

City of Madras

Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

2008

We're pleased to present to you this year's Annual Water Quality Report. This report is designed to inform you about the quality of water and services we deliver to you every day. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water.

The City has three sources for our water. Deschutes Valley Water District is the main supplier of our water. We also have two wells in the City limits that are used for backup and emergencies. The wells draw water from the Lower Deschutes Drainage Basin.

We are pleased to report that our drinking water is safe and meets Federal and State requirements.

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact Keith Bedell at (541) 475-7259. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled Council meetings. They are held on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of each month at 7:00pm in the City Hall Council Chambers

The City of Madras routinely monitors for constituents in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. The following table shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1 to December 31, 2008. All drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some constituents. It's important to remember that the presence of these constituents does not necessarily pose a health risk. In the following table you will find many terms and abbreviations you might not be familiar with. To help you better understand these terms we've provided the following definitions:

Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/l) - one part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in \$10,000.

Parts per billion (ppb) or Micrograms per liter - one part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000.

Action Level - the concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

Maximum Contaminant Level - The "Maximum Allowed" (MCL) is 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.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal - The "Goal" (MCLG) is 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.

Test Results for City of Madras						
Inorganic Contaminants						
Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Unit Measurement	MCL	MCLG	Likely Source of Contamination
9. Arsenic	N	0.007 (well #3)	ppb	10	50	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
15. Copper	N	0.074	ppm	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
17. Lead	N	0.009	ppb	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits
20. Nitrate (as Nitrogen)	N	0.79 (well #3)	ppm	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits, Naturally Occurring
Test Results For Deschutes Valley Water District						
Inorganic Contaminants						
Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Unit Measurement	MCL	MCLG	Likely Source of Contamination
15. Copper	N	0.033	ppm	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
<u>Microbiological</u> Total Coliform (Positive sample)	Yes	5	NA	1	0	Naturally present in the environment. Positive samples/month: Number of samples taken monthly that were found to be positive

(9) Arsenic. Some people who drink water containing arsenic in excess of the MCL over many years could experience skin damage or problems with their circulatory system, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

(15) Copper. Copper is an essential nutrient, but some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over a relatively short amount of time could experience gastrointestinal distress. Some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over many years could suffer liver or kidney damage. People with Wilson's disease should consult their personal doctor.

(17) Lead. Infants and children who drink water containing lead in excess of the action level could experience delays in their physical or mental development. Children could show slight deficits in attention span and learning abilities. Adults who drink this water over many years could develop kidney problems or high blood pressure.

(20) Nitrate. Infants below the age of six months who drink water containing nitrate in excess of the MCL could become seriously ill and, if untreated, may die. Symptoms include shortness of breath and blue-baby syndrome.

Deschutes Valley Water District Violations and Exceedances

Total Coliform

Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other potentially-harmful bacteria may be present. Coliforms were found in more samples than allowed and this was a warning of potential problems. After repairing a valve on their 20" main line they had samples that tested positive from December 9th to December 16th. In response, they immediately added chlorine to their reservoirs, flushed the lines and retested the water. The subsequent test results came back negative which indicates that there were no problems with the water.

The City of Madras received a Non-Reporting Violation for VOC's (Volatile Organic Compounds) for the compliance period of 2002-2004. The sample collection for the VOC's were inadvertently missed. Samples have since been collected and were Non-Detect for the Analytes. The City also got Notice of Violation in September of 2006 for not reporting Routine Coliform Samples; the samples were taken with good results, but were reported late.

We constantly monitor for various constituents in the water supply to meet all regulatory requirements.

All 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 the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

MCLs are set at very stringent levels. To understand the possible health effects described for many regulated constituents, a person would have to drink 2 liters of water every day at the MCL level for a lifetime to have a one-in-a-million chance of having the described health effect.

Lead: Lead in drinking water is rarely the sole cause of lead poisoning, but it can add to a person's total lead exposure. All potential sources of lead in the household should be identified and removed, replaced or reduced.

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

Please call our office if you have questions.

We at the City of Madras work around the clock to provide top quality water to every tap. We ask that all our customers help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community, our way of life and our children's future.

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua beber.

Tradúzcalo ó hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

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