

2008 CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT

PWS ID 11302511, OREGON WATERWORKS

Introduction

We are pleased to present this year's Annual Water Quality Report to you, discussing the water quality and services delivered to you every day. Our goal is to provide a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to be aware of our ongoing efforts to improve the village's water treatment process and at the same time protect our water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water.

Drinking water for the Village of Oregon area retail and wholesale customers is provided from three (3) ground source wells. The wells are located in different stone formations such as Glacial Drift, St. Peter sandstone, Prairie Du Chien Dolomite, Trempealeau Formation, Franconia sandstone, Galesville sandstone, Eau Claire sandstone and Mount Simon sandstone.

The Village of Oregon currently operates the water system with two full time employees that are licensed through the State of Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR), as well as two seasonal employees. These employees are responsible for sampling the water quality that includes daily testing of fluoride levels. Chlorine levels are tested twice weekly and nine (9) bacteria tests and one (1) split sample testing for fluoride are conducted monthly with the State Laboratory of Hygiene. One (1) bacteria test of raw water from each well occurs quarterly. These same employees also maintain 30 plus miles of water mains, 522 fire hydrants and 709 water main valves.

In addition to the three wells, the Village also has three underground reservoirs and three standpipes that store approximately 1.36 million gallons of water for consumer consumption and fire protection. In 2008 the Village of Oregon pumped over 272 million gallons of water.

The Village has adopted a wellhead protection plan by ordinance to protect groundwater at its three existing wells. This plan may be reviewed at the Village Hall during normal business hours.

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

Water System Information

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact **Randy Hynes, Operator at 835-6294**. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled Public Works meetings. They are normally held on **the fourth Monday of each month at 117 Spring**

Street and begin at 5:45 p.m. Please call village clerk's office to verify meeting date and time (835-3118).

Health Information

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 Environmental Protection Agency's safe drinking water hotline (800-426-4791).

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 systems 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 Environmental Protection Agency's safe drinking water hotline (800-426-4791).

Source(s) of Water

Source id	Source	Depth (in feet)
3	Groundwater	953
4	Groundwater	853
5	Groundwater	890

A summary of the source water assessment for OREGON WATERWORKS is available at: http://prodoasext.dnr.wi.gov/inter1/pk_swap_web.p_swap_summary?i_ro_seq_no=134803

Educational Information

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, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

- Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations and wildlife.

- Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally- occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining or farming.
- Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff and residential uses.
- Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff and septic systems.
- Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which shall provide the same protection for public health.

Number of Contaminants Required to be Tested

This table displays the number of contaminants that were required to be tested in the last five years. The CCR may contain up to five years worth of water quality results. If a water system tests annually, or more frequently, the results from the most recent year are shown on the CCR. If testing is done less frequently, the results shown on the CCR are from the past five years.

Contaminant Group	# of Contaminants
Disinfection Byproducts	1
Inorganic Contaminants	16
Microbiological Contaminants	2
Radioactive Contaminants	2
Synthetic Organic Contaminants including Pesticides and Herbicides	23
Unregulated Contaminants	4
Volatile Organic Contaminants	21

Inorganic Contaminants

Contaminant (units)	MCL	MCLG	Level Found	Range	Sample Date (if prior to 2008)	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
BARIUM (ppm)	2	2	.018 (average)	.013-.025		NO	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
CHROMIUM (ppb)	100	100	1	1		NO	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; Erosion of natural deposits

COPPER (ppm)	AL=1.3	1.3	.18 (average)	.0450- .2470		NO	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives
FLUORIDE (ppm)	4	4	1.0 (average)	.8- 1.4		NO	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
LEAD (ppb)	AL=15	0	8.4 (average)	.nd- 14.60		NO	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
NITRATE (N03-N) (ppm)	10	10	2.39 (average)	1.39- 4.15		NO	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
SODIUM (ppm)	n/a	n/a	3.23	2.90- 3.80		NO	n/a

