

CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT – 2009

The **City of White Salmon** is pleased to provide this Water Quality Report for the year 2009 to each person who receives drinking water from the municipal water system. This report is a summary of the quality of water provided during 2009. The report includes details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to stringent standards established by the regulatory agencies. The City of White Salmon Water System is regulated by the State of Washington Department of Health. *Our Water System ID is #96350B.*

SPANISH (Español) Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre la calidad de su agua beber. Tradúscalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

Do I need to take special precautions? *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).*

Where does my water come from? The City of White Salmon takes its water supply from two deep groundwater wells which pump from the Grand Ronde Aquifer. Productions Wells #1 and #2 have DOH source IDs of SO3 and SO4 respectively. These wells are located 4 miles north of White Salmon, west of SR141. They have a combined capacity of 950 gallons per minute (gpm). In 2009 the City's wells produced 237 million gallons of water, all of which was disinfected with calcium hypochlorite. Both of these wells have a System Susceptibility rating of "Low".

Buck Creek Emergency Source: In the event of failure of the Grand Rhonde Wells 1 or 2, the City may bring the Buck Creek filtered water source back on line. The City is currently installing a filtration plant on Buck Creek with a design capacity of 1,000 gpm. This plant must be fully operational and approved for use by DOH prior to being utilized. Buck Creek is currently scheduled to be on line in early 2010.

Why are there contaminants in my 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).* Drinking water can come from surface water, springs or ground water. As water moves over or through the earth, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material. It can also gather viruses, bacteria and inorganic or other contaminants from human or animal activity. Sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, wildlife; inorganic contaminants such as salts and metals from natural or artificial sources, domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming; pesticides and herbicides; organic chemical contaminants from industrial processes or storage facilities **can all be sources of contamination.** In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations that limits the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems.

How can I get involved? The City of White Salmon welcomes input on decisions that affect drinking water. Council meetings are the first and third Wednesday of each month at 6:00 pm at the City Fire Hall Building. Staff may be contacted at 493-1133.

Other Information: The City monitored its treated water supply for a host of Inorganic (IOCs) constituents and Synthetic Organic Chemicals (SOCs) using laboratories certified by the Washington State Dept. of Health. All results were found to be in compliance with State and Federal maximum contaminant levels (MCLs) for drinking water.

WATER QUALITY TABLE

The table below lists all of the drinking water contaminants detected for Year 2009. The presence of contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table represents monitoring in calendar year 2009. The EPA or the State requires the City to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently.

- A total of 52 bacteriological, 20 Lead and Copper samples and 1 Nitrate samples were examined in year 2009.

Terms & abbreviations used below:

- **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.
- **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.
- **Action Level (AL):** the concentration of a contaminant which, when exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

Treatment Technique (TT): A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL): 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 (e.g. chlorine, chloramines, chlorine dioxide).

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG): The 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.

Variances and Exemptions: State or EPA permission not to meet an MCL, an action level, or a treatment technique under certain conditions.

- n/a: not applicable • nd: not detectable at testing limit • ppb: parts per billion or micrograms per liter • ppm: parts per million or milligrams per liter • pCi/l: picocuries per liter (a measure of radiation)

Inorganic Contaminants	MCL	MCLG	White Salmon water	Range of detections	Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
Nitrate as nitrogen (ppm) Source SO3	10	10	.16	nd-9	4/29/08	No	runoff from fertilizer use
Lead (ppb)	15	0	24	1 site above AL out of 20 sites sampled			Corrosion of household plumbing systems

For more information please contact: Tom Smith, Certified Operator – Public Works - 493-1137