City of Myrtle Creek
ANNUAL DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT FOR 2020

Este informe contiene información importante sobre su agua beber. Trandúzcalo ó hable con alguien que lo entienda bien

We're pleased to present 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.

The City of Myrtle Creek utilizes two water sources, the South Umpqua River and the Springbrook Springs. The City operates two Water Treatment Plants, one located near the confluence of Myrtle Creek and the South Umpqua River and another located in the Springbrook area. The Water Treatment plant on the South Umpqua utilizes membrane filtration, ultraviolet disinfection and carbon adsorption technologies. The Water Treatment Plant on the Springbrook Springs utilizes conventional filtration and chlorine disinfection. The City also has an emergency tie with Tri-City Water District which was used during 2020. This was due to a water main break at the South Umpqua water treatment plant. The tie in was used for about 48 hours.

A Source Water Assessment is available upon request by calling 541-863-3171.

We are pleased to report that our drinking water is safe and meets federal and state requirements.

All sources of drinking water are subject to potential contamination by substances that are naturally occurring or manmade. These substances can be microbes, inorganic or organic chemicals and radioactive substances. **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**. Or you may call the Water Treatment Department at 541-863-3782 if you have questions.

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 (Center for Disease Control) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by cryptosporidium and other microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline 1-800-426-4791.

Backflow Prevention

In order to keep our drinking water pure after it has left the treatment plant, the City of Myrtle Creek maintains a cross connection control program as required by the Oregon State Health Department. A cross connection is an actual or potential connection with the City's potable water and another water source or any contaminant or pollutant. Water can flow backward from a water user into the City supply lines under pressure or by back siphonage when water pressure in the main lines is reduced. The City conducts a survey of water users where there is a potential or actual problem from a cross connection. When a cross connection risk is found, the owner is asked to install the proper backflow assembly. Assemblies are required to be tested every year. Test reminder notices are sent out about the middle of May each year.

In this 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:

Non-Detects (ND): laboratory analysis indicates that the constituent is not present.

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.

Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU) - nephelometric turbidity unit is a measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.

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

Treatment Technique (TT) - A treatment technique is a required process intended to reduce the level of a Contaminant in drinking water.

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.

If you have any questions about this report or your water utility, please contact Sean Negherbon at 541-863-3171.

City Council Meetings are held at 5:30 PM on the first and third Tuesday of every month and are open to public participation.

Contaminants	MCLG	MCL	Your Water	Range Low	Range High	Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
Disinfectants & Disinfection By-Products								
(There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.)								
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (ppb)	NA	60	24.7	6.5	42.9	2020	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
TTHMs [Total Trihalomethanes] (ppb)	NA	80	24.7	10.7	37.5	2020	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Radioactive Contaminants Analyses								
Gross Alpha Combined Rads	0 pCi/L 0 pCi/L	50 pCi/L 15 pCi/L	0.56 pCi/L 0.74 pCi/L	ND ND	2.8 1.6	2011 2011	No No	Erosion of natural deposits
Inorganic Contaminants								
Chromium (ppb)	100	100	37	ND	37	2019	No	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; Erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate (ppm)	10	10	0.22	0.13	0.30	2020	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Nitrite (ppb)	1	1	ND	ND	ND	2019	No	
Microbiological Contaminants								
Fecal coliform/E. coli (positive samples)	0	0	0	NA		2020	No	Human and animal fecal waste
A violation occurs when a routine sample and a repeat sample, in any given month, are total coliform positive, and one is also fecal coliform or E. coli positive.								
Total Coliform (positive samples)	0	<5% of samples	0	NA		2020	No	Naturally present in the environment
Turbidity (NTU) 100% of the samples were below the TT value of 0.3. A value less than 95% constitutes a TT violation.						2020	No	Soil runoff
The highest single measurement was 0.10 NTU. A measurement in excess of 1 is a violation unless otherwise approved by the state.								

Lead and Copper	MCLG	AL	Your Water	Sample Date	# Samples Exceeding AL	Exceeds AL	Typical Source
Copper - action level at consumer taps (ppm)	1.3	1.35	0.023	2019	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Lead - action level at consumer taps (ppm)	0	0.155	0.000	2019	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits

Lead and Copper: 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 Myrtle Creek 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 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 *www.epa.gov/safewater/lead*.

We constantly monitor for various constituents in the water supply to meet all regulatory requirements. As you can see by the tables we had no violations that pose a threat to the quality of our water supply.

We're proud that your drinking water meets or exceeds all Federal and State requirements. We have learned through our monitoring and testing that some contaminants have been detected. The EPA has determined that your water IS SAFE at these levels. MCLs are set at very stringent levels. To understand the possible health effects described for many regulated contaminants, 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 a health effect.

Of the approximately 120 substances we test for, most have never been found in our water. Those that we do detect are found at levels far below health standards, and are identified on the preceding pages. In an effort both to meet EPA reporting guidelines and to make this report as simple as possible, information on most contaminants that we do not find in our water is not included in this report. However a complete listing of test results is available from the City of Myrtle Creek, as well as through the Oregon Drinking Water Program.

Nitrate or Nitrite in drinking water at levels above 10 ppm is a health risk for infants of less than six months of age. High Nitrate or Nitrite levels in drinking water can cause blue baby syndrome. Nitrate or Nitrite 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 advice from your health care provider.

Notice to Customers with Backflow Devices:
Thermal expansion may cause a hazard to the plumbing of premises with backflow devices. Normally thermal expansion, resulting from hot water heating causes water to move backward into the City water system. When a backflow device is installed, dangerously high pressures may be developed in the piping system. This pressure may cause the relief valve on the hot water heater to operate. If you have a thermal expansion problem or want more information please call 541-863-3171.