

# Consumer Confidence Report

2019

The City of Gladstone is proud to present our annual Consumer Confidence Report, which keeps our residents informed of their water quality. Over the years, we have dedicated ourselves to producing drinking water that meets all state and federal standards. As new challenges to drinking water safety emerge, we remain vigilant in meeting the goals of source water protection, water conservation, and community education while continuing to serve the needs of all our water users.

### Drinking Water Source & Treatment

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 Basin. Water is treated at NCWCC facilities. First, water is filtered to remove particulates and then treated with chlorine. Chlorine acts as a disinfectant at the source and throughout the distribution system. Additionally, using soda ash, the water is treated 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.

### Outdoor Water Conservation Tips

- Generally, we are more likely to notice leaky faucets indoors, but don't forget to check outdoor faucets, pipes, and hoses for leaks.
- Use a broom instead of a hose to clean sidewalks and driveways.
- Wash vehicles and/or bathe pets on the grass; areas that need water are best. Use a hose nozzle and turn off the water while washing.
- Make sure swimming pools, fountains, and ponds are equipped with recirculating pumps. Pools should be covered when not in use, as hundreds, even thousands of gallons of water can evaporate.
- Try Xeriscapes. This term refers to landscaping methods that conserve water.
- Check sprinkler systems frequently and adjust sprinklers so only the lawn is watered and not the house, sidewalk, or street. Keep sprinkler heads in good shape.
- Minimize evaporation by watering during the early morning or late evening hours, temperatures are cooler and winds are lighter.
- For hanging baskets, planters and pots, place ice cubes under the moss or dirt to give plants a cool drink of water and help eliminate water overflow.
- While fertilizers promote plant growth, they also increase water consumption. Apply the minimum amount of fertilizer needed.

### How to Interpret this Report

Although this report may seem overwhelming, it contains valuable information for water users. In order to alleviate confusion and/or concern as you review the supplied information, terms and units have been defined. The word "contaminant" is used throughout this document to describe anything detected in the drinking water supply. This term is commonly used in the drinking water industry and should not necessarily invite concern, for all drinking water contains trace amounts of minerals and other substances. The purpose of this report is to provide you with an understanding and perspective enabling you to make informed decisions about your drinking water. Units used to measure contaminants in drinking water are parts per million (ppm) or parts per billion (ppb). To gain a perspective on this measurement, imagine one billion (1,000,000,000) blue jelly beans. Now imagine that one of these jelly beans is red. The amount of red jelly beans in relation to blue ones would be 1 ppb, or 1/1,000,000,000. This example works the same way in respect to ppm as well. As you read this report, be sure and keep these figures and definitions in mind. This will assist you in interpreting what you are reading and empower you as a water customer.

### Did You Know?

The City of Gladstone is a member of the Regional Water Providers Consortium which is a collaborative and coordinating organization that works to improve the planning and management of municipal water supplies in the greater Portland metropolitan region. Find out more about the Consortium, its members, and its work in emergency preparedness, water conservation, and regional coordination at [www.regionalh2o.org](http://www.regionalh2o.org).

### 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](http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead).

### Get Involved

Gladstone residents are invited to attend City Council meetings on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month at 6:30 PM in the Council Chambers of City Hall.

Questions about  
this report  
or your drinking water?



Jim Whynot, Gladstone Public Works Director  
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Oregon Health Authority, Drinking Water Services  
(971) 673-0405 [info.drinkingwater@state.or.us](mailto:info.drinkingwater@state.or.us)

EPA Hotline (800) 426-4791

2019 WATER QUALITY DATA TABLE

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regulates the frequency of sampling for various contaminants. The data presented in this table is from testing conducted in 2019. The table may also include any other results within the last five years for analyses that were not required in the year 2019.

Contaminants (units)	MCLG	MCL	Range Low-High or Result	Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
Inorganic Contaminants						
Nitrate (ppm)	10	10	0.159	Mar 2019	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Disinfection By-Products						
HAA5 (Haloacetic Acids) (ppb)	0	60	13 - 50	Feb - Nov 2019	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
TTHM (Total Trihalomethanes) (ppb)	0	80	18 - 58	Feb - Nov 2019	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
Lead and Copper						
	MCLG	AL	90th Percentile			
Lead (ppb) 30 samples**	0	15	4.1	July - Aug 2017	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Copper (ppm) 30 samples**	1.3	1.3	0.046	July - Aug 2017	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits

\* 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).

\*\* One of thirty lead samples was above the action level (AL) but no violation occurred. No copper samples exceeded the AL or resulted in violation.

Entry Point Chemical Detection						
Contaminants (units)	MCLG	MCL	Range Low-High or Result	Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
Inorganic Contaminants						
Nitrate (ppm)	10	10	0.159	Mar 2019	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Barium (ppm)	2	2	0.003	Mar 2019	No	Disposal of drilling waste, smelting of copper, motor vehicle parts manufacturing, and erosion of natural deposits
Secondary Inorganic Contaminants						
Sodium (ppm)	n/a	n/a	5.9	Mar 2019	No	Saline intrusion, seawater spray, salt used in de-icing, and erosion of natural deposits

Disinfection By-Products Highest Running Annual Average	
HAA5 (Haloacetic Acids) (ppb)	TTHM (Total Trihalomethanes) (ppb)
MCL: 60	MCL: 80
46	49.5

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 persons 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. 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.

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.

**ppb:** Parts per billion or micrograms per liter.

**ppm:** Parts per million or milligrams per liter.

**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.

**SMCL:** Secondary Standards: Non-enforceable guidelines regulated contaminants that may cause cosmetic or aesthetic effects in drinking water.

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