WATER QUALITY REPORT & CONSERVATION TIPS—2018 Annual Edition

What Is In Our Water?

Contaminants that may be found in the water include inorganic compounds. These are naturally occurring contaminants (salts and metals) as a result of storm runoff, mining, and farming. In order to insure the water is safe to drink, the EPA prescribes regulation which limit the amount of certain contaminants.

Lead and Copper sample results for 2017

Substance	Analysis	Action Level	Number of samples exceeding Action Level	Contaminate Source
Copper	0.3200 Mg/L @ the 90th Percentile Value	1.3 Mg/L	0	Corrosion of household plumbing.
Lead	0.0000 Mg/L @ the 90th Percentile Value	15 Mg/L	0	Corrosion of household plumbing.

Note: 20 lead and copper samples are collected every 3 years from selected homes throughout the City. Samples were collected in July 2017.

2018 Sample analysis results

Substance	Analysis	MCL	MCLG	Number of samples exceeding	Contaminate Source
Fecal Coliform Bacteria	All but one sample had 20 or fewer bacterial colonies per 100 milliliters.	0	0	1	Naturally present in the environment
Total Coliform Bacteria	ND	Fewer than 40 samples/month= 1	0	0	Naturally present in the environment
Nitrate	ND	10 PPM	10 PPM	0	Fertilizer runoff, septic tank leaching, sewage leakage, erosion of natural deposits
Nitrite	<0.20	1 PPM	1 PPM	0	Fertilizer use runoff, septic tank leaching, sewage leakage, erosion of natural deposits
Disinfection Residuals					
Trihalomethanes (TTHM)	0.0224 PPM Avg.	0.080 PPM	NA		Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
Halocacetic Acids(HAA)	0.0346 PPM Avg	0.060 PPM	NA		Byproduct of drinking water disinfection

Definitions:

PPM= Parts Per Million
Mg/L= Milligrams/Liter

[1] MCL= Maximum Contaminant Level (the highest level of contaminant allowed in drinking water)

[2] MCLG= Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (the level of contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected health risk)

Treatment Technique = A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
Action Level = The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG) = The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of Disinfectants to control microbial contaminant.
Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL) = The highest level of disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

- There were approximately **29** synthetic organic chemicals tested for and not detected.
- There were approximately **21** volatile organic chemicals tested for and not detected.
- The 2018 hardness value for treated water was **87 Mg/L.**
- The 2018 fluoride value for treated water was **<0.40** PPM

- Lead — If present, 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. The City of Baker City is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. 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 for drinking 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, 1-800-426-4791 or at www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

- "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 EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791)."

- "Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immune-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 are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791)."

- Cryptosporidium: In January 2006, the federal EPA implemented the Long Term 2 Enhanced Surface Water Treatment Rule known as LT2. This rule required the City to perform 12 months of sampling and testing, resulting in the detection of the cryptosporidium oocyst in Baker City's surface water collection source (Watershed) in 2012. The Cryptosporidium parasite can be found in the feces of most animals. This parasite can cause gastrointestinal health issues if ingested by a healthy person, and for people with a poor immune system can cause more serious illness. Detection of the oocyst triggered the ultraviolet light treatment technique that renders the oocyst sterile and harmless to ingest.

- In 2014, the City constructed a UV Treatment Facility (UVTF) in order to comply with the EPA's Long Term 2 Enhanced Surface Water Treatment Rule (LT2). The UVTF contains (3) Wedeco LBX-1000 UV reactors which are validated for 3-log removal of *cryptosporidium* and *giardia*. The facility has a maximum treatment capacity of 12 MGD. The UVTF was granted final approval by the Oregon Health Authority on November 26, 2014 and was placed into full operation on December 1, 2014.

Where Does It Come From?

Our drinking water comes from two separate sources. The first source is the Baker City Watershed. The watershed encompasses 10,000 acres primarily comprised of Federal land and contains Goodrich (Lake) Reservoir with a capacity of 210 million gallons and many other springs, streams and diversions. The second source of water is ground water from the Aquifer Storage and Recovery (ASR) well located at 4100 Indiana Ave. The watershed water is injected into the well during winter months, stored for a period of time in the aquifer underground, and then is "recovered" during our peak summer season. The City is also authorized to utilize the native ground water via this well. All water is treated with chlorine as required at the City's reservoir site.

What Contaminants *MAY* Be Present?

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 and farming.

Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture storm water runoff, and residential uses.

Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems.

Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

Follow These Tips To Save Money and Water!

- Repair leaky, toilets, faucets, and showerheads. Leaks can waste 10% of your water supply. One drop per minute can waste over 50 gallons of water a year.
- Take shorter showers. Each minute you shave off your shower time saves up to 2.5 gallons of water.
- Turn off the water while you brush your teeth or shave and save up to 4 gallons each minute.
- Install an aerator on your bathroom or kitchen faucet and save about 1 gallon of water per minute.
- Install a high efficiency showerhead, and you could save about 1 gallon of water per minute.
- Wash only full loads. Dishwashers use about the same amount of energy and water regardless of the number of dishes inside, so run full loads whenever possible.
- Turn the sink faucet on only to rinse or use a large container filled with rinse water when washing dishes by hand. You will save about 2.5 gallons of water for every minute your faucet does not run.
- Keep drinking water in the fridge. Instead of running the tap until the water turns cold, keep a pitcher on hand in the fridge.
- Clean driveways and sidewalks with a broom instead of a hose.
- Aerate your soil. Aerating your soil can increase the infiltration of water into the ground.
- Water your lawn early in the day when less wind and lower temperatures keep evaporation to a minimum.
- Adjust your mower to a higher setting. A taller lawn provides shade to the roots and helps retain soil moisture, so your lawn needs less water.
- Re-use your cooking water. Once cooled, use water left over to water your trees and shrubs.
- If you accidently drop ice cubes, don't throw them in the sink—place them in a house plant instead!

Este Informe` contiene information muy importante.
Traduscalo o hable con un amigo quien lo entienda bien.

TO: Current Resident

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