CITY OF WAPATO - PUBLIC WORKS - WATER DIVISION

Water Quality Report 2015

The City of Wapato Water Division has continued to provide customers with convenient access to clean, safe drinking water that meets or exceeds all state and federal requirements. Water is the one commodity we cannot live without, and we at the City of Wapato take pride in safeguarding this valuable resource. Please stay informed on the quality of your drinking water by reading this report.

Dedicated to Your Drinking Water

John Macias is Wapato's Lead Water Operator with 20 years of service to the City. John is a Washington State-certified Water Distribution Manager Level 2 and a Cross Connection Specialist. Torin Delvo has served the City for 8 years, and is a State-certified Water Distribution Manager Level 1 and a Cross Connection Specialist. Amber Musgrave joined the City recently. She is a certified Electrician and is valuable to the team. The water crew study hard and work diligently to maintain and operate the City's water system to meet State and Federal standards. Some of their responsibilities include collecting water samples for analysis at a state-certified lab, reading meters, maintaining fire hydrants, operating and maintaining pumps and chlorinators, inspecting construction projects, locating water lines, repairing water facilities, and responding to customer requests. Because of our professional and dedicated team, people of Wapato can enjoy a clean, simple and reliable water system with desirable pressure.

Conserve Water With Xeriscaping

The term ***xeriscape*** refers to landscaping methods that conserve water, such as using native plant species and grouping plants with the same water needs together. Originally developed for drought-afflicted areas, the principles of xeriscape today have broadening appeal. This "common sense" technique can reduce landscape water use by 75%! With water now considered an expensive and limited resource, all landscaping projects can benefit from this simple alternative.

Xeriscapes do not have a single look - almost any landscaping style can be achieved. Because native plant species are used, xeriscapes not only save water, they are also easier to maintain, use less fertilizers or pesticides, and provide crucial wildlife habitats. Check the internet or your local book store for landscape design ideas, recommended native plant species and helpful tips. You'll be on your way to saving water in no time!

Your Drinking Water Source

Wapato's water is drawn from the Columbia Plateau Alluvium Aquifer, an underground layer of porous rock containing water. The City of Wapato accesses the water by pumping from four water wells, each approximately 700 feet deep. Wapato also has two storage reservoirs with a 1.5 million gallon capacity.

The water is immediately disinfected by the addition of chlorine, then pumped directly into the City's water distribution system. Because chlorine is used to disinfect the drinking water supply, daily testing is required in order to measure the chlorine residual. This is done to ensure that the levels of chlorine throughout the distribution system are sufficient to eliminate certain bacteria while remaining well below the maximum level established by the EPA. The water is also tested for disinfection by-products which may form in the distribution system as a result of the chlorination process.

Public Participation Opportunity

Water customers are welcome to attend and participate in City Council meetings. Meetings are held at City Hall at 7 pm on the first and third Mondays of every month.

Water Use Efficiency Program Update

The Water Use Efficiency (WUE) Rule requires water systems to establish a program to ensure that water is used wisely and efficiently. The City of Wapato has a responsibility to educate the public on conservation and to achieve and maintain a water loss percentage of **10% or less** within the water distribution system. In 2015, we were able to account for **more than 90%** of the water we produced. In order to maintain this percentage, we will need the ongoing support and help of our water customers.

Thank you for doing your part by using water wisely.

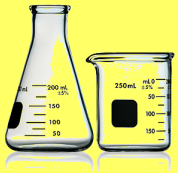
WATER QUALITY DATA TABLE FOR 2015

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regulates the frequency of sampling for various contaminants. The data presented in this table is from testing conducted in 2015. The table may also include any other results within the last five years for analyses that were not required in the year 2015.

Contaminant (units)	MCLG	MCL	Range	Sample Date	Violation	Potential Sources of Contamination
Inorganic Contaminant - Primary						
Arsenic (ppb)	0	10	2.0	Sept 2012	No	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
Nitrate (ppm)	0	10	.18 - .22	Aug 2015	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.
Disinfection By-Products						
HAA5 [Haloacetic Acids] (ppb)	0	60	ND	Jul 2015	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
TTHM [Total Trihalomethanes] (ppb)	0	80	ND	Jul 2015	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
Lead	**MCLG**	**AL**	90th Percentile			
Lead (ppb) 30 samples none were over the AL	0	15	7.6	Jun 2014	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits

TERMS & ABBREVIATIONS

Contaminant: A word used to describe anything detected in the drinking water supply. This term is commonly used in the drinking water industry and should not necessarily invite concern, as all drinking water contains trace amounts of mineral and other substances.
MCLG: Maximum Contaminant Level Goal: The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.
MCL: Maximum Contaminant Level: The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.
ND: Not Detected: Laboratory analysis indicates the constituent is not present or not detectable using best available technology.
ppb: Parts per billion, or micrograms per liter.
ppm: Parts per million, or milligrams per liter.
Range: The lowest (minimum) amount of contaminant detected and the highest (maximum) amount detected during a sample period.
units: Measurement value for each contaminant.
90th Percentile: Out of the 30 homes sampled, 27 were at or below this level.



Important Health Information

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least trace amounts of some "contaminants". The presence of these do not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons, such as those undergoing chemotherapy, those who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly people, and all infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. Environmental Protection Agency/Centers for Disease Control (EPA/CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

The Effect of Lead in Drinking Water

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. The City of Wapato is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking.

If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800) 426-4791 or on their website www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

Questions about your drinking water or this report?

Menglou Wang, Public Works Director (509) 877-3622
Washington Department of Health: (509) 456-3115
EPA Website: www.epa.gov/safewater
EPA Hotline: (800) 426-4791