



READ ABOUT YOUR WATER IN THIS ANNUAL REPORT

2014 Water Quality Report

City Of Sisters

Federal Regulations require us to provide for our customers a yearly report of our drinking water quality for our groundwater wells. We want to keep you informed about the excellent water we have delivered to you. We are pleased to report that our drinking water is safe and meets federal and state requirements. Some of the contaminants may be monitored less frequently, this report includes the most recent data from 2014 and from within the last 5 years for chemicals. If you have questions after reading this report, please feel free to contact City Hall at 541-549-6022 or attend one of our regular scheduled meetings held the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month.

An Important Message from the Environmental Protection Agency Required information by EPA

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).

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 & home plumbing. The 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 for 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 to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791 or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>, or by contacting Umpqua Research Company, drinking water testing laboratory at (541) 312-9454.

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 or visit the EPA's website: www.epa.gov. Additional information can be found on the CDC website: www.cdc.gov/healthywater.

The City of Sisters successfully met the criteria for "Outstanding Performance" during the 2014 Water System Survey conducted by Deschutes County Environmental Health Drinking Water Program

Detected Regulated and Unregulated contaminants are listed below. Unregulated Contaminants are those for which EPA has not established drinking water standards. The purpose of unregulated contaminant monitoring is to help EPA determine their occurrence in drinking water and potential need for future regulation.

Primary Standards (directly related to the safety of drinking water)

Inorganic Contaminants	(Units)	MCL	MCLG	Range	Violation	Likely Source
2014 - Fluoride	(ppm)	4	4	0.268	No	Erosion of natural deposits
2014 - Nitrate	(ppm)	10	10	0.3 - 1.25	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Unregulated Contaminants	(Units)	MCL	MCLG	Range	Violation	Likely source
2014 - Sodium	(ppm)	N/A	N/A	9.83	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Lead & Copper	(Units)	MCLG	AL	90th%	Violation	Likely source
2012 - Copper	(ppm)	1.3	1.3	0.264	No	Household plumbing
Disinfection By-Products	(Units)	MCL	MCLG	Range/Result	Violation	Likely source
2013 - Chlorine Residuals	(ppm)	4	4	0.05 - 0.27	No	By-product of DW 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. The disinfection process is carefully controlled so that the disinfection effectiveness is maintained while keeping the levels of disinfection by-products below regulatory limits.

Key and Definitions

- **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.
- **Result** - the column that shows you what level of contaminant was found in the water you drink.

*No matter what stage
of life you are in,
quality water is
essential to your
good health.*

How to access more information on our water system

On the internet type in <https://yourwater.oregon.gov/>, under the blue box that has Drinking Water Program choose WS ID Look up, in the box type in 00826 and click View Results. You can scroll to the bottom and choose options to browse information for City Of Sisters.

City of Sisters Source Assessment

The 1996 amendments to the Safe Drinking Water Act require that all states conduct Source Water Assessments for public water systems within their boundaries. The assessments consist of (1) identification of the Drinking Water Protection area, i.e., the area at the surface that is directly above the part of the aquifer that supplies groundwater to our well. (2) identification of **potential** sources of pollution within the drinking water protection area, and (3) determining the susceptibility or relative risk to the well water from those sources. The purpose of the assessment is to provide water systems with information they need to develop a strategy to protect our groundwater resource.

The Drinking Water Programs of The Department of Human Services and Environmental Quality have completed a Source Water Assessment. A copy of the report is on file for viewing by visiting City Hall at 520 E. Cascade Ave.