



2014

CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT

Important Information About the Water You Drink

Commissioners

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Staff

Alan Tuckey: Watermaster
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This annual report is intended to inform as well as to remind you, our customers, about the importance of your water quality. The Oceanside Water District (OWD) is committed to ensuring that your water meets the highest standards as regulated by The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and The Oregon Department of Health Services (ODHS). The following information was developed from water quality sampling conducted throughout the 2014 year.

The Source of Your Water

Our drinking water begins its journey high up on Mt. Meares collecting in a wetlands and traveling down Short Creek, which in turn is fed by a series of tributary creeks. The creek eventually flows into a pond located just below the treatment plant, where most of the sediments are allowed to settle out prior to being pumped up to the district water treatment plant as raw water. The Short Creek Reservoir is located in the Netarts Bay/Sand Lake/Neskowin Creek Watershed in the Wilson- Trask-Nestucca Sub-Basin.



The raw water drawn from Short Creek must be carefully monitored for a number of issues: 1) *biological contaminants* such as cryptosporidium, and coliform, 2) *turbidity and insoluble contaminants* mainly due to runoff from rainfall in the watershed or landslides, and 3) *organic and inorganic chemical pollutants* due to both natural composition of the soil, and man-made processes such as the use of herbicides to control weeds on the various logging roads throughout the watershed. Testing to insure against these issues is carried out by the OWD under the direction of the Oregon Health Authority, and the most recent results are listed below and on the OHA's website at: <https://yourwater.oregon.gov/chemlatest.php?pwsno=00585>.

For further information concerning our water and this analysis please contact the Oregon Department of Health Services and refer to the Source Water Assessment Report, Oceanside Water District, Oregon PWS#4100585.

Once the raw water reaches the plant, it undergoes a flocculation (addition of a material that

binds to solid impurities and then removes them from solution), filtration and chlorination processes (to kill potentially harmful bacteria). These steps, along with careful monitoring, ensure that safe, clean water is available to consumers throughout the water district. In addition to maintaining water flow by pumping water directly into the distribution system from the treatment plant, water is also pumped into four reservoirs located throughout the district. These reservoirs offer a combined supply of over 600,000 gallons of treated water in order to meet any surges in the needs of the District's communities.

As a community water system, monitoring and daily testing of our water is carried out as required by federal and state regulations concerning water quality protection. The OWD is pleased to report that the district's drinking water meets or exceeds all federal and state requirements. If you have any questions or concerns about this report please contact Alan Tuckey, Oceanside Water District Watermaster, or Julie Johnson, Office Manager, (503) 812-0370. To learn more about your district and how it operates, you are invited to attend any regularly scheduled board meeting. Meetings of the OWD Board of Commissioners are held on the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 1:00 PM, alternately in the Oceanside Community Center and the Cape Meares Community Center.



All 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 Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791. MCL's are set at very stringent levels. To understand the possible health effects described for many regulated constituents, a person would have to drink 2 liters of water every day at the MCL level for a lifetime to have a one-in-a-million chance of having the described health effect.

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/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by cryptosporidium and other microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791). The following terms and acronyms are made part of this report and provided as a reference to help you, to better understand the information presented:

Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/l) - One part per million corresponds to one minute in two years.

Parts per billion (ppb) or Micrograms per liter - One part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years.

Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU) - Nephelometric turbidity unit is a measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.

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

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) - The MCL is 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.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG) - The MCLG is 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.

Treatment Technique (TT) – A required process intended to reduce the level of contaminant in drinking water.

The following test results are from OWD monitoring during the period of January 1st to December 31st, 2014:

TEST RESULTS						
Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Unit Measurement	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Microbiological Contaminants						
Total Coliform Bacteria	N	None	Presence/ Absence	0	A presence of coliform bacteria in 5% of monthly samples.	Naturally present in the environment.
Fecal coliform and <i>E.coli</i>	N	None	Presence /Absence	0	A routine sample and repeat sample are total coliform positive, and one is also fecal coliform or <i>E. coli</i> positive.	Human and animal fecal waste.
Turbidity	N	0.09 (Annual Average)	NTU	0.30	0.30	Soil runoff; cloudiness of the water.

Microbiological Contaminants:

Total Coliform. Coliform bacteria are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially more harmful bacteria may be present.

