

NOTICE:

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. People, such as those with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, and people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, are considered immunocompromised persons. In addition, some elderly and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care provider. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection, by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Water Drinking Hotline (800-426-4791) or on the web at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater>.

Este informe contiene información importante acerca de su agua potable. Haga que alguien lo traduzca para usted, o hable con alguien que lo entienda.

Irrigation backflow assembly.



DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT

2014



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ARE YOU AT RISK?

Infants and young children are typically more vulnerable to lead in drinking water than the general population. As a result of the materials used in your home's plumbing, it may be possible that lead levels may be higher in your home than other places in the community. If you are concerned about elevated lead levels in your home's water, you can flush your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using tap water or you may wish to have your water tested by an outside agency. Additional information is available from the [SAFE DRINKING WATER HOTLINE 800-426-4791](tel:800-426-4791).



Preparation of water sampling bottles

WHERE YOUR WATER COMES FROM

One of the most important factors in water quality is its source: The purer the source, the better the water. The City of College Place water system draws water from an aquifer that lies deep beneath the Walla Walla Valley. Water is pumped from the aquifer through deep wells, with a depth range of 650 to 750 feet. The City staff manage each well station according to EPA and DOH standards. In addition to the well stations themselves, a careful watch is kept on a 100 foot well head protection radius surrounding each well.

Primary Source and Type

Well #1 Groundwater
Well #2 Groundwater
Well #3 Groundwater

Back-Up Source & Type

Intertie #1 Walla Walla Intertie
Intertie #2 Walla Walla Intertie
Intertie #3 Walla Walla University
Intertie #4 CID #14 Intertie

ENSURING YOUR WATER IS SAFE

Drinking water, both tap and bottled, originates from sources such as 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. In some regions, water may even pick up substances resulting from the presence of radioactive material, animals or from human activity. 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 pose 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 on the internet at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater>.

The City of College Place has a potable water connection (intertie) with Consolidated Irrigation District #14, which is in the northwest section of the City. Usage of this connection is based on need and seasonal demand. The City of Walla Walla, and Walla Walla University are also intertied with College Place. These two interties are reserved for emergency situations.

WATER QUALITY TABLE

This table below lists some of the drinking water contaminants that were detected during the calendar year of this report. The EPA and/or the State allows us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently.

Contaminants (units)	Detected	MCL	Year	Violation	Probable Source	
Disinfectants & Disinfection By-Products						
Haloacetic Acids (annual average, ppb)	N/D	60	3rd Quarter 2014	No	By-Product of drinking water disinfection	
Inorganic Contaminants						
Asbestos (MFL)	0.087	7	07/28/2009	No	Decay of asbestos cement water mains: Erosion of natural deposits	
Calcium (mg/l)	20.7	n/a	08/03/2011	No	Erosion of natural deposits	
Fluoride (ppm)	0.68	4	08/03/2011	No	Erosion of natural deposits	
Copper (mg/l)	0.028	AL=1.3	07/23/2012	No	Corrosion in household plumbing system (#14)	
Lead (mg/l)	0.003	AL= 0.15	09/25/2014	No	Corrosion in household plumbing system	
Nitrate (measures as Nitrogen) (ppm)	0.05	10	07/15/2014	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; source #1	
Arsenic (ppb)	0.002	0.010	08/03/2011	No	Erosion of natural deposits	
Microbiological Contaminants						
Coliform (total coliform bacteria)	ND	Positive.	2014	No	Supply-Distribution	
Fecal Coliform and E-Coli	ND	Positive.	2014	No	Supply-Distribution	
Radionuclides						
Gross alpha (pCi/L)	ND	15	06/23/2010	No	Decay of natural and man-made deposits/source #3	
Rad 228 (pCi/L)	ND	5	06/23/2010	No	Decay of natural and man-made deposits	
Volatile Organic Contaminants						
TTHMs (Total Trihalomethanes) (ppb)	0.6	80	08/04/2014	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination/source#2	
Contaminants (units)	Range	Average	MRDL	Collected	Violation	Probable Source
Disinfectants						
Chlorine (ppm)	0.03- 0.35	0.12	4.0	2014	No	Treatment used to control microbes

Units Description: ppm—parts per million; ppb—parts per billion or micrograms per liter; NA: Not Applicable; MNR: Monitoring Not Required, but recommend; pCi/l: picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity);
***** Important Drinking Water Definitions:** MCL: Maximum Contaminant Level; TT: Treatment Technique; MRDL: Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level; MRDLG: Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal;
 AL: Action Level ; ND= Non-Detected;

CROSS CONNECTION / BACKFLOW PREVENTION

Definition of a Cross Connection:

A cross connection is any actual or potential physical connection between a potable water line and any pipe, vessel, or machine containing a non-potable fluid or has the possibility of containing a non-potable fluid, solid, or gas, such that it is possible for the non-potable fluid, solid or gas to enter the water system by flowing backwards (backflow).

The most common reason a residential homeowner would be concerned about a potential cross connection is if an underground irrigation system has been installed on their property. An underground irrigation system can provide a “piping conduit” for contaminants to be siphoned back into the potable water system. Because of this risk, the Washington State Department of Health requires an approved BACKFLOW PREVENTER to be installed on all underground irrigation systems (WAC 246- 290-490). Ownership, maintenance and the required annual testing of the backflow preventer belongs to the property owner. The City will send an annual reminder to have the assembly tested. However, regardless of receiving a reminder or not, annual testing is ultimately the responsibility of the property owner.

Having your backflow preventer tested annually makes you a part in a successful backflow prevention program, and protects the City water system from hazardous contaminants.

WATER QUALITY

Our local community uses millions of gallons of water each year. 100% of this resource is supplied by nature. The City of College Place water department is responsible for the safe and effective delivery of this extremely valuable resource. Much of the quality of the water is determined by nature, prior to it reaching the surface via pumps. However, once it is at the surface, the certified operators of the water system are responsible to protect it as it makes its way to each resident. Residents have a responsibility as well in protecting our water sources. One way is proper disposal of harmful contaminants. Contaminants dumped in or on your property will eventually make their way to water producing aquifers.

Your participation is encouraged!
 Please contact Kevin Wolpert, Water Quality Specialist at 394-8651 with any questions or comments you may have.

WATER TESTING

The City of College Place certified operators draw several water samples each week from representative sites. These samples are analyzed at a certified lab. The labs analyze for total **coliform** and **fecal coliform/E. Coli** contaminants. “Coliforms” are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are viewed as an indicator that other potentially harmful bacteria may be present. Fecal coliform and E.Coli are bacteria whose presence indicates that the water may be contaminated with human or animal wastes.

The City of College Place employs stringent guidelines to their testing procedures. In 2014, the City did not have any water quality monitoring violations. All State Department of Health standards were met.