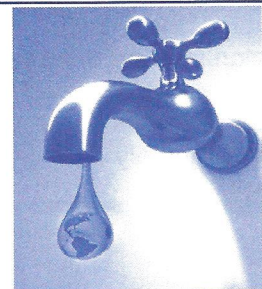


CITY OF UNION GAP

Consumer Confidence Report ~ 2012

DRINKING WATER QUALITY



The City of Union Gap Public Works Administration Office presents our annual "Consumer Confidence Report", for Public Water System ID #90250U. This report contains information regarding the City's quality of drinking water.

We take our users' health seriously and understand how important it is to manage one of our most precious natural resources. Public Works personnel work hard to ensure exceptional drinking water is delivered to you. Our high standards are met by taking numerous water samples, from areas throughout the entire system, and sending the samples to independent certified laboratories for testing. Laboratories look for traces of chemicals, pesticides, herbicides, bacteria, viruses, and metals.

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) sets regulations limiting the amount of certain contaminants in water, which is provided by public water systems. These regulations help to ensure that systems provide clean, safe, and quality drinking water to all users.

Through this report the City provides full disclosure of information regarding the City's drinking water supply. We feel it is important for you to know and understand the following:

1. Quality / safety regulations, which protect your health;
2. Treatment process, which ensure our drinking water meets, or exceeds, all State and Federal regulations;
3. Water quality data; and
4. City programs, which help protect our water system and sources.

TRANSLATIONS: Este informe contiene información muy importante acerca de su agua potable. Haga que alguien lo traduzca para usted, o hable con alguien que lo entienda.

DRINKING WATER DEFINITIONS

- Action Level (AL): The concentration of a contaminant, which if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
- Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL): 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 (MCLG): 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.
- Part per million (ppm): One part per million or one milligram per liter (mg/L) is analogous to one penny in \$10,000.
- Part per billion (ppb): One part per billion or one microgram per liter is analogous to one penny in \$10,000,000.
- State Reporting Level (SRL): Indicates the minimum reporting level required by Washington State DOH.
- Variance and Exemption: State or EPA permission not to meet an MCL, an AL, or a TT under certain conditions.

C O N T A C T S

City of Union Gap ~ PW Administration
509.248.0434 (Billing) / 509.225.3524 (PW Admin)
www.ci.union-gap.wa.us

WS Dept. of Health (DOH) ~ Office of Drinking Water
16201 E. Indiana Ave; Suite 1500
Spokane Valley, WA 99216
509.329.2100 (Phone) / 509.329.2104 (Fax)
www.doh.wa.gov/ehp/dw

American Water Works Association
www.awwa.org

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
Safe Drinking Water Act Hotline
1.800.426.4791
www.epa.gov/safewater AND
www.epa.gov/watersense

DESCRIPTION OF THE CITY'S WATER SYSTEM

Union Gap's ground water supply derives from five (5) wells located within City limits. These wells supply water to the majority of the City's estimated 6,000 residents. Water, from the wells, is stored in four (4) reservoirs, which provide protection against fire, power outages and high water use periods. The water is carried through approximately forty-five (45) miles of local water distribution main and brought to customers' homes and businesses.

QUALITY MONITORING ~ REQUIREMENTS

In order to ensure that our drinking water is safe to drink, the City strictly follows all regulations set by the EPA. For the 2011 calendar year, the City performed all testing to remain compliant with the existing water quality monitoring requirements, as summarized below.

CONTAMINANT TYPE	MONITORING REQUIREMENT [1]
Arsenic	Wells #4 & #5 exceed the new SRL, which is under the triggering MCL levels.
Bacteriological Contaminants	Four (4) samples collected per month, within the distribution area.
Inorganic Chemicals	Wells #2, #3, #4 & #6 - one (1) sample every three (3) years. Wells #5 had a waiver thru 12/2011.
Lead and Copper	Twenty (20) samples every three (3) years at selected residents' taps.
Mercury	All Wells were <i>below</i> SRL.
Nitrates	All Wells - one (1) sample every year.
Radionuclides	All Wells - two (2) samples every three (3) years.
Synthetic Organic Chemicals (SOC)	All Wells - one (1) sample every three (3) years.
Trihalomethanes	Sampling is not required; however, the City includes in the VOC monitoring every three (3) years.
Volatile Organic Chemicals (VOC)	All Wells - one (1) sample every three (3) years.

