

# CITY OF PORT ORFORD

# DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT

For the year 2006

## Inside find out:

Water/Sewer Rate schedule for July 2007 through June 2008.

Meet City Staff

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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 1<sup>st</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup> 2006.

## 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 20<sup>th</sup> 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 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of each month starting



at 7:00 pm in the City Council Chambers, 555 W. 20<sup>th</sup> 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/](http://www.epa.gov/safewater/)

## 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

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.

*Maximum Residual Disinfection Level Goal (MRDLG)* The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

*Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL)* The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

## IS MY WATER SAFE?

Last year Port Orfords 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 2006. We had one violation for failure to meet a deadline for reporting.

## 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	Likely Source of Contamination
I. Arsenic	Yes (failure to report on time)	.0009	MG/L	.0100	Erosion of natural deposits

In Jan. of 2007 the city of Port Orford received a notice of violation. This notice was generated for failure to meet the due date of Dec. 31, 2006 for the arsenic test. This test is supposed to be done once a year. The City of Port Orford would like to assure their customers that all the contaminant

levels are within the safe range. Above you can see the 2005 reported levels and that they are well below the maximum allowed. All contaminant testing for the 2007 year are and will be run on schedule and meet all reporting deadlines.

## JULY 2007 — JUNE 2008 WATER / SEWER RATES

**Effective April 1, 2007 the water rates will be as follows:**

Water base rate will be \$23.47 which includes the first 2000 gallons. Consumption rate will be as follows:

2,001—5,000	\$6.00 per thousand gallons
5,001—10,000	\$8.00 per thousand gallons
10,001—20,000	\$9.00 per thousand gallons
20,001—up	\$10.00 per thousand gallons

**Effective July 1, 2007 the sewer rates will be as follows:**

Sewer base rate will be \$33.93.  
The commodity (usage) per 1000 gallons will be \$5.05 per thousand gallons of water metered.

## CITY OF PORT ORFORD EMPLOYEES

James Auburn:	Mayor	Rick Rogerson:	Waste Water Treatment
Carl Eskelson:	Councilor	Duane Eckhoff:	Utility Worker
Jim Campbell:	Councilor	Larry Dell:	Maintenance Worker I
Milton Finch:	Councilor	Jeff Richert	Maintenance Worker II
Stephen Abbott:	Councilor		
John Hewitt:	Councilor	Mark Creighton:	Police Chief
Jake Marshall:	Councilor	Scott Halse:	Police Officer
		Patricia Barnes:	Police/Court Clerk
Michael Murphy	City Administrator	John Fink:	Ordinance/Police Officer
David Johnson:	Accountant	Crystal Shoji:	Planning Director
Terry Hatfield:	Accountant Assistant		
Beverly Manes:	Recorder	Scotty Auble:	Computer Technician
Patty Clark:	Utilities/Planning	Ethal Sweeney:	Janitorial

# CITY OF PORT ORFORD

PO Box 310  
555 W. 20th St.  
Port Orford OR 97465

Phone: 541-332-3681  
Fax: 541-332-3830  
Email: portorfordcityh@harborside.com  
Web site: www.portorford.org

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## Contact the City of Port Orford

### CITY OFFICES

Telephone Number....541-332-3681

Fax Number.....541-332-3830

City Police..... 541-332-9013

### EMERGENCY

Police and Fire.....911

Public Works.....253-8004

253-8003

253-8005

253-8002

## WATER CONSERVATION TIPS

Are you using more water than you thought? Take a look at your bill. The average daily water use in most areas is between 50 and 200 gallons per person per day. You'd be surprised at how much water you are using and money you can save by following conservation tips.

1. Only run the dishwasher with a full load.
2. Scrape your dishes clean instead of rinsing them before washing.
3. Use your garbage disposal sparingly.
4. Install low-flow showerheads.
5. Use a toilet tank displacement device: these devices will reduce the volume of water in the tank but still provide enough water for flushing.
6. When brushing your teeth, turn off the faucet until it is time to rinse.
7. Wash only a full load when using an automatic washing machine.
8. Use cold water as often as possible.
9. Water lawns early in the morning or late at night to avoid evaporation.

