



## DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT for 2015

**Tri City Water & Sanitary Authority** is pleased to present you with the Annual Water Quality Report for 2015. This report gives you a brief look at the quality of your drinking water.

Our goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We want to help you understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and to protect our water resources.

Our water source is surface water, taken from the South Umpqua River. Surface water refers to water that comes from an above ground source, such as a lake, river, stream, or reservoir.

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) establishes drinking water standards based on possible health effects that could result from exposure to a wide variety of substances, along with specific testing schedules for these substances.

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 800-426-4791.

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. It can also pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity. Contaminants that may be present in source water include; Microbial contaminants, inorganic contaminants, pesticides and herbicides, organic chemical contaminants, and radioactive contaminants. In order to ensure that tap water is safe, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems.

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 guidelines on appropriate means to lessen their risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 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. Tri City Water 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](http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead).

**A Source Water Assessment** has been completed by the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality to identify the surface and subsurface areas that supply water to Tri City's water system intake. Potential contaminant sources identified include areas with high soil permeability, erosion and runoff potential within 1,000 feet from the river/streams. A copy is available upon request at our office or from Oregon DHS/DWP.

**You are invited to attend regularly scheduled Board of Directors' meetings on the second Wednesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at our office, 215 N. Old Pacific Hwy. For more information, call (541)863-5276.**

### Statistics:

**Connections:** Approximately 1,500 which includes larger meters that serve multi unit housing such as mobile home parks, apartment complexes, as well as schools, churches, business, commercial, and industrial.

**Service Area:** 1952 acres or over 3 square miles.

For more information, please contact Paul Wilborn, Manager or Brian Kelly, Treatment Plant Operator at (541)863-5276

*This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.*



## TRI CITY WATER & SANITARY AUTHORITY WATER QUALITY REPORT FOR 2015

All public water systems in Oregon, no matter what their size, must comply with State monitoring regulations and meet safe drinking water standards. Tri City Water and Sanitary Authority routinely monitors for numerous constituents in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. In order to simplify the Consumer Confidence Report, the Oregon State Health Department requests that only certain contaminants be listed. The table in this brochure shows the results of our monitoring for the period January 1 to December 31, 2015. The table below indicates terms and abbreviations with which you may not be familiar. To help you better understand these terms we've provided the following definitions and examples.

**ND** – not detectable

**Parts per billion (ppb) or Micrograms per liter (ug/L)** – One part per billion is roughly equivalent to one sheet in a roll of toilet paper stretching from New York to London.

**Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU)** – Nephelometric turbidity unit is a measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity describes how cloudy the water is; the smaller the number, the clearer the water. Turbidity has no health effects; however it can interfere with disinfection and provide a medium for microbial growth. Tri City has an average turbidity of 0.046.

**Action Level (AL)** – The concentration of a contaminant which, if 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 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.

In order to keep drinking water pure after it leaves the treatment plant, Tri City Water & Sanitary Authority maintains a **CROSS CONNECTION CONTROL PROGRAM** as required by the Oregon Department of Human Services Drinking Water Program. A cross connection is an actual or potential connection with Tri City's potable water and another water source or any contaminant or pollutant. Water can flow backward from a water user into the public supply under pressure or by back siphonage when water pressure in the main lines is reduced. When a cross connection risk is found, the owner is asked to install the proper backflow assembly. Examples of a risk would be: underground sprinklers, pools, hot tubs, wells, etc. If you would like to know if your home or business is free of cross-connections, please call our specialist at (541)863-5276 for a free safety survey.

We are proud that your drinking water meets or exceeds all Federal and State requirements. For additional testing results and information please visit [www.oregon.gov/DHS/ph/dwp](http://www.oregon.gov/DHS/ph/dwp)

### TREATED WATER TEST RESULTS 1/1/15 TO 12/31/15

CONTAMINANT	VIOLATION Y/N	LEVEL DETECTED	UNIT MEASUREMENT	MC LG	MCL	LIKELY SOURCE
Turbidity						
Turbidity	No	Min 0.036 Max 0.249 Ave 0.043	NTU	NA		Soil runoff & stream sediment
Inorganic Chemicals - The most recent required test was completed on 4/23/13						
Sulfate	No	3260	ppb		250000	Soil runoff & stream sediment
Sodium	No	5430	ppb	20,000	N/A	Erosion of natural deposits
Volatile Organics – The most recent required test was completed on 7/07/15						
Bromodichloromethane	No	3.1	ppb	0		By-product of drinking water disinfection
Dibromochloromethane	No	0.6	ppb			By-product of drinking water disinfection
Chloroform	No	7.7	ppb	0		By-product of drinking water disinfection
Disinfection By-Products – Range and Highest Local Annual Average						
Trihalomethanes	No	39.1-47.4 44.2	ppb	0	80	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
Halocetic Acid	No	15.3-32.2 22.1	ppb	0	60	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
Lead and Copper - The most recent required testing was done on 6/18/2013						
Copper*	No	89*	ppb	1300	AL 1350 ppb	Corrosion of household plumbing systems
Lead *	No	6*	ppb	0	AL 15 ppb	Corrosion of household plumbing systems

\*This value is the required 90<sup>th</sup> percentile value from the most recent sampling. None of the Lead & Copper testing sites exceeded the action level for amount of contaminant.

Water testing is performed by: **Umpqua Research Co. of Myrtle Creek.**

Please visit our website at [www.tcwsa.com](http://www.tcwsa.com).