Fecal coliform/E.coli. The presence of Fecal Coliform/ *E. coli* bacteria in water indicates a contamination problem with human or animal wastes. Microbes in these wastes can cause short-term effects, such as diarrhea, cramps, nausea, headaches, or other symptoms. They may pose a special health risk for infants, young children, and people with severely compromised immune systems.

Turbidity. Turbidity has no health effects. However, turbidity can interfere with disinfection and provide a medium for microbial growth. Turbidity may indicate the presence of disease-causing organisms. These organisms include bacteria, viruses, and parasites that can cause symptoms such as nausea, cramps, diarrhea, and associated headaches.

Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Unit Measurement	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Inorganic Contaminants						
Arsenic Tested: 05/06/14	N	ND	ppm	0.010	0.010	Erosion from natural deposits, runoff from orchards.
Copper Tested: 09/19/2013-09/23/2013	N	Highest level recorded: 0.26ppm	ppm	0	1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.
Lead Tested: : 09/19/2013-09/23/2013	N	Action Level: One (1) home tested at 2300b *	ppb	0	15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits *(Not a District wide issue)
Nitrate (as Nitrogen) Tested: 12/05/2014	N	0.352	ppm	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits

Inorganic Contaminants:

Arsenic. There was no arsenic detected in your drinking water. The EPA continues to research the health effects of low levels of arsenic. Arsenic is a mineral known to cause cancer in humans at high concentrations and is linked to other health effects such as skin damage and circulatory problems.

Nitrate. Our nitrate levels are well below the maximum level. Infants below the age of six months whose formula is made with water containing nitrate in excess of the MCL could become seriously ill. Symptoms include shortness of breath and blue-baby syndrome.

Copper. Copper is an essential nutrient, but some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over a relatively short amount of time could experience gastrointestinal distress. Some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over many years could suffer liver or kidney damage. People with Wilson's Disease should consult their personal doctor.

Lead. Infants and children who drink water containing lead in excess of the action level could experience delays in their physical or mental development. Children could show slight deficits in attention span and learning abilities. Adults who drink this water over many years could develop kidney problems or high blood pressure.

Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Unit Measurement	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Volatile (VOC) & Synthetic (SOC) Organic Compounds						
Twenty-one (21) Regulated & Thirty-five (35) Unregulated vocs Tested: 12/05/14	N	ND	ppm	0	Various MCLs	Industrial discharge, plastics leachate, herbicide runoff.
Twenty-nine (29) Regulated & Thirteen (13) Unregulated SOCs Tested: 09/12/11	N	ND	ppm	0	Various MCLs	Industrial discharge, plastics leachate, herbicide runoff.
Disinfection By-Products						
TTHM (Total trihalomethanes) Tested 08/29/14	N	15	ppb	0	80	By-Product of drinking water chlorination
HAAS (HaloAcetic Acids) Tested 08/29/14	N	3.6	ppb	0	60	By-Product of drinking water chlorination

Organic Contaminants:

TTHMs (Total Trihalomethanes) HAAS (HaloAcetic Acids) and VOCs (Volatile Organic Compounds): Some people who **drink** water containing TTHMs, HAA5s, or VOCs in excess of MCL over many years may experience problems with their liver, kidneys, or central nervous systems, and may have an increase risk of getting cancer.

TOCs (Total Organic Carbon) Used as a surrogate for Disinfection byproducts (DBP) formation potential.

Herbicide Pollution Mitigation:

In addition to the above mentioned testing, specifically SOC's, the OWD in conjunction with Oceanside Clean Water, a subcommittee to the Oceanside Neighbor's Association, has initiated a program to develop a new protocol for both testing, and limiting exposure to herbicides which are occasionally used in the watershed. These herbicides are applied to the logging roads to keep them weed free for fire protection access. Currently the SOC measurements as mandated by the OHA, are carried out at a random time every three years. There is a potential issue associated with this type of testing in that the potential pollution of the creek due to accidental spraying with herbicide is a short-term phenomena that occurs every few years. Testing that is not performed synchronously may in fact, completely miss the presence of herbicide.

Working in conjunction with the Stimson Lumber Company, the owner of the Short Creek Watershed, the OWD has developed a protocol that allows both closing the intake to the water plant (and supplying water from the 4 reservoirs), as well as testing of the creek at a time that is synchronized to the instant of spraying. The OWD has received a \$10,000 grant from the OHA to carry out an experiment to test the water in Short Creek at a time that has been pre-determined, to be appropriate taking into account the time-of-transit from the spraying site to the sampling site at the intake to the processing plant. The experiment will be carried out in late July or early August of 2016. Measurements to determine the time of transit will be carried out in late summer of 2015.