[1] Increased monitoring is required for any chemicals detected above an "Action Level" or a "MCL".

QUALITY MONITORING ~ RESULTS

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 contacting the EPA.

In 2011, total coliforms were not detected in any of the samples taken within the City's water system. Coliforms are bacteria, which are naturally present in the environment; these bacteria do not pose an immediate health risk. In the water industry, coliforms are looked for as an indicator of potential contamination.

The City has historically provided high quality drinking water and continues to strive to maintain those standards. The list to follow summarizes contaminants, which the City: 1) Monitors, but are not present in the City's drinking water; 2) Monitors, and has not recorded any detection in the City's wells in the most recent monitoring period; 3) Monitors, and are present in the City's drinking water in quantities below the SRL.

1,1,1-Trichloroethane	Ortho-Dichlorobenzene	Glyphosate	Chlordane
1,1,2-Trichloroethane	Para-Dichlorobenzene	Mercury [Inorganic]	Chromium
1,1-Dichloroethylene	PCBs [Polychlorinated Biphenyls]	Methoxychlor	Dalapon
1,2,4-Trichlorobenzene	Tetrachloroethylene	Oxamyl (Vydate)	Diquat
1,2-Dichloropropane	Trans-1,2-Dichloroethylene	Pentachlorophenol	Endothall
Dioxin (2,3,7,8-TCDD)	1,2-Dichloroethane	Toluene	Endrin
Benzo(a)pyrene (PAHs)	2,4,5-TP (Silvex)	Toxaphene	Heptachlor
Carbon Tetrachloride	Aldicarb [2]	Trichloroethylene	Lindane
Cis-1,2-Dichloroethylene	Aldicarb sulfone	Vinyl Chloride	Nitrite
Cyanide (as Free Cn)	Aldicarb sulfoxide	Xylenes (total)	Picloram
Di(2-ethylhexyl) adipate	Antimony	2,4-D	Selenium
Di(2-ethylhexyl) phthalate	Benzene	Alachlor	Simazine
Dibromochloropropane	Dichloromethane	Atrazine	Styrene
Heptachlor epoxide	Dinoseb	Barium	Thallium
Hexachlorobenzene	Epichlorohydrin	Beryllium	Uranium
Hexachlorocyclopentadiene	Ethylbenzene	Cadmium	
Monochlorobenzene	Ethylene dibromide	Carbofuran	

Drinking water contaminants have been detected; levels detected pose no health risk to City residents. Most of the contaminants are naturally occurring minerals, which are found in ground water. The table below summarizes those contaminants, which have been detected in the City's drinking water; the MCL for those contaminants; the MCLG set by the EPA; and the typical sources of the contaminants. For those contaminants, which have been detected and exceed either an AL or MCL; additional information on monitoring, treatment, and health effects are also listed.

CONTAMINANT (UNITS)	LEVEL DETECTED IN 2011					MCL	MCLG	TYPICAL SOURCES
	# 2	# 3	# 4	# 5	# 6			
Fluoride (ppm)	0.5	0.5	0.33	0.31	0.31	4	4.0	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive, which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
Nitrate (ppm)	1.07	1.28	<0.05	<0.05	0.24	10	10	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks; sewage.
Lead (ppb)	0.001	<0.001	<0.0005	<0.0005	<0.0005	0.015	0	Erosion of natural deposits; corrosion of household plumbing systems.
Copper (ppm)	0.02	<0.02	<0.002	<0.002	0.0002	1.3	1.3	Erosion of natural deposits; corrosion of household plumbing systems.
Arsenic (ppb)	0.003	<0.003	0.0073	0.0054	<0.002	0.05	0.05	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; runoff from glass and electronics production wastes.
Mercury (ppb)	0.0004	<0.0004	<.0003	<0.0003	0.0003	0.002	0.002	Erosion of natural deposits; discharge from refineries and factories; runoff from landfills; runoff from cropland.

