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

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 water quality testing program and illustrates our 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 United States 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. The number of samples taken depends on the size of the population served by the water system. Bacteria are microbial substances that are naturally present in the environment and those produced by humans and animals. All of the bacteriological water samples taken in 2005 met state and federal drinking water standards.

In addition, state and federal regulatory agencies require testing for inorganic substances, 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 multitude of state and federal regulated water quality contaminants tested over the past 3 years only a few showed detectable levels and each was below the EPA mandated Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL). (see table inside)
WHERE DOES YOUR WATER COME FROM?

The PUD relies on ground-water from the Lewiston Basin Aquifer to supply 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 125 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 onsite 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 provider.

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