YOUR WATER IS SAFE TO DRINK

ASOTIN COUNTY PUD is pleased to report that your drinking water safely complies with federal drinking water quality standards. This report summarizes the key findings of the PUD’s 2003 water quality testing program and illustrates the PUD’s commitment to a clean, safe and reliable supply of drinking water.

All information contained in this report has been collected and reported in accordance with water quality standards established by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Washington State Department of Health (DOH). The report provides you with details about where your water comes from, what’s in it, and how safe it is.

HOW DO WE KNOW YOUR WATER IS SAFE TO DRINK?

At the PUD, ensuring the safety of your water is the most important thing we do. The PUD collects water samples weekly for bacteriological testing from various points throughout the water system. Bacteria are microbial substances that are naturally present in the environment and those produced by humans and animals. All of the over 250 water samples taken in 2003 met state and federal drinking water standards. Since introducing chlorination for disinfection of the water supply in February of 2002, all samples have met state and federal drinking water standards.

In addition, state and federal regulatory agencies require routine testing for inorganic minerals, disinfection by products and man-made compounds such as pesticides and petroleum additives. All samples collected are submitted to Washington State certified independent laboratories for analysis.

Of the hundreds of state and federal regulated inorganic, organic and synthetic compounds tested in 2003 only a few compounds showed detectable levels and each one was well below the EPA mandated Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL). (see table inside)
WHERE DOES YOUR WATER COME FROM?

The PUD relies on groundwater from the Lewiston Basin Aquifer to distribute water to your home. This deep aquifer spans the Lewiston-Clarkston valley forming at the Craig and Blue Mountains extending to the base of the Lewiston-Clarkston hill and east to west from Lapwai, Idaho to the base of Alpowa Grade located in Asotin County, Washington.

Water is pumped from the aquifer by PUD wells into approximately 120 miles of distribution line and delivered to your home ready for use on demand.

This on-demand system operates based upon the level of our seven water storage reservoirs, which have the capacity of 9.88 million gallons. When a reservoir reaches a certain level our automated control system tells the pump to run and water begins to flow.

When water is pumped from the aquifer by a PUD well, chlorine is added as a disinfectant to ensure that the water is free of harmful microorganisms. The PUD has a system in place to generate chlorine on-site at four of seven primary water supply wells.

In 1989, the PUD was instrumental in obtaining Sole or Principal Source Aquifer designation as provided for in the Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974.

This designation protects the aquifer from potential contamination by mandating that the EPA review any federal projects that would compromise the aquifer.

WHO REGULATES WATER QUALITY?

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 radioactive material and can pick up substances from the presence of animals or from human activity.

To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) prescribes limits on the amount of certain substances in water provided by public water systems. U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for substances in bottled 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 the water poses a health risk.

More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA’s Safe Drinking Water Hotline.

(800-426-4791)

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 and/or Center for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen risk of infection by cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the EPA’s Safe Drinking Water Hotline.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contaminants that may be present in source water include:</th>
<th>Possible source</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Microbial contaminants such as viruses and bacteria</td>
<td>Sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inorganic contaminants such as salts and metals</td>
<td>Naturally occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining or farming</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pesticides and herbicides</td>
<td>A variety of sources such as agriculture, storm water runoff, and residential uses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organics</td>
<td>By-products of industrial processes and petroleum production; can be from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, septic systems</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Radioactive contaminants</td>
<td>Naturally occurring or the result of oil and gas production and mining activities</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
WHAT’S IN MY WATER?

Listed in the table below are the compounds that were detected in the PUD drinking water supply.

Definitions of Terms Used

Detected Compounds: The primary EPA regulated compounds which were detected in the PUD water supply. The PUD performs tests for unregulated compounds for which state and federal standards have not been set at this time.

EPA Allowable Limit or Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL): The highest level of contaminant allowed in drinking water.

EPA Ideal Goal or Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG): The level of contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected health risk.

Levels in PUD Water: The highest level of compound detected in the PUD water supply.

Date Tested: Indicates the most recent date that a compound was tested. The state requires certain contaminants to be monitored less than once per year because concentrations do not vary significantly from year to year. Testing occurs between Jan. 1 and Dec. 31st.

Source of Compound: The common source of the compounds detected.

Complies?: A “Yes” indicates that the range detected is within EPA allowable limits. A “No” would require an Action Level (AL), the concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements a water system must follow.

- Parts Per Million (PPM): These units describe the levels of detected contaminants. (corresponds with one dollar in $1,000,000).
- Picocuries per liter (PCi/L): This is a measure of radiation for radionuclide testing.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Detected Compounds</th>
<th>EPA Allowable Limit (MCL)</th>
<th>EPA Ideal Goal (MCLG)</th>
<th>Levels in PUD Water</th>
<th>Date Tested</th>
<th>Source of Compound</th>
<th>Complies?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nitrate (PPM)</td>
<td>10.0</td>
<td>10.0</td>
<td>0.8</td>
<td>2003</td>
<td>Erosion of natural &amp; man-made deposits</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fluoride (PPM)</td>
<td>4.0</td>
<td>4.0</td>
<td>1.1</td>
<td>2003</td>
<td>Erosion of natural deposits</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arsenic (PPM)</td>
<td>.05</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>.002</td>
<td>2003</td>
<td>Erosion of natural deposits</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beta emitters (pCi/l)</td>
<td>50.0</td>
<td>no goal established</td>
<td>12.9</td>
<td>2003</td>
<td>Decay of natural &amp; man-made deposits</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alpha emitters (pCi/l)</td>
<td>15.0</td>
<td>no goal established</td>
<td>1.8</td>
<td>2003</td>
<td>Erosion of natural deposits</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Compounds detected were safely below the EPA Allowable Limits

What can I do about chlorine taste and odor?

Chlorine kills organisms that may cause disease. You can remove chlorine with a filter, but if you do not drink it immediately, refrigerate the water to limit bacterial re-growth. In addition to filtering chlorine can be removed by:
- Filling a pitcher and let it stand in the refrigerator overnight
- Filling a glass jar with water and let it stand in sunlight for 30 minutes
- Heating the water to about 100 degrees Fahrenheit

I live on a dead-end street (cul-de-sac) and my water has a chlorine taste and odor to it. Is it OK?

The water is safe to drink however, because the main has no outlet, chlorine accumulates creating a taste and odor and possibly a yellow tinge in the water. If you are experiencing these problems contact the PUD to have the dead-end main flushed. Flushing will bring in fresh water through the system to improve water quality.
CUSTOMER PARTICIPATION ENCOURAGED

ASOTIN COUNTY PUD is a consumer-owned public utility. We welcome your views and encourage your participation in the decision-making process. The Board of Commissioners meet at 5:30 pm on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at the PUD office located at 1500 Scenic Way, Clarkston, WA.

We are THE source of Water Quality information for Asotin County PUD Customers

We would be happy to answer any questions you may have regarding this WATER QUALITY REPORT
Call us at 509-758-1010.

You can visit the PUD on the web at: www.asotinpud.org

Important information about your Drinking Water!