



We are pleased to present the 2020 Annual Water Quality Water Report for your review. Water is the most valuable natural resource in the world today, and the City of Sisters is fortunate to have an extremely high-quality, reliable, and abundant source. We tend to take our precious resource for granted until we hear of other countries and cities in the United States that are having troubles with their water supply. We have deep groundwater wells that pump water to miles of pipes in our water system that takes a dedicated staff at our water system to be able to provide you with the highest quality water possible. If after reading this report and you still have questions, please feel free to contact our office 541-323-5212, or attend one of our regular scheduled meetings held the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month. You can also visit <https://yourwater.oregon.gov/inventory.php?pwano=00826> for more information. Scroll to the bottom to search all info.



An Important Message from the Environmental Protection Agency

The sources of (both tap 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 and human activity.

Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which 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, comes from agricultural, urban storm-water runoff, and residential uses.

Organic Chemical Contaminants, synthetic and volatile organic chemicals are byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production, and also from gas stations, urban storm-water runoff, and septic systems.

Radioactive Contaminants, Naturally occurring or the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

Drinking water and bottled water may 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 Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

Important Information About Water and Your Health

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised 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 by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants. **For more information call the Safe Drinking Water Hot Line 1-800-426-4791. Additional information can be found on the CDC website: www.cdc.gov/healthywater/drinking/public/faq.html.**

Lead in Drinking Water....Are You at Risk?

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. City of Sisters is responsible for providing high quality drinking water to your tap, we cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components in your home. 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 to drink 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 or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>, or www.leadline.org, or by contacting Edge Analytical, drinking water testing laboratory 541-639-8425.

You can see our most recent test results in the data table below. We are required to report only those substances that were present at detectable levels. We are allowed to monitor for some contaminants less than once per year, therefore some of the data can be more than one year old.

Primary Standards (directly related to the safety of drinking water)						
Inorganic Contaminants	Units	MCL	MCLG	Range/Result	Did a Violation occur ?	Likely Source
2020 - Arsenic	ppb	10	0	1.6	No	Erosion of natural deposits
2020 - Barium	ppm	2	2	0.0024	No	Erosion of natural deposits
2020 - Nitrate	ppm	10	10	0.45 - 0.59	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Unregulated Contaminants						
2020 - Sodium	ppm	N/A	N/A	12.9	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Lead and Copper	Units	MCLG	AL	90 th %	Did a Violation occur ?	Likely Source
2018 - Copper	ppm	1.3	1.3	0.191	No	Household plumbing
2018 - Lead	ppb	0	15	2.0	No	Household plumbing
Disinfection By-Products	Units	MCL	MCLG	Range/Result	Did a Violation occur ?	Likely Source
2020 - TTHM	ppb	80	N/A	2.6	No	By-Product of drinking water disinfection
2020 - Chlorine Residuals	ppm	4	4	0.01 - 0.25	No	By-Product of drinking water disinfection
The City Of Sisters chlorinates well #1 with a chlorine gas and wells 2 & 3 with an on site generated sodium hypochlorite to insure that the water you are drinking is free of any microbial contaminants from the source to your tap.						

- **AL - Action Level**, the concentration of a contaminant which if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements.
- **EPA - Environmental Protection Agency**, sets water quality standards and establishes methods and monitoring requirements for water utilities.
- **MCL - Maximum Contaminant Level**, the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCL's are set as close to the MCLG's as feasible using the best available treatment technology.
- **MCLG - Maximum Contaminant Level Goal**, the level of a contaminant in drinking water which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLG's allow a margin of safety.
- **PPB - Parts Per Billion**, the equivalent of one second in 32 years.
- **PPM - Parts Per Million**, the equivalent of one second in 12 days.
- **pCi/l - Picocuries Per Liter**, a measure of radioactivity.
- **Result/Range** - the column that shows you what level of contaminant was found in the water you drink.
- **TT - Treatment Technique**, a required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
- **TTHM - Total Trihalomethane**, Disinfection By-Products of the chlorine that is used to insure your safe drinking water.
- **HAA5 - Haloacetic acids**, Disinfection By-Products of the chlorine that is used to insure your safe drinking water..

City of Sisters Source Assessment

An assessment of our water system has been completed by the Department of Human Services to determine susceptibility to potential sources of contamination. A copy is on file by contacting the office @ 541.323.5212.



Standards

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 safe drinking water hotline at 1-800-426-4791.