COOS BAY-NORTH BEND WATER BOARD

2013 Consumer Confidence Report

We are pleased to present the 2013 Consumer Confidence Water Quality Report as required by the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). This report is designed to provide details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to standards set by regulatory agencies. This report is a snapshot of last year's water quality. We are committed to providing you with information because informed consumers are important to our success.

Is my water safe?

Last year, as in years past, your tap water met all U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and state drinking water health standards. The Coos Bay-North Bend Water Board vigilantly safeguards its water supplies and once again we are proud to report that our system has not violated a maximum contaminant level or any other water quality standard.

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/Centers for Disease Control (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?

There are two surface water reservoirs upstream from the Pony Creek treatment plant, Upper Pony Creek and Merritt Reservoirs. The larger Upper Pony Creek Reservoir can hold 2 billion gallons of water; and Merritt Reservoir can hold 125 million gallons. A third source of surface water is the Joe Ney Reservoir which can store another 90 million gallons.

Merritt Lake

The Water Board also has the use of a ground water source in the Dunes National Recreation Area in the way of 19 wells. These wells can produce untreated water for industrial needs or up to 1 million gallons per day of treated water for municipal use.

Source water assessment and its availability

A Source Water Assessment was completed by the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality and the Oregon Department of Health Services to identify the land surface areas (and or subsurface areas) that supply water to Coos Bay-North Bend Water Board's Pony Creek system. The study also inventoried the potential contaminant sources that may impact the water supply. The study can be reviewed by those interested at the Coos Bay Public Library, North Bend Public Library or the Water Board Office.

Spillway at Upper Pony Creek

How can I get involved?

The Directors of the Water Board regularly meet the first and third Thursday of every month. The meetings are held in the Board Room at 2305 Ocean Boulevard at 7:00am and the public is invited to attend.

For more information call
Reshma Parrish at 541-267-3128 or
visit our website at www.cbnbh2o.com

Contaminants	MCLG or MRDLG	MCL, TT, or MRDL	Your Water	Range Low	Range High	Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
Disinfectants & Disinfectant By-Products								
(There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants)								
TTHMs [Total Trihalomethanes] (ppb)	NA	80	31	NA		2013	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (ppb)	NA	60	12	NA		2013	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Inorganic Contaminants								
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	1.03	NA		2010	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Nitrate [measured as Nitrogen] (ppm)	10	10	0.35	NA		2013	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Microbiological Contaminants								
Turbidity[reading taken daily] (NTU)	NA	TT = <0.3 NTU 95% of the time	0.06 average	0.03	0.52	2013	No	Soil runoff
Total Coliform (% positive samples/month)	0	5% in any month	1 sample out of 43 in May (2.3%)	NA		2013	No	Naturally present in the environment

Contaminants	MCLG	AL	Your Water	Sample Date	# Samples Exceeding AL	Exceeds AL	Typical Source
Inorganic Contaminants							
Lead - action level at consumer taps (ppb)	0	15	4	2011	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Copper - action level at consumer taps (ppm)	1.3	1.3	0.042	2011	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits

Coos Bay-North Bend Water Board conducted monitoring for treated water and the distribution system for unregulated contaminants on a quarterly basis in 2008. Unregulated contaminants are those that don't yet have a drinking water standard set by U.S. EPA. The purpose of monitoring for the contaminants is to help EPA decide whether the contaminants should have a standard. This monitoring program was called UCMR2. These compounds included flame retardants, explosives and related compounds, and various degradation products of pesticides and herbicides. From the compounds analyzed only N-nitroso-dimethylamine (NMDA) was detected at 0.0039ppb.

Unit Descriptions	
Term	**Definition**
ppm	ppm: parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/L)
ppb	ppb: parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (µg/L)
NTU	NTU: Nephelometric Turbidity Units. Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of the filtration system.
% positive samples/month	% positive samples/month: Percent of samples taken monthly that were positive
NA	NA: not applicable
ND	ND: not detected
NR	NR: Monitoring not required, but recommended.

Important Drinking Water Definitions	
Term	**Definition**
MCLG	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.
MCL	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.
TT	TT: Treatment Technique: A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
AL	AL: Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
Variances and Exemptions	Variances and Exemptions: State or EPA permission not to meet an MCL or a treatment technique under certain conditions.
MRDLG	MRDLG: Maximum residual disinfection level goal. 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.
MRDL	MRDL: Maximum residual disinfectant level. 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.
MNR	MNR: Monitored Not Regulated
MPL	MPL: State Assigned Maximum Permissible Level

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 the 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 at 1-800-426-4791.**

The sources of drinking water (both tap 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 in drinking water sources may include:

- Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from wildlife or septic systems.
- Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can occur naturally or result from stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, and farming.
- Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as farming and forestry activities, stormwater runoff, and home or business uses.
- Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are byproducts of industrial processes, and also can come from gas station, stormwater runoff, and septic systems.
- Radioactive contaminants can occur natrually or can result from 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. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

Upper Pony Creek Reservoir

Additional information for Lead

The U.S. EPA requires all water providers to include in this report important language about lead, regardless of levels occurring in water samples:

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.

Coos Bay-North Bend Water Board cannot control the variety of material 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 two minutes before using water for drinking or cooking.

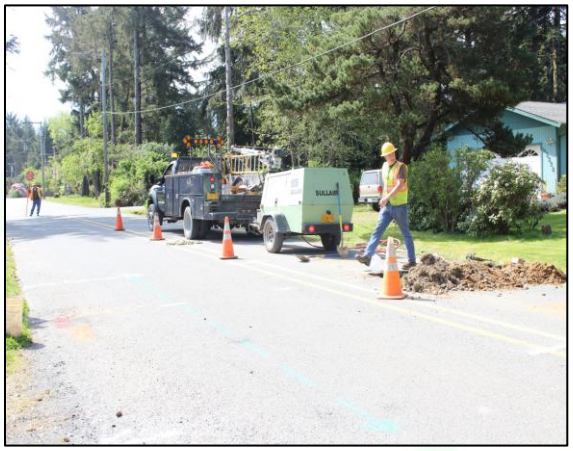
If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the **Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791) or at www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.**

Water conservation tips

Did you know that the average bay area household uses 4500 gallons of water per month? Luckily, there are many low-cost and no-cost ways to conserve water. Small changes can make a big difference.

- Take short showers – a 5 minute shower uses 4 to 5 gallons of water compared to up to 50 gallons of water for a bath.
- Shut off water while brushing your teeth, washing your hair, and shaving and save up to 500 gallons a month.
- Use a water efficient showerhead. They are inexpensive, and easy to install, and can save you up to 750 gallons a month.
- Water plants only when necessary.
- Fix leaky toilets and faucets. Fixing or replacing leaky toilets or faucets with a new more efficient model can save up to 1,000 gallons.
- Adjust sprinklers so only your lawn is watered. Apply water only as fast as the soil can absorb it and during the cooler parts of the day to reduce evaporation.
- Teach your kids about water conservation to ensure a future generation that uses water wisely.

Visit www.epa.gov/watersense for more information on water conservation.



Crew members installing a new service

This report contains important information about the source and quality of your drinking water. Please call (541) 267-3128 or email Reshma Parrish at reshma_parrish@cbnbh2o.com if you would like a paper copy of this report delivered to your home.

Este informe contiene información importante sobre el origen y la calidad de su agua potable. Por favor llame al (541) 267-3128 o Reshma Parrish en un correo electrónico a: reshma_parrish@cbnbh2o.com si desea una copia impresa de este informe, entregado a su hogar.