Emergency Action Alert:



The District would like to remind its customers that living along the scenic Oregon Coast presents many unique dangers that could easily effect your water supply. The possibility of land and surf erosion, power outages, damaging winds, seismic activity, fire conditions and flooding potential are just some of the realities we are faced with. Any one of these hazards can significantly impact the district's ability to produce and deliver clean, potable water to your home. If such an emergency does present itself, the District will alert its customers as best it can by posting a written warning at both the Oceanside Community Center and the Cape Meares Community Center, emailing out warning notices, and setting out message barricades. In severe cases, a **"Boil Water"** notice will be broad-casted over the local Tillamook radio station as well as being posted as previously described. Regardless of the emergency condition, the District asks its customers to use discretion in their use of water and to remain aware of any further notification.

Protecting Your Investment:

The District suggests that when leaving your home unattended for extended periods of time (five days or more), that you turn your water off at the meter. Please make sure that the district office has a current phone number on file of where you can be reached while you're away. If you would also like to be added to the District's emergency notice email list, please do so by contacting the district office with that information.

Each homeowner should have a shut-off valve on the customer-side of the meter. (See picture) If one is not present, please call the district office to schedule an installation for a slight fee. Upon returning home it is best to allow the water to slowly recharge your pipes and remember to purge your plumbing system of the stagnant water and air through various faucets and spigots



throughout your home before using your water

Cross-Connection Control:

Do you have any of the following?

- Swimming Pool
- Hot-Tub
- Active Solar Unit
- Fire Sprinkler System
- Large Scale Water Feature
- Underground Lawn Irrigation System



If you do, you are required by the State of Oregon to install a cross-connection assembly for the protection of the entire water system. This assembly must be inspected annually by a certified inspector. As a service to our customers, the OWD staff will, at your convenience and at no charge, help you determine if a back-flow prevention assembly is needed for your home.

In September all back-flow prevention device owners will be receiving a letter from the District. This letter will act as a reminder to have your back-flow device inspected and a copy of the results forwarded to OWD by the end of the calendar year. If the district does not receive these results a fine of \$50/month will be assessed for the delinquency and the District will have the back-flow device inspected by the end of March.

Note from the Commissioners:

The annual Consumer Confidence Report [CCR] is an opportunity for the Oceanside Water District to share a look back over the past twelve months and a look forward into plans for the next year. A new reservoir and pump station in Cape Meares has been completed, and we are in the process of infrastructure upgrades in the village part of Oceanside. A contract for two new water filtration systems has been awarded and are under construction for both Oceanside and Cape Meares in addition we will soon be seeking bids to enlarge the Oceanside water plant, add additional water storage in Oceanside and a steel building to house the filter plant in Cape Meares. As part of the infrastructure upgrade, we will also be replacing water meters to comply with the new lead free requirements and allow for electronic reading which will allow us to read meters in less than one day which now requires 2 weeks. We are also attempting to reach a solution with the Radar Road Home Owners to upgrade their delivery system in that it was installed years ago on private lands without any easements.

As we have indicated in prior years, funds to pay for the long overdue upgrades must come from increased fees. **This year monthly rates will increase by approximately 9%, effective July 1, 2015.** In order to meet our loan repayment obligations a rate of \$63-65/month is anticipated by July 2017. We know this will be difficult for some with low/fixed income levels, the commissioners are making every effort to keep rates as low as possible for safe, clean, abundant water.

Each year we send out an annual bill due on July 1st. As a courtesy we accept quarterly and monthly payments. Please remember if you are late on your quarterly payments twice in a 12 month period and a water shut off notice is issued, **a security deposit of 25% of the annual fee will be required.**

The commissioners and staff are working very hard to update and maintain a safe, dependable water supply to you our customers. We ask for your continued support and vigilance in reporting leaks and/or any suspicious behavior associated with our system reservoirs, lines, and equipment. We have a community water system, at times it requires a concerned community to keep it safe and viable. Do not hesitate to call if you have questions or concerns about your water supply, Thank you.

Respectfully,

Henry Wheeler, Chair
Charles Ansorge, Vice Chair
Spike Klobas, Secretary
Bob Garrigues, Commissioner
Paul Newman, Commissioner