

2010 CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT
Annual Drinking Water Quality Report
The Water We Drink
City of Tomah Water Utility

We're very pleased to provide you with this year's Annual Quality Water Report. We want to keep you informed about the excellent water and services we have delivered to you over the past year. Our goal is and always has been, to provide to you a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. Our water source is groundwater wells. We have four wells that supply the City of Tomah.

We have a well-head protection plan available from our office that provides more information such as potential sources of contamination.

This report shows our water quality and what it means.

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact **Ron Williams at (608) 374-7433**. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled meetings. They are held on **4th Wednesday of each month at 5:30 in the Public Works Conference Room**.

The City of Tomah Water Utility routinely monitors for constituents in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. This table shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1st to December 31st, **2010**. All drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. It's important to remember that the presence of these contaminants does not necessarily pose a health risk.

In this 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 definitions as follows:

Definition of Terms

Term	Definition
AL	Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
MCL	Maximum Contaminant Level: 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.
MCLG	Maximum Contaminant Level Goal: 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.
MFL	million fibers per liter
mrem/year	millirems per year (a measure of radiation absorbed by the body)
NTU	Nephelometric Turbidity Units
pCi/l	picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)
ppm	parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/l)
ppb	parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (ug/l)
ppt	parts per trillion, or nanograms per liter
ppq	parts per quadrillion, or picograms per liter
TCR	Total Coliform Rule
TT	Treatment Technique: A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

Health Information

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 (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 systems 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 are available from the Environmental Protection Agency's safe drinking water hotline (800-426-4791).

Source(s) of Water - To obtain a summary of the source water assessment please contact Ron Williams at (608) 374-7433

Source id	Source	Depth (in feet)	Status
6	Groundwater	325	Active
9	Groundwater	175	Active
10	Groundwater	251	Active
11	Groundwater	240	Active
12	Groundwater	240	Active
96	Groundwater	251	Reconstructed Well
97	Groundwater	240	Reconstructed Well

Educational Information

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.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

- 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 stormwater 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 stormwater 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 stormwater 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. FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which shall provide the same protection for public health.

Number of Contaminants Required to be Tested

This table displays the number of contaminants that were required to be tested in the last five years. The CCR may contain up to five years worth of water quality results. If a water system tests annually, or more frequently, the results from the most recent year are shown on the CCR. If testing is done less frequently, the results shown on the CCR are from the past five years.

Contaminant Group	# of Contaminants
Disinfection Byproducts	2
Inorganic Contaminants	17
Microbiological Contaminants	2
Radioactive Contaminants	4
Synthetic Organic Contaminants including Pesticides and Herbicides	29
Unregulated Contaminants	4
Volatile Organic Contaminants	20

Disinfection Byproducts

Contaminant (units)	MCL	MCLG	Level Found	Range	Sample Date (if prior to 2010)	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
HAA5 (ppb)	60	60	4	nd- 4	07/22/2008	NO	
TTHM (ppb)	80	0	11.7	.4- 11.7	07/22/2008	NO	By-product of drinking water chlorination

Inorganic Contaminants

Contaminant (units)	MCL	MCLG	Level Found	Range	Sample Date (if prior to 2010)	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
BARIUM (ppm)	2	2	.073	.002-.073	05/28/2008	NO	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
COPPER (ppm)	AL=1.3	1.3	.8590	0 of 20 results were above the action level.	07/28/2008	NO	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives
FLUORIDE (ppm)	4	4	.2	nd- .2	05/28/2008	NO	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and

							aluminum factories
LEAD (ppb)	AL=15	0	1.83	0 of 20 results were above the action level.	07/29/2008	NO	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
NICKEL (ppb)	100		5.8900	nd-5.8900	05/28/2008	NO	Nickel occurs naturally in soils, ground water and surface waters and is often used in electroplating, stainless steel and alloy products.
NITRATE (N03-N) (ppm)	10	10	6.04	.93- 6.04		NO	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
SELENIUM (ppb)	50	50	1	nd- 1	05/28/2008	NO	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from mines
SODIUM (ppm)	n/a	n/a	29.20	2.13-29.20	05/28/2008	NO	n/a
THALLIUM TOTAL (ppb)	2	0.5	.4	nd- .4	05/28/2008	NO	Leaching from ore-processing sites; Discharge from electronics, glass, and drug factories

