



2020 CITY OF KLAMATH FALLS

WATER QUALITY REPORT



THE CITY OF KLAMATH FALLS PROVIDES

EXCEPTIONAL WATER FOR YOU!



Water is truly an essential part of each of our lives. We rely on water daily for a wide range of uses from growing crops to aiding in industrial processes. None of these uses is more important than our need for high quality water that we can safely drink. To that end, we remain vigilant in meeting the challenges of source water protection, water conservation, and community education while continuing to service the needs of all of our water users. If you would like additional information we encourage you to call us at 541-883-5363.

The information in this annual report is for the period of January 1 through December 31, 2020. The City of Klamath Falls routinely monitors for over 125 regulated and unregulated contaminants in all sources of your drinking water. As a result of this monitoring Klamath Falls' water meets and exceeds Federal and State drinking water standards.

WHERE DOES OUR WATER COME FROM?

City of Klamath Falls' water source comes from groundwater supplied by 11 wells with depths that range from 300ft to 1000ft. This makes Klamath Falls' water system unique in that only 1% of all groundwater supplied water systems across the nation serve more than 10,000 people. We provide water to nearly 40,000 customers. As our groundwater tends to be free of impurities and contaminants we only treat the water with a single common additive, chlorine. Chlorine is injected into the water and acts as a safety net against disease causing bacteria and viruses. Although only a small amount of natural fluoride is present in our groundwater, the City of Klamath Falls does not inject additional sodium fluoride into our drinking water.

YOUR VIEWS ARE WELCOMED

The City of Klamath Falls Water Division operations are governed by the City Council, five elected members and the Mayor.

The Council meets the first and third Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers at the City Administration Building, 500 Klamath Avenue. The Public is welcome to attend.

WE CARE ABOUT YOU AND YOUR FAMILY'S HEALTH

With all of the information in the news these days stemming from the reports of lead contamination in the nation's drinking water supply, the City of Klamath Falls believes it is important for you to understand there are multiple factors that contribute to the corrosive action of the water on materials containing lead in the water distribution system. Some of those factors include low pH, low alkalinity, temperature, hardness and high conductivity. Over 30 years of water quality monitoring and analysis of the City's groundwater sources indicate our drinking water ranks very low in these variables which may contribute to lead contamination caused by the solubility of lead from pipes or pipe materials into the drinking water. Over the past 20+ years the overwhelming majority of tap water samples collected and tested from high risk locations, as defined by the Environmental Protection Agency indicated no detectable amount of lead contamination in the drinking water. It is also important to know the most recent water samples collected at the sources or wells and tested for lead contamination indicated there is no detectable amount of lead in the source water. City of Klamath Falls water system records confirm we do not have lead service lines within the water system. Through our research for selecting the "at tap" sample locations, as required by the Lead and Copper Rule, we have found no evidence of lead service lines within customer's piping throughout the service area.

While water quality regulations and monitoring guidelines have become more stringent our City water consistently exceeds all state and federal health standards. However it is always a good practice to let water run from the tap for 15 to 30 seconds or more before using it for drinking or cooking any time the water has gone unused for 6 hours or more.

Be assured we continue to take the necessary steps to protect you and your family being consistently vigilant in monitoring our drinking water quality.

Customers are still able to request a paper copy and can do so by calling Utility Billing at 541-883-5301.

WATER QUALITY RESULTS FOR 2020

While the vast majority of substances monitored are not found within our water, the table below includes information that tends to be of the most interest to our customers. If you desire further information, a complete summary of test results is available at the billing office or can be acquired by calling 541-883-5388.

