



*Gateway to the Redwoods*

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# Public Utilities Fact Sheet

## City of Willits Park Well

Willits Water Department delivers high quality and safe drinking water to the City of Willits and adjacent unincorporated properties. The water originates from two reservoirs set among 3,200-acres of natural habitat. The Department has a commitment to providing this resource in an environmentally responsible manner while maintaining exceptional customer service. Besides, supplying drinking water, the Water Department operates the Park Well as an accessible source of non-potable water to the public. The facility provides bulk water without the need of relying on water processed through the system. The following are quick facts relating to the Park Well.

### ➤ **Where does this water come from?**

This water comes from a well 250 feet below the surface in a confined aquifer. Being untreated, the City refers to the water as non-potable. This water has high constituent levels of naturally occurring sediment and minerals such as iron, manganese, arsenic and boron making it only useful for irrigation, construction and agricultural purposes.

### ➤ **What does non-potable versus potable water mean?**

Non-potable water is not treated, tested or disinfected for human consumption. Potable water is processed, treated, tested and disinfected to meet water quality for human consumption. The California State Water Resource Control Board is the agency having the responsibility to regulate drinking water supplies.

### ➤ **Is the Park Well water connected to the City's drinking water distribution system?**

No. The City's Public Works Department physically configured the two systems ensuring they remain disconnected from one another.

### ➤ **Do we know how much water is in the aquifer?**

Three studies have shown volumes estimated that range from 35,000-acre feet to 90,000-acre feet of water. As a helpful reference, one-acre foot of water is equivalent to 325,829-gallons.

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For more information regarding the Park Well or the City's Water Program, please contact Public Works Director Scott Herman at 707.459.7129.