

Water Quality in Chilliwack

Where does our water come from?

Chilliwack's drinking water comes from the Sardis-Vedder Aquifer, a natural underground water reservoir. The Sardis-Vedder Aquifer is a highly sensitive source that provides excellent quality water. In order to ensure its protection, the City of Chilliwack established a Groundwater Protection Plan. As part of this plan, the City maintains an extensive water sampling and monitoring program to make sure that Chilliwack's drinking water remains a safe and healthy resource. Learn more about our aquifer at chilliwack.com/aquifer.

How does the City make sure our water is safe to drink?

Our water is consistently tested to make sure it meets both provincial and federal guidelines. Chilliwack's Water Quality Assurance Program is guided by the BC Drinking Water Protection Act, which requires all water suppliers to provide customers with an annual report on the quality of their drinking water and has regulations that limit the levels of certain contaminants in the water provided by public water systems. The City's Water Quality Assurance Program helps maintain the high quality of our water through a variety of measures:

- **Water Quality Testing**

Drinking water quality is determined through microbiological and chemical testing. The Drinking Water Protection Act establishes testing methods and monitoring requirements. The City's Water Quality Assurance Program far exceeds the minimum requirements of the Drinking Water Protection Act.

- **Water Main Flushing**

The City of Chilliwack performs systematic flushing of the water distribution system annually and flushes most dead-end water mains every 12 to 18 weeks. Flushing is a process of sending a rapid flow of water through the mains to clean them. This helps maintain water quality by removing sediment and stale water.

- **Drinking Water Treatment**

Our water is safeguarded with the addition of sodium hypochlorite, or chlorine. Chlorine kills disease-causing bacteria and viruses in the water and gradually dissipates after leaving the tap. For information on how to remove chlorine odour and taste from tap water, visit chilliwack.com/chlorination.

To learn more about the water quality in the City of Chilliwack and to view our annual water quality reports, visit chilliwack.com/waterquality.



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