

Where does your drinking water come from?

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Spada Lake



Tolt Reservoir

Assignment: Trace the flow of water through the system that brings drinking water to your home.

In other words, track the travels of a water drop from its source in the Cascades all the way to *your* kitchen faucet.

Get started....!

1. First: ask your parents *who they pay for the water* and what county you live in. It should be either Alderwood, Cross Valley or City of Bothell. (If your water is from a well on your property see the instructions below.)

2. Links and information: Read down until you find the instructions for your situation.

a. Alderwood/Everett: Most South Snohomish County residents near Skyview JHS get water from Alderwood Water, which gets water from the City of Everett... here's the links

i. Alderwood - Get basic background - [Alderwood Water District](#) (Go to the Our Water tab on top for brief background info.) then read on....

ii. Everett Detailed information. Next proceed to the City of Everett ["virtual tour"](#) and use this link for the detailed information you'll need.

Note: you'll have to continue to track the water to your faucet once it leaves Everett all the way to your home.

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b. Cross Valley: If your family gets your water from [Cross Valley Water District](#): Call CVWD call them with your address and ask for your water source information. Their Office is open 8:30-5:00pm, Telephone:360.668.6766 or 425.485.8461 (cvwd@crossvalleywater.net)

c. Apartment: If you live in an apartment, ask the Office staff *who provides the water to your apartment* (who they pay the water bill to!). However, apartments on Bothell Everett highway get water from [Alderwood](#), which gets water from the [City of Everett](#). So see the instructions in a. above.

d. Well: Do you have your *own personal well*, take a photo of the pump and track the flow through the equipment to your faucet.

e. City of Bothell: If you actually pay your water bill to the City of Bothell (This means you are a King County resident.) go to [City of Seattle](#)

f. Woodinville: If you actually pay your water bill to Woodinville Water District go [here](#). Next scroll down to "District History and read the history.

- Then go to [Tolt River Reservoir](#) to complete the job. [Map 1](#), [Map 2](#)!

h. Live South of I 90? Take a tour of the [Cedar River Reservoir...](#) then to finish the job you may also need this [watershed map](#).

i. For a Seattle Water system over all view, check out this [Regional Water System graphic](#).

3. Tracking the flow. Once you know who provides your water, use your resources and be a detective! Track the flow from the mountains *step by step* through the water supply system. Try the provider's website and any other places you can get information. When in doubt, don't rely on one source!!! If this doesn't help, call the water provider on the telephone (be sure to get their name for a reference).

4. Be sure you follow the Format Below while you write out the places/steps your water flows through. Summary:

- Use the format below.
- Tell each step along the way.
- Briefly describe what happens at each step along the way as it flows through the system.
- Be sure to include every stream, lake, river, dam, all steps in the filtration plant system, and pipes to your house.

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Use **this format** and the checklist below to help you finish the job.

Title: Where does your drinking water come from?

a. The source of my drinking water is:

b. The water then goes to _____

c. Next, the water flows _____

[From here on continue documenting each river, dam, lake, treatment plant (tell what happens in each step in the plant.) pipe etc all the way to your home....]

d..... add steps

e. f. g. h.....etc..... until the water gets all the way to your home!

Checklist:

___ 1. Did I follow the required format?

___ 2. Did I write down, IN ORDER, the correct name for all basins, streams, lakes, reservoirs, dams, treatment plant steps, transmission pipes, etc from the water's source to my house?

___ 3. Did I tell what happens (brief summary) to the water in each step in the filtration plant?