

Consumer Confidence Report 2014



water is life!

The City of Gladstone is pleased to present this annual report as required by the federal Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) and the State of Oregon. We have remained committed to providing clean, safe drinking water to our customers by meeting or exceeding all quality standards in 2014. We encourage you to stay informed on the quality of your drinking water by reading this report.

Your Drinking Water Source

The City of Gladstone receives its water from the North Clackamas County Water Commission (NCCWC). The water supply is primarily from the Clackamas River which originates from the Clackamas River Water Basin. Water is treated at NCWCC facilities. First, water is filtered to remove particulates and then treated with chloramines. This treatment process starts with chlorine to disinfect the water. Next, ammonia is added to ensure disinfection remains adequate throughout the distribution system. Chloramines also lessen the possibility of disinfection by-products forming in the distribution system. Additionally, the water is adjusted for corrosion control.

Your drinking water is tested frequently for a variety of parameters. City personnel collect samples in the distribution system according to EPA requirements and the NCWCC is responsible for all other sampling. If any of these test results exceed the safe levels established by the EPA, the City would issue the required public notifications.

Household Leak Detection - A Way to Save Water & Money



To check for leaks in your home, you first need to determine whether you're wasting water. Then identify the source of the leak.

- Take a look at your water usage during a colder month, such as January or February. If a family of four exceeds 12,000 gallons per month, there are serious leaks.
- Check your water meter before and after a two-hour period when no water is being used. If the meter changes at all, you probably have a leak.
- Identify toilet leaks by placing a drop of food coloring in the toilet tank. If any color shows up in the bowl after 15 minutes, you have a leak. (Be sure to flush immediately after the experiment to avoid staining the tank.)
- Examine faucet gaskets and pipe fittings for any water on the outside of the pipe to check for surface leaks.
- Examine the outside and bottom of your water heater. Look for dripping water down the side of the tank or pooling water underneath.
- Soft spots on the lawn, or grass that is greener in some areas, can indicate a leak that is being absorbed by the ground.

Regardless of their complexity, all leaks need to be repaired. Some leak repairs can be as simple as tightening a bolt or replacing a washer. Other leaks will require professional assistance. Unrepaired leaks waste water and money. Fixing your household leaks could save more than 10% on water bills. Check your entire household at least once a year.



Backflow Prevention

Just a reminder: If you are installing an irrigation system, booster pump, boiler, or any other apparatus on your plumbing system, you are required to install a backflow prevention assembly at your water meter. This assembly is a mechanical unit that is designed to protect the public water supply from contamination by preventing a dangerous reversal of flow ("backflow"). Before installing a backflow prevention assembly, please call our Public Works department at (503) 656-7957 for assistance.

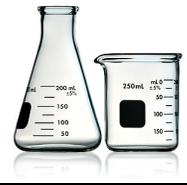
**For more information
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PUBLIC PARTICIPATION OPPORTUNITY

The City of Gladstone invites you to attend City Council meetings on the second Tuesday of each month at 6:30 PM in the Council Chambers of City Hall.

WATER QUALITY DATA TABLE FOR 2014

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regulates the frequency of sampling for various contaminants. The data presented in this table is from testing conducted in 2014. The table may also include any other results within the last five years for analyses that were not required in the year 2014.



Contaminant (Unit)	MCL	MCLG	Result or Range low - high	Sample Date	Typical Source	Violation
Sampled at source water from NCCWC * cannot exceed 5 NTU twice in 12 months						
Turbidity (NTU)	*	n/a	0.08 - 0.48	Daily 2014	Soil runoff	No
Inorganic Contaminants - Sampled at source water from NCCWC						
Nitrate [measured as Nitrogen] (ppm)	10	10	ND - 0.182	February 2014	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks; Erosion of natural deposits	No
Disinfection By-Products - Sampled in the Gladstone water distribution system						
TTHM** (Total Trihalomethanes) (ppb)	80	n/a	26 - 60	Quarterly 2014	By-product of drinking water disinfection	No
HAA5** (Total Haloacetic Acid) (ppb)	60	n/a	16 - 40	Quarterly 2014	By-product of drinking water disinfection	No
Inorganic Contaminants - Sampled in the Gladstone water distribution system						
Lead	Goal	AL	90th percentile		Typical Source	Violation
Lead (ppb) 30 sites sampled at consumer taps; 1 exceeded AL.	0	15	5.7	July 2014	Corrosion of household plumbing; Erosion of natural deposits	No

* Not all contaminants have Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs) or Goals (MCLGs). Some have Treatment Techniques (TT) levels, Action Levels (AL), Maximum Residual Disinfectant Levels (MRDLs) or Goals (MRDLGs).

**TTHM and HAA5 are potential carcinogens. If they exceed the MCL, they may cause liver, spleen, kidney and central nervous system problems. Gladstone is required to take four samples in each quarter of 2014.

TERMS & ABBREVIATIONS

AL: Action Level: Concentration of a contaminant, when exceeded, triggers treatment for the water system to follow.

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.

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.

n/a: Not Applicable.

NCCWC: North Clackamas County Water Commission.

ND: Not Detected: Laboratory analysis indicates that the constituent is not present or not detectable.

NTU: Nephelometric Turbidity Unit: The measure of turbidity or cloudiness of the water. Turbidity has no health effects. It is monitored, however, because it can interfere with disinfection and provide a medium for microbial growth.

ppb: Parts per billion or micrograms per liter. For example, 1 ppb is one second out of 32 years; one penny in \$10,000,000.

ppm: Parts per million or milligrams per liter. For example, 1 ppm is one second out of 12 days; one penny in \$10,000.

Range: The lowest amount of a contaminant detected and the highest amount detected during a sample period.

Result: Refers to the highest level detected, unless otherwise indicated.

90th percentile: Compliance is determined by 90% of the samples taken having lead levels less than or equal to the AL of 15 ppb.

water...
every drop counts



IMPORTANT HEALTH INFORMATION

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least trace amounts of some "contaminants". The presence of these do not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons, such as those undergoing chemotherapy, those who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly people, and all infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. Environmental Protection Agency/Centers for Disease Control (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 at (800) 426-4791.

THE EFFECT OF LEAD IN DRINKING WATER

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 Gladstone 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 (800) 426-4791 or on their website www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.