City of Monmouth

water Quality Report 2015

www.ci.monmouth.or.us

THE CITY OF MONMOUTH WORKS HARD TO

provide you high-quality water!

Through the use of a multi-barrier approach to safety and reliability; source water protection, water treatment upgrades, certified system operators, active monitoring, and continued upgrades to the distribution system, the City continues to provide you with safe and reliable drinking water.

The City of Monmouth currently has four water sources; Marion County #1 and #2 are the City's primary sources, wells #4 and #5 are the secondary. Combined these wells are able to produce more than 3.0 million gallons of water per day. Supplementary sources of water are continually being sought out and developed to ensure the residents of Monmouth have a continuous, affordable supply of safe drinking water now and into the future. The City has begun development on three additional wells South of Independence along the West side of the Willamette River. As you review the Water Quality Test Results Table you will see of the approximately 90 substances the City routinely tests for, few have been detected in our drinking water system.

Your views are welcomed!

For questions or comments, please contact Russell Cooper, Public Works Director at (503) 838-2173.

Citizens may speak with City Council at their regularly scheduled meetings held at 7:00 PM on the first and third Tuesday of each month in Volunteer Hall (144 S. Warren St.)

A copy of the City of Monmouth's Source Water Assessment can be viewed at the City of Monmouth Public Works Office.

Cross connections and you!

Did you know common hazards in and around your house can contaminate your drinking water as well as your neighbor's? These hazards are known as cross connections and can result in contaminated water backflowing into your home's drinking water without you even knowing it.

One simple way you can help to protect our drinking water is to be careful how you use your garden hose. Never fill a bucket of cleaning solution, a swimming pool, a landscape water feature, or a tank of weed killer by putting the hose inside the container when filling. This creates a direct cross connection that can contaminate your drinking water.

Common Cross Connections To Look Out For: landscape sprinkler systems, garden hose, swimming pools, hot tubs, chemical sprayers, landscape water features, ornamental fountains, utility sinks with threaded faucets. It is your responsibility to voluntarily identify and protect against potentially harmful cross connections in and around your house.

To find out more about identifying potentially harmful cross connections and how you can protect your drinking water, go to www.ci.monmouth.or.us (the public works page) and read more about our Cross Connection Program.

If you have any questions, please contact Russell Cooper at: 503-838-2173

General Sources of Water

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 (Environmental Protection Agency) 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.

Water Quality Test Results for 2015

PWSID# 4100537

Substance	Goal (MCLG)*	Highest Level Allowed (MCL)*	Highest Level Detected[1]	Sample Date	Source of Substance	Violation?
INORGANIC CONTAMINANTS: Primary Contaminants-Directly related to the safety of the drinking water; regulated						
Nitrate (as Nitrogen) (ppm*)	10	10	9.8	2015	Runoff from fertilizer use, erosion of natural deposits	No
Fluoride (ppm*)	4	4	.72	2015	Added to water to promote strong teeth	No
Asbestos (MFL*)	7.0	7.0	0.2	2014	Natural Sources and Asbestos Cement (AC) Pipe	No
DISINFECTION BY-PRODUCTS						
Chlorine (ppm*)	MRDLG* = 4.0	MRDL* = 4.0	0.67	2015	Added to prevent microbial contamination	No
Trihalomethanes (TTHM); Total (ppm*)	MRL = 0.0005	0.08	0.0047	2015	Disinfection By-Products	No
RADIONUCLIDES						
Radium 226 & 228	0	5	1.1	2012	Erosion of natural deposits	No

LEAD AND COPPER

Substance	Goal (MCLG)*	Action Level (AL)*	90th Percentile	Homes Exceeding AL	Sample Date	Source of Substance	Violation?
Copper (ppm*)	1.3	1.35 AL*	0.375	0	2014	Corrosion of household plumbing	No
Lead (ppm*)	0	0.0155 AL*	0.0027	0	2014	Corrosion of household plumbing	No

(1) From most recent test data in accordance with regulations.

***UNIT DESCRIPTIONS**: **ppm** (Parts per Million), **ppb** (Parts per Billion), **mg/L** (Milligrams per Liter), **ug/L** (Micrograms per Liter), **pCi/L** (picoCurie 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.

MFL Million Fibers per Liter; fibers longer than 10 microns (micrometers)

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.

MRDL Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level - The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

MRL Method Reporting Limit

MRDLG Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal - 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 contaminants.

N/A Not Applicable

NR Not Regulated by the EPA

ND Not Detected

NTU Nephelometric Turbidity Units

TT Treatment Technique - A required process intended to reduce a contaminant level in drinking water

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

In May of 2014 the Oregon Health Authority classified the City of Monmouth's primary drinking water source, Marion County Well #1, to be under the direct influence of surface water. The City had 18 months to install an approved treatment system, but has failed to do so. The City needed additional time to evaluate its options, and is currently taking steps to implement water filtration.

"Inadequately treated water may contain disease-causing organisms that pose a special health risk for the elderly, infants, young children, and people with severely compromised immune systems. These organisms may include bacteria, viruses, and parasites which can cause symptoms such as nausea, cramps, diarrhea, and associated headaches. The symptoms above are not caused only by organisms in drinking water. If you experience any of these symptoms and they persist, you may want to seek medical advice. People at increased risk should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers."

Is Monmouth's water safe to drink? Yes. Your drinking water currently meets the interim standards required by the Oregon Health Authority. Specifically, your drinking water is receiving adequate disinfection.

The City is working on the design and performance testing for the water filtration system. To conduct filter performance testing, obtain Oregon Health Authority approval, and to construct the filtration system will take 24 months. The City will publish this notice quarterly until the filtration system is installed, and you are receiving drinking water that meets all applicable state and federal laws and rules.

Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Russell Cooper, Monmouth Public Works Director rcooper@ci.monmouth.or.us or (503) 838-2173.

Health Information About Drinking Water

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 (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention) 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 Monmouth 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.

Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 10 mg/1 is a health risk for infants of less than six months of age. High nitrate levels in drinking water can cause blue baby syndrome. Nitrate levels may rise quickly for short periods of time because of rainfall or agricultural activity. If you are caring for an infant you should ask for advice from your health care provider.