

TOWN OF GARFIELD WATER SYSTEM



2016 *Annual Drinking Water* *Quality Report*

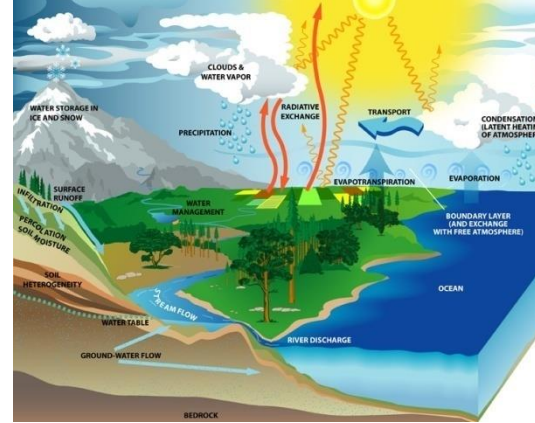
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Continuing Our Commitment

Once again we are pleased to provide you with this year's Annual Water Quality Report. We want to keep you informed about the water quality that has been delivered to you over the past year. Our goal is and always has been, to provide you a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. This report covers all testing completed from January 1, 2016 through December 31, 2016



Where Does My Water Come From?

Our water sources are from two municipal wells about 300 feet deep into a underground source of water called the Grande Rhonde Aquifer. The town owns the land around these wells and restricts any activity that could contaminate them. Disinfectant is added to the water at the wells to protect you against microbial contaminants.

Source Water Assessment

A source water assessment has been conducted for your water source. The assessment reported a Low susceptibility rating for our sources. Please understand that this rating does not imply poor water quality; rather, it signifies the system's potential to becoming contaminated. The source water assessment can be accessed on the Internet through the Department of Health's web site at (www.doh.wa.gov/ehp/dw/swaphome.htm)

Working Hard for You

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) and/or Washington State Board of Health is responsible for setting limits for hundreds of substances in drinking water and also specifies various treatments that water systems must use to remove these substances. Each system continually monitors for these substances and reports their findings to the US EPA and Washington State Health Department Division of Drinking Water.

For example, this publication, which provides detailed water quality information to each customer annually, fulfills one of many regulations in the Safe Drinking Water Act. We are committed to providing you with this information about your water supply.

Important Health Information

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised 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 may be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. The U.S. EPA/CDC (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention) have guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants and are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of these contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk.

Nitrates

Nitrates in drinking water at levels above 10 ppm are a health risk for infants of less than six months of age. High nitrate levels in drinking water can cause blue baby syndrome. Nitrate levels may rise quickly for short periods of time because of rainfall or agricultural activity. If you are caring for an infant or are pregnant, you should ask for advice from your healthcare provider.

What is a Cross Connection?

Cross connections that could contaminate the public drinking water system are a major concern. A cross connection as defined by the American Water Works Association (AWWA) is, “any actual or potential physical connection between the potable water line and any pipe, vessel, or machine containing a non-potable fluid, such that it is possible for the non-potable fluid to enter the potable water system by backflow”. Typically, backflow contamination occurs when the water supply pressure drops below the down-stream piping pressure. Some of the more common sources of contamination, just to name a few are garden chemical (weed/fertilizer) sprayers, pressure washers, and improperly installed water softening systems.

Community Participation

We want our customers to be informed about their water quality. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled council meetings. They are held the second and fourth Wednesday of each month at 7:00 PM in Town Hall.



Water Quality Data

The following tables list all the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the year 2016 calendar year. The presence of these contaminants in the drinking water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table, is from water samples analyzed from January 1, 2016 to December 31, 2016. The state requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentration of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year. Some of the data may be more than one year old and last test date will be noted.

Table Definition:

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

Regulated Substances:

MCL (Maximum Contaminant Level) the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCL's are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

MCLG (Maximum Contaminant Level Goal) the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected health risks. MCLG's allow for a margin of safety

N/A (Not Applicable)

ND non detect

Ppb (parts per billion) one-part substance per billion parts water.

Ppm (parts per million) one-part substance per million parts water.

TEST RESULTS

Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Unit Measurement	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Microbiological Contaminants						
Total Coliform Bacteria	NO	0	Present or Absent	0		Naturally present in the environment
Inorganic Contaminants						
Lead	NO	2014 avg .0014	ppb	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits
Copper	NO	2014 avg. 0.0476	mg/L or ppm	1.3	AL =1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits.
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5s)	NO	15	ppb		60 ug/L	By-product of drinking water disinfection
TTHMs [Total Trihalomethanes]	NO	ND	ppb		80 ug/L	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Nitrate - N	NO	0.2	mg/L or ppm	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits

In 2016 water samples were also collected for Herbicides, Radium 228 and Gross Alpha. All results within limits.

Information on the Internet

You can access all of the water analysis results and information for Garfield water system at the following website. <https://fortress.wa.gov/doh/eh/portal/odw/si/Intro.aspx> after you have accessed the site, enter 27200 into the Water System ID box.

The U.S. EPA Office of Water (www.epa.gov/ow) and the Centers of Disease Control and Prevention (www.cdc.gov) websites provide a substantial amount of information on many issues relating to water resources, water conservation, and public health. Also, the Washington State Department of Health has a website (www.doh.wa.gov/ehp/dw) that provides complete and current information on water issues in Washington, including valuable information about our watershed.

For more information about this report or for any questions related to your drinking water please contact Reuel Klempel at (509) 635-1134. This report was prepared by your certified water distribution and water treatment plant operator. Washington Department of Health Certification # 8320