

CITY OF PORT ORFORD

Drinking Water Quality Report

For the year 2010

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WHY AM I RECEIVING THIS REPORT?

In 1996, Congress passed amendments to the Safe Water Drinking Act that require drinking water providers to give their customers important information about their water, including where it comes from, what is in the water, and how our water quality compares with federal standards.

The City of Port Orford Public Works Department routinely monitors for contaminants in your drinking water according to federal and Oregon State laws. This report covers the period of January 1st to December 31st 2010.

WHAT IF I HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT MY WATER?

This report describes our water quality, and explains what the various laboratory test results mean to our customers. If you have any questions about this report or concerning your drinking water, please contact the Public Works Department at City Hall, 555 20th St., Port Orford, Oregon 97465. You may also call the Department at 541-332-3681. You may attend any of the regular City Council meetings, which are held on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of each

WHERE DOES OUR WATER COME FROM?

Port Orford obtains its drinking water from the North Fork of Hubbard Creek, which is a surface water source about 1.5 miles east of town. An additional parcel of land just above the City owned reservoir helps to ensure



month in the City Council Chambers, 555 W. 20th St., Port Orford.

DO I NEED TO TAKE SPECIAL PRECAUTIONS?

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection of Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from: the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at

800-426-4791
www.epa.gov/safewater/

the quantity and quality of our drinking water. Copies of the Source Water Assessment of the Hubbard Creek Watershed, which identifies the drinking water protection area, are available at City Hall.

WHY ARE THERE CONTAMINANTS IN MY DRINKING WATER?

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791). The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity. Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, that may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife. Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or result from

urban storm water runoff, industrial, or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming. Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses. Organic Chemical Contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems. Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities. In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

DEFINITIONS

In the following table you will find many terms and abbreviations you might not be familiar with. To help you better understand these terms we've provided the following definitions:

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) 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.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG) 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.

MG/L Milligrams per liter

Action Level : The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

ND: Not detected at the minimum reporting level

IS MY WATER SAFE?

Last year Port Orford's tap water met all U.S. Environmental Protection (EPA) and state drinking water health standards. Local Watershed Council vigilantly safeguards our water supplies and we are proud to report that our system had no violations of maximum contaminant levels for the year 2010.

HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED?

We ask that all our customers help us protect our water source. One way of helping is to get involved with the Port Orford Watershed Council. The Watershed Council works with the City of Port Orford to protect and enhance City watersheds and wetlands. The Port Orford Watershed meets on the third Wednesday of the month at 7:00 pm in the City Council Chambers.

CONTAMINANT LEVELS

Contaminant	Violation	Level Detected	Unit of Measure	MCL	Year Detected	Likely source of Contamination
Copper	No	.2300	MG/L	1.35	2009	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.
Arsenic	No	ND	MG/L	.010000	2010	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; runoff from glass and electronics production wastes.
Nitrate	No	ND	MG/L	10.00000	2010	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits.

Next Copper will be 2012
Nitrate and Arsenic are tested annually.

During the 2010 year The City of Port Orford had two violations for late monthly reports. Both were returned to compliance.

WATER CONSERVATION TIPS

1. Water your lawn in early morning or late at night to prevent evaporation.
2. Set your lawn mower one notch higher to make your lawn more drought-tolerant.
3. Use a broom instead of a hose to clean your sidewalk, driveway or patio.
4. Run dishwashers and clothes washers when you have a full load.
5. A short shower is better than a bath! A full bathtub can require up to 70 gallons of water, while taking a 5-minute shower uses only 10 to 25 gallons.
6. Regularly check your toilet, faucets and pipes for leaks and have them fixed promptly.

CITY OF PORT ORFORD EMPLOYEES

James Auburn:	Mayor	Allan Wagner:	Superintendent
David Smith:	Councilor	Rick Rogerson:	Waste Water Treatment
Tim Podgwizd:	Councilor	Duane Eckhoff:	Utility Worker
Caroline Clancy:	Councilor	Larry Dell:	Public Works Tech
Scott Luhr:	Councilor	Kurt Franceschine:	Maintenance Worker
Bill McArdle:	Councilor	Marvin Combs	Police Chief
Dianne Schofield:	Councilor	Levi Easlon:	Police Officer
Shala Kudlac	City Attorney	Gary Rose:	Police Officer
Michael Murphy	City Administrator	Patty Barnes:	Police/Court Clerk
David Johnson:	Finance Director	Crystal Shoji:	Planning Director
Terry Hatfield:	Accountant Assistant	Ethal Sweeney:	Janitorial
Beverley Manes:	Recorder		
Patty Clark:	Utilities Clerk/Planning		

WATER CONSERVATION TIPS

1. Adjust sprinklers so only your lawn is watered and not the house, sidewalk, or street.
2. Plant in the fall when conditions are cooler and rainfall is more plentiful.
3. If your shower fills a one-gallon bucket in less than 20 seconds, replace the showerhead with a water-efficient model.
4. Collect the water you use for rinsing fruits and vegetables, then reuse it to water houseplants.
5. We're more likely to notice leaks indoors, but don't forget to check outdoor faucets, sprinklers and hoses for leaks.
6. Shorten your shower by a minute or two and you'll save up to 150 gallons per month.
7. Upgrade older toilets with water efficient models.
8. Adjust your lawn mower to a higher setting. A taller lawn shades roots and holds soil moisture better than if it is closely clipped.
9. When cleaning out fish tanks, give the nutrient-rich water to your plants.
10. Put food coloring in your toilet tank. If it seeps into the toilet bowl without flushing, you have a leak. Fixing it can save up to 1000 gallons a month.
11. Collect water from your roof to water your garden.
12. Soak pots and pans instead of letting the water run while you scrape them clean.
13. Know where your master water shut-off valve is located. This could save water and prevent damage to your home.
14. Use a commercial car wash that recycles water.
15. Turn off the water while brushing your teeth and save 25 gallons a month.
16. If your toilet flapper doesn't close after flushing, replace it.
17. Wash your car on the lawn, and you'll water your lawn at the same time.
18. Drop your tissue in the trash instead of flushing it and save water every time.
19. Use a hose nozzle or turn off the water while you wash your car. You'll save up to 100 gallons every time.
20. Water only when necessary. More plants die from over-watering than from under-watering.
21. Turn off the water while you shave and save up to 300 gallons a month.
22. While staying in a hotel or even at home, consider reusing your towels.
23. When you have ice left in your cup from a take-out restaurant, don't throw it in the trash, dump it on a plant.
24. When you are washing your hands, don't let the water run while you lather.