Radioactive Contaminants

Contaminant (units)	MCL	MCLG	Level Found	Range	Sample Date (if prior to 2010)	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
GROSS ALPHA, EXCL. R & U (pCi/l)	15	0	.2	.2		NO	Erosion of natural deposits
GROSS ALPHA, INCL. R & U (n/a)	n/a	n/a	0.2	0.2		NO	Erosion of natural deposits
RADIUM, (226 + 228) (pCi/l)	5	0	.4	.4		NO	Erosion of natural deposits

Unregulated Contaminants

Contaminant (units)	MCL	MCLG	Level Found	Range	Sample Date (if	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
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					prior to 2010)		
BROMODICHLOROMETHANE (ppb)	n/a	n/a	3.82	nd- 3.82	07/22/2008	NO	n/a
CHLOROFORM (ppb)	n/a	n/a	8.42	.38- 8.42	07/22/2008	NO	n/a
DIBROMOCHLOROMETHANE (ppb)	n/a	n/a	1.93	nd- 1.93	07/22/2008	NO	n/a

Additional Health Information

The state requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year. Some of our data, though representative is more than one year old.

Possible Health Effects of detected contaminants:

Nitrates:

Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 10 ppm is a health risk for infants of less than six months of age. High nitrate levels in drinking water can cause blue baby syndrome. Nitrate levels may rise quickly for short periods of time because of rainfall or agricultural activity. If you are caring for an infant you should ask advice from your health care provider.

Lead:

Infants and young children are typically more vulnerable to lead in drinking water than the general population. It is possible that lead levels at your home may be higher than at other homes in the community as a result of materials used in your home's plumbing. If you are concerned about elevated lead levels in your home's water, you may wish to have your water tested and flush your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using tap water. Additional information is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

Radon:

We constantly monitor the water supply for various constituents. We have detected radon in the finished water. There is no federal regulation for radon levels in drinking water. Exposure to air transmitted radon over a long period of time may cause adverse health effects.

We have learned through our monitoring and testing that some constituents have been detected. The EPA has determined that your water IS SAFE at these levels.

“All sources of drinking water are subject to potential contamination by constituents that are naturally occurring or is manmade. Those constituents can be microbes, organic or inorganic chemicals, or radioactive materials.”

All 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 Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

MCL's are set at very stringent levels. To understand the possible health effects described for many regulated constituents, a person would have to drink 2 liters of water every day at the MCL level for a lifetime to have a one-in-a-million chance of having the described health effect.

Total Coliform: The Total Coliform Rule requires water systems to meet a stricter limit for coliform bacteria. Coliform bacteria are usually harmless, but their presence in water can be an indication of disease-causing bacteria. When coliform bacteria are found, special follow-up tests are done to determine if harmful bacteria are present in the water supply. If this limit is exceeded, the water supplier must notify the public by newspaper, television or radio. To comply with the stricter regulation, we have increased the average amount of chlorine in the distribution system.

Nitrates: As a precaution we always notify physicians and health care providers in this area if there is ever a higher than normal level of nitrates in the water supply.

Lead: Lead in drinking water is rarely the sole cause of lead poisoning, but it can add to a person's total lead exposure. All potential sources of lead in the household should be identified and removed, replaced or reduced.

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 microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

“The City of Tomah Water Utility works around the clock to provide top quality water to every tap”, said Ken Patterson, Director of Public Works & Utilities, “We ask that all our customers help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community, our way of life and our children’s future”.

Please call our office if you have questions.

Ken Patterson
Director