 mg/L. The MCL is set at 10.0 mg/L.

**TTHM/HAA5 Trihalomethanes EPA 524.2:** Our District has tested below the average MCL established for HAA5 (Haloacetic acids) and TTHM (total tri-halomethanes) since installing the new water treatment plant.

Test Results from November 2021:

Contaminant	Level Detected	Unit Measurement	MCL
Tri-Halomethanes	.0580	Mg/L	.080
Haloacetic Acids	.0359	Mg/L	.060

**Total Coliform:** The District has not failed this test since the original treatment facility was completed in 1985.

**VIOLATIONS:**

The District received no violations from the Oregon Health Authority in 2021

*It is important to protect our water quality. As a part owner of the water system we all need to protect our investment, so the District asks that you take the following precautions.*

**Distribution System Requirements (homeowner).**

**Back Flow Devices:** In an effort to protect the distribution system and the water we drink, the State and Federal government requires all homes with a potential for a cross connection to install and maintain a backflow device. Items that may need a back flow device are: irrigation systems, hot tubs, photo labs, boilers, chemical sprayers, espresso machines, and any items that produce a higher pressure than the distribution system. The highest point of our distribution system is 128’ above sea level and our system pressure at this elevation is 20 psi. If you are unsure if there is a potential cross connection, please call our office at 503-436-2790.

**Isolation valves:** The District requires isolation valves to be located no more that 18 inches from the District’s water meter. These valves should be used to shut off water to your home if you plan on leaving it unoccupied for more than thirty (30) days. A broken service line can use over 20,000 gallons of water a day.



## **Advisories**

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immune-compromised persons such as individuals with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, those with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. They should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDCL7 Guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by cryptosporidium and other microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

Infants and young children are typically more vulnerable to lead in drinking water. If you have an older home and feel a risk of contamination from lead or copper, please contact our office and we will include your home during our next round of testing. We are required to test five (5) homes every three (3) years and will include more if there is a need. Older homes are more susceptible to leaching from lead than newer homes because of materials used in the plumbing process before 1992. If you're concerned about elevated lead levels in your home, you may arrange with the District to have your water tested during our routine sampling. If your home has been unoccupied it's a good idea to flush your system for a couple of minutes before using tap water. Water will stagnate as it sits in your home plumbing system. Additional information is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

## **Conservation:**

Conservation is key to maintaining the resiliency of rural water systems. Aging infrastructure and a small rate payer base contribute to burdensome financial challenges for small water utilities. Thoughtful water use keeps your water bills lower, and helps to maintain the water supply in the creeks for your local fish, wildlife, and human neighbors. For a list of water saving ideas please visit <https://www.archcapewater.org/conservation-tips>

## **Summary**

It is a pleasure to provide you and your family with clean, safe water. We are committed to serve you, and to accomplish this in the most professional, accountable, and efficient manner possible. The Staff and Board of Commissioners of the Arch Cape Domestic Water Supply District are dedicated to maintaining a safe and dependable water supply for the people we serve, now and into the future. We ask that all of our customers help us protect our water resources, and conserve water. Please call our office if you have any questions about your water utility.



*A beautiful June day in the Arch Cape Forest !*

Sincerely,

*Phil Chick*

Phil Chick, District Manager

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503-436-2790