PWSID #4100443

RESULTS OF MICROBIOLOGICAL ANALYSIS

Substance	Unit Description	Goal (MCLG)	Highest Level Allowed (MCL)*	Range Detected or Overall Results	Source of Substance	Violation?
Total Coliform Bacteria	positive samples/month		Coliform bacteria may be present in no more than 5% of monthly samples	Zero positive samples	Naturally present in the environment	No
Fecal Coliform Bacteria	positive samples/month		The standard is exceeded if a routine sample and a repeat sample are total coliform positive, and one is also fecal coliform or E. coli positive.	Zero positive samples	Human and animal fecal waste	No

RESULTS OF LEAD AND COPPER SAMPLING FROM RESIDENTIAL WATER TAPS

Copper	ppm*	0	AL: 90% of the homes tested must have copper levels less than 1.35 ppm*.	90th percentile value = 0.0259ppm* No sample exceeded the action level.	Corrosion of household plumbing systems	No
Lead	ppm*	0	AL: 90% of the homes tested must have lead levels less than 0.0150 ppm*.	90th percentile value = 0.0019 ppm* No sample exceeded the action level.	Corrosion of household plumbing systems	No

ADDITIONAL SAMPLES TAKEN AT EACH WATER SOURCE

Substance or Variable	MCL	Balsam Well	Conger Wellfield	Debbie Well	Fremont Well	Hilyard Well	Homedale Well	Wocus Well
Chlorine	4.0 MRDL	0.20	0.25	0.20	0.20	0.23	0.23	0.26
Ph	<6.5/>8.5**	7.8	8.1	8.2	7.7	8.2	7.6	8.0
Hardness as Calcium Bicarbonate	250	130.0	50.0	66.0	74.0	76.0	140.0	66.0
Iron	0.3	0.115	N/D	N/D	0.156	N/D	N/D	N/D
Fluoride	4	0.209	0.307	0.223	0.212	0.311	0.344	0.196
Lead	0.015	N/D	N/D	N/D	N/D	N/D	N/D	N/D
Arsenic	0.01	N/D	N/D	N/D	N/D	0.0033	0.007	0.00496
Nitrate	10.0	1.25	0.176	N/D	0.122	0.776	0.431	0.229

RESULTS OF DISINFECTION BY-PRODUCTS ANALYSIS

Substance	MCL	Source of Substance	1450 Homedale Rd	Lynnewood Booster
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs)	0.08	Compounds formed from the reaction of disinfectant with organic and inorganic compounds during the disinfection process	0.000680	N/D
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5s)	0.06	Compounds formed from the reaction of disinfectant with organic and inorganic compounds during the disinfection process	N/D	0.00733

Raw water (untreated sample) from each well was analyzed monthly throughout the year. No pathogens were detected.

** These guidelines are secondary standards, not MCLs. They are generally based on aesthetic effects rather than health concerns. All measurements are in parts per million (ppm*) unless otherwise stated.

UNIT DESCRIPTIONS: ppm (Parts per million), ppb (Parts per Billion), mg/L (milligrams per liter)

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 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.

ND Not Detected

MRDL Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level

MESSAGE FROM THE EPA

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. 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 are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

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 Klamath Falls 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 drinking 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 or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

The City of Klamath Falls Water Division is required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not your drinking water meets health standards. During the most recent compliance period, June 1, 2020 to September 30, 2020 the City of Klamath Falls Water Division did not complete all monitoring and testing requirements for Lead and Copper contaminants in tap water samples. During this compliance period the City Water Division was required to collect, monitor and test 30 tap water samples, however only 20 tap water samples were collected and tested resulting in violation of Oregon Administrative Rule 333-061-0036. In an effort to ensure the quality of your drinking water as best as we could, the City of Klamath Falls Water Division collected and tested an additional 10 tap water samples. Although the City remained in violation of the rule and out of compliance and

therefore could not be sure of the quality of the drinking water during that time, sample analysis for the initial 20 tap water samples collected within the compliance period, June 1, 2020 to September 30, 2020 and the follow-up 10 tap water samples collected outside the compliance period indicated the quality of your drinking water remained well within the drinking water quality standards set by State and Federal agencies.

During the compliance period of June 1, 2021 to September 30, 2021 an additional 30 tap water samples will be collected and tested as required. Final analysis of these 30 samples will be reported to the Oregon Health Authority Drinking Water Program as set forth by State and Federal regulatory agencies. You can request a copy of the analysis results at 541-883-5363.

WHAT TYPES OF CONTAMINANTS ARE TESTED AND REGULATED?

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 byproducts 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 which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.



CITY OF KLAMATH FALLS
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