

## Your Drinking Water Supply

The Wasatch Mountains east of Salt Lake City provide 60% of the daily water supply for the more than 360,000 people. This water is supplied by the Salt Lake City Department of Public Utilities to residents of Salt Lake City, Millcreek, Holladay, Murray, Midvale, Sandy, and Cottonwood Heights. Your actions here in the mountains have a direct impact on the quality of the drinking water. Learn the rules on how you can do your part to Keep it Pure!



*Remember, what you leave in these watersheds today, you may drink tomorrow!*

Print Version  
Fall 2023

## Over a Century of Keeping It Pure!

At the turn of the century, the leaders of Salt Lake City asked the federal government for help in protecting its drinking water source. President Theodore Roosevelt created the Salt Lake Forest Reserve in 1905. Now part of the Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forest, these lands are primarily managed for the provision of drinking water to the valley below.

A large range of partners, ranging from canyon residents to the US Forest service collaborate in keeping these canyons healthy to provide clean drinking water.

## What you see today, you drink tomorrow!

A drop of water at Silver Lake in Big Cottonwood Canyon takes 12 hours to reach the treatment plant at the mouth of the canyon. After this water enters the treatment plant, it will come out of your tap in your house 12 hours later.... 24 hours from the top of the watershed to your faucet! Please help us keep your drinking water pure!

## Watershed Regulations enforced by:



Town of Alta marshal



US Forest Service



Sandy City Police



Unified Police Dept.

## Contact Us

Phone: (801) 483-6705  
Keepitpure.com



Scan QR Code to access our digital brochures at [www.keepitpure.com](http://www.keepitpure.com)

The Wasatch Front Watershed  
Protected Watershed  
Your Drinking Water Source

# The Wasatch Front Watershed

**Keep It Pure**   
From the Mountains  
to Your Tap



Public Utilities



SALT LAKE CITY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITIES



# Protect Your Watershed

With millions of visitors annually to the Wasatch Front Canyons, human activity can have far reaching impacts to our drinking water quality. While some watersheds in America have been closed to the public because of pollution, the Wasatch Front Watershed has remained open while maintaining a pristine water supply because of careful stewardship. You can make a positive contribution to our water quality by following these simple watershed regulations:



Dogs, horses, and domestic animals are prohibited in protected watersheds because their waste can end up in your drinking water. Search/Rescue dogs allowed by permit only.



Swimming, wading, and motorized boating are prohibited in drinking water sources as studies show these activities have water quality and public health impacts. Waders are required when fishing in lakes and streams.



Please keep your drinking water supply clean by using restrooms. In the backcountry users must bury their waste at least 6" deep and 200 feet from any water and trails.



Take pride in your watershed. Practice "Leave No Trace" skills. Pack out what you pack in. We will all enjoy a more pristine, healthy environment.



Please help us prevent forest fires. Campfires are allowed in developed facilities only within established rings. Back-country campfires are allowed in most areas unless posted as closed but must be 1/2 mile from any road. Use of backpacking stoves instead of campfires in the backcountry is suggested. Seasonal restrictions on fire use may apply. Fireworks are prohibited.



Camping is allowed in developed campgrounds. City Creek and Parleys Canyons do not allow backcountry camping. In other areas, unless posted, backcountry camping is allowed 1/2 mile from any road and 200 feet from water and trails.



Prevent erosion impacts. Motorized vehicles are allowed only on roads or trails that are designated as open for that use. Off-road, cross-country travel is prohibited.



Wasatch Front  
Salt Lake City Public Utilities  
Watershed Management

**Keep It Pure**  
From the Mountains  
to Your Tap

**Legend**

- Trailhead
- Picnic
- Camping
- ADA Accessible
- Information
- Parking
- Resort
- Watershed Boundary
- Protected Watershed Boundary
- No Dogs Allowed Area
- Wilderness Area
- Roads
- Donner Reed / Mormon Trail