MANGANESE MONITORING:

The City routinely monitors for a number of minerals, which may cause taste, odor or appearance issues in the water supply. Manganese is a common mineral found in shale, sandstone, and alluvial deposits, and in the aquifer, which supplies the City's wells. Manganese concentrations greater than 0.050 ppm can occasionally stain plumbing fixtures and laundered clothes.

Well #4 provides quality water; it also contains manganese levels of approximately 0.128 ppm. The City was instructed by DOH to maintain the regularly scheduled monitoring. Because there are no adverse health effects associated with manganese, and the high cost for removing manganese, the City plans to continue using Well #4 to meet system demands, and will continue monitoring as required.

LEAD AND COPPER MONITORING

The City's aquifer sources do not contain lead or copper. However, lead and copper can leach into residential water from building plumbing systems.

solder are considered "high risk"; this type of solder occurred prior to 1985.

Lead and copper monitoring is conducted at homes categorized as "high risk"; compliance is determined on a regional basis. Homes or buildings that were built, or re-plumbed, with copper pipes and lead-based

Worst-case conditions are considered when water has been stagnant in pipes for over six (6) hours. If you do not have copper pipes, you are at low risk. If your home is at high risk, you may want to flush out any water that has been sitting for six (6) hours or longer before using it for cooking or drinking.

GENERAL HEALTH EFFECTS

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised individuals, 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 individuals should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers.

The EPA / Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection, by Cryptosporidium, Nitrate, Arsenic, Radon and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Act Hotline.

W A T E R Q U A L I T Y P R O T E C T I O N

High quality, clean, safe, and aesthetically pleasing water is the City's commitment to you. We have adopted the following to ensure the drinking water consistently meets, or exceeds, all State and Federal regulations.

1. Water System Plan (WSP)
2. Wellhead Protection Plan / Program (WPP)
3. Hydrant / System Flushing Program
4. Cross-Connection Control (CCC) Program
5. Water Use Efficiency (WUE) Program

To address the increasing demand on our state's water resources WA State Legislature passed the "Municipal Water Law". The law established that all municipal water suppliers must use water more efficiently in exchange for water right certainty. As the potential for developing new sources of water diminishes, an efficient use of water is necessary to help ensure supplies for future generations' demand due to drought, climate changes, population growth, and business needs.

It is easy to take water for granted; an abundant supply of drinking water has always been readily available and

a basic life necessity. Water is an important and precious resource that everyone should help conserve. Understanding where you can save water is a great place to start; things as simple as the following conservation tips will make a difference.

- Never put water down the drain when you can reuse it for purposes such as watering plants or cleaning.
- Designate one glass for your drinking water each day or refill a water bottle. This will cut down on the number of glasses to wash.
- Soak pots and pans instead of letting the water run while you scrape them clean.
- Install *WaterSense* labeled fixtures for the biggest water savings at home.

Being more conscientious of the water you waste, and the money wasted by those actions, is a good motivator to start even the smallest change today! Kids are learning about water conservation and how to use water wisely; they will be more apt to implement what they learn if they witness you doing the same. For more tips, go to the EPA's *WaterSense* website.

P U B L I C P A R T I C I P A T I O N

- City Council meetings are open to the public.
- Meetings are held the second and fourth Monday, of each month, at 7:00 p.m.
- Meetings are held at the Activities Building at the Youth Activities Park (1000 W. Ahtanum Road).
- An agenda, for each meeting, can be obtained through accessing our website; visiting City Hall; visiting the Union Gap Library; and / or attending the meeting.
- On occasion items related to the water system are discussed; please feel free to participate. Any comments, on how to make this report more informative or easier to read, are appreciated.

CITY OF UNION GAP
P.O. Box 3008
Union Gap, WA 98903

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