Radioactive Contaminants

Contaminant (units)	MCL	MCLG	Level Found	Range	Sample Date (if prior to 2008)	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
GROSS ALPHA, EXCL. R&U (Pci/l)	15	0	2.6	2.6		NO	Erosion of natural deposits
GROSS BETA PARTICLE ACTIVITY (pCi/l)	n/a	n/a	.9 (average)	nd- 1.5		NO	Decay of natural and man-made deposits. MCL units are in millirem/year. Calculation for compliance with MCL is not possible unless level found is greater than 50 pCi/l.
RADIUM, (226 + 228) (pCi/l)	5	0	.2 (average)	nd- .3		NO	Erosion of natural deposits

Volatile Organic Contaminants

Contaminant (units)	MCL	MCLG	Level Found	Range	Sample Date (if prior to 2006)	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
TTHM (ppb)	80	0	3.8	.0- 3.8	8/15/2007	NO	By-product of drinking water chlorination

Definition of Terms

Term	Definition
AL	Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
MCL	Maximum Contaminant Level: 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.
MCLG	Maximum Contaminant Level Goal: 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.
pCi/l	picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)
ppm	parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/l)
ppb	parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (ug/l)
TCR	Total Coliform Rule

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Save Money When Sprinkling Lawns

When sprinkling lawns, you'll lower your water bill by following this advice: Sprinkle lawns early in the morning or in the evening. (On hot days, as much as 75 percent of the water evaporates when you sprinkle between noon and 6 p.m. Why pay for water that won't reach the grass and plants' roots?)

Don't sprinkle lawns more than once a week. (Light frequent sprinkling isn't good for your lawn because it encourages a shallow root system rather than a deep, healthy root system. Established lawns need about one inch of water a week. To check sprinkling efficiency, place a cup on the lawn when you sprinkle. When water reaches the one inch mark, turn off the sprinkler).

Water Hardness - 18.25 Grains = 310 P.P.M.

Calcium and magnesium - two minerals that cause water to be "hard" - are found in groundwater throughout Wisconsin, including the Village of Oregon. At 18.25 grains, the Village of Oregon's water hardness is at a level that responds well to a home water softening device.

Because water is "softened" by adding salt, install a softener only on your hot water supply or leave the kitchen tap unsoftened. That way, you'll avoid adding sodium to your drinking water. Don't forget: water softeners require regular maintenance, regeneration, and salt purchases.

If You Have Water Problems

Be sure to call the Village of Oregon Utility if:

- water backs up in your basement,
- you smell sewer gas,
- your water pressure is low,
- your water is discolored, or
- you see water running into the street.

If water is backing up in your basement, stop using all water. Then, call the Village of Oregon water utility before you call a plumber or private drain cleaning company. Village of Oregon utility workers will come out and help you determine if the problem is in the Village's line or yours. If the problem is in the Village's lines, the Village will fix it at no charge. If, however, the problem is in your line, you are responsible for cleaning or repair.

If you are experiencing unexplained high water use, we can also check your home's plumbing for leaks or faulty fixtures. (There is no charge for this service.)

If you experience a water/sewer problem between 7:00 a.m. and 3:30 p.m., call (608) 835-6294. If you have water/sewer problem after hours or on weekends, call the police dispatcher at 835-3111. The dispatcher will contact a utility employee to check the problem.

About Bottled Water

Under federal law, water bottlers are subject to less rigorous testing, treatment and public notification requirements than community water suppliers. In addition, bottled water does not contain fluoride, which has been shown to help prevent tooth decay.

Also, bottled water is more expensive than tap water. If you drink three 20-oz bottles of water each day, it will cost you over \$1,000 a year. The same amount of Village of Oregon tap water will cost you 40 cents for the year.

CONCLUSION

Thank you for allowing us to provide your family with clean, quality water. In order to maintain a safe and dependable water supply we sometimes need to make improvements to the water system. These improvements are sometimes reflected in rate structure adjustments. Thank you for understanding.

Please note it is important to keep the area around the fire hydrants free of snow, debris, weeds and plantings to ensure the water department is able to maintain hydrants properly.

At the Village of Oregon, we are constantly working to provide top quality water to our customers. We ask that our customers help us protect our water sources, which are important to our quality of life and future. Thank you for taking the time to review this report, and please call our office if you have questions and/or comments.

Mark W. Below
Director of Public Works