

# City of Colville

## 2017 Consumer Confidence Report



### INTRODUCTION

The City of Colville Water Department (**Public Water System ID# 14200J**) is pleased to present the 2017 Consumer Confidence Report. This report is a reflection of last year's testing and shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1<sup>st</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2017. Our goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We routinely monitor for constituents in our drinking water according to Federal and State laws. **We are happy to report that our drinking water is safe and meets federal and state requirements.**

### CITY OF COLVILLE WATER SOURCES

Our water comes from seven groundwater wells located within one aquifer. Wells #1, #2, #3, and #6 comprise the upper system, which is located east of Highway #20 on Church Flat and Prouty Corner. This system serves the areas on the North Hill from 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue to 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue, extending to Main Street, Summit Street (East), Swede Anderson Road, and Garden Homes Drive. Wells #4, #5, and #7 comprise the lower system, which is located north of Highway #20 on Church Flat, and serves Church Flat, Silke Road, and the remaining sections of the city. To help ensure that our drinking water is safe, the City of Colville has a source water protection plan, which is available from our office. To learn more about wellhead protection, and source water assessment programs (SWAP), please visit: <http://www.doh.wa.gov/CommunityandEnvironment/DrinkingWater/SourceWater/Assessment.aspx>

### HEALTH INFORMATION

All drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. However, the presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate a health risk. Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immune-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 for infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers.

EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lower the risk of infection by cryptosporidium and other microbiological contaminants along with more information about contaminants and potential health effects are available from the **EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791)**.

### CONTACT INFORMATION

If you have any questions concerning this report, please contact Jeff Cochran, Director of Public Works at 509-684-2244 and visit our website at [www.colville.wa.us](http://www.colville.wa.us).

Landlords, please share this consumer confidence report with your tenants. Inform them of our website or request that they stop by City Hall (located at 170 S. Oak) or the Colville Water Department (located at 1044 N. Lincoln) to receive a copy.

### GET INVOLVED

If you would like to be more involved in making decisions regarding your drinking water, the City of Colville holds regularly scheduled council meetings on the second and fourth Tuesdays of every month at City Hall, located at 170 S. Oak. Council meetings begin at 6:30 p.m.

**DEFINITIONS**

**MCL:** maximum contaminant level. The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLG’s 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. MCLG’s allow for a margin of safety.

**NTU:** nephelometric turbidity unit. A measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is typically noticeable to the average person.

**ppb:** parts per billion (equivalent to ug/L—micrograms per liter)

**ppm:** parts per million (equivalent to mg/L—milligrams per liter)

**pCi/L:** picocuries per liter (a measure of the radioactivity in water)

**RESULTS – UPPER SYSTEM**

Detected Substance	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	MCL	MCLG	Likely Source of Contamination
<b>Inorganic Contaminants</b>					
Barium	N	.12 ppm	2	2	Erosion of natural deposits
Copper (90th Percentile of Residential Samples)	N	0.66 ppm	1.3	1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing, erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride	N	.29 ppm	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits
Lead (90th Percentile of Residential Samples)	N	4.4 ppb	15	0	Corrosion of household plumbing, erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate	N	.79 ppm	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use, erosion of natural deposits
<b>Microbiological Contaminants</b>					
Turbidity	N	3.61 NTU	N/A	N/A	Soil runoff
<b>Radioactive Contaminants</b>					
Gross Alpha	N	4.9+/-2.8 pCi/L	15	0	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium 226	N	0.505+/-0.350 pCi/L	5	0	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium 228	N	0.541+/-0.368 pCi/L	5	0	Erosion of natural deposits
<b>Synthetic Organic Contaminants</b>					
The City of Colville has a waiver for the testing of Synthetic Organic Contaminants. The waiver is based on the Upper System having moderate susceptibility as determined by prior testing. The waiver was renewed in 2010.					
<b>Volatile Organic Contaminants</b>					
Total Trihalomethanes	N	4.28 ppb	80	N/A	By-product of drinking water chlorination

The upper system has a hardness rating of 262 mg/L or approximately 15.3 grains per gallon. The iron level is 0.039 mg/L and no manganese was detected.

The lower system has a hardness rating of 294 mg/L or approximately 17.2 grains per gallon. The iron level is 0.027 mg/L and the manganese level is 0.412 mg/L.

## RESULTS – LOWER SYSTEM

Detected Substance	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	MCL	MCLG	Likely Source of Contamination
<b>Inorganic Contaminants</b>					
Barium	N	.11 ppm	2	2	Erosion of natural deposits
Copper (90th Percentile of Residential Samples)	N	0.66 ppm	1.3	1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing, erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride	N	.24 ppm	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits
Lead (90th Percentile of Residential Samples)	N	4.4 ppb	15	0	Corrosion of household plumbing, erosion of natural deposits
<b>Microbiological Contaminants</b>					
Turbidity	N	.32 NTU	N/A	N/A	Soil runoff
<b>Radioactive Contaminants</b>					
Gross Alpha	N	3.2+/-2.0 pCi/L	15	0	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium 226	N	0.5+/-0.2 pCi/L	5	0	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium 228	N	0.3+/-0.7 pCi/L	5	0	Erosion of natural deposits
<b>Synthetic Organic Contaminants</b>					
The City of Colville has a waiver for the testing of Synthetic Organic Contaminants. The waiver is based on the Lower System having low susceptibility as determined by prior testing. The waiver was renewed in 2010.					
<b>Volatile Organic Contaminants</b>					
Total Trihalomethanes	N	3.6 ppb	80	N/A	By-product of drinking water chlorination

We are proud that our drinking water meets or exceeds all Federal and State requirements. Our testing shows that any detected constituents are well below the level posing any long term health risks. MCL's are set at very stringent levels, and the EPA has determined that **your water is safe** at these levels.

The upper system has concentrations of the secondary contaminants magnesium and calcium. These produce what is commonly referred to as "hardness" in water. Iron and sulfate were also detected. Iron, like manganese, can affect the color and taste of water. High levels of sulfate can give water a bitter or astringent taste. The City of Colville also chlorinates our drinking water supply as a precautionary measure.

Our lower system has an abundant and widespread concentration of manganese which is a constituent of rocks and soil in the Colville area. At sufficient concentrations, manganese can affect the color and taste of water and leave brown or black discolorations on laundry, plumbing, fixtures, and porcelain. Manganese is a secondary contaminant, which is considered a nuisance problem. The City of Colville currently manages the manganese levels by flushing mains and chemically treating with polyphosphates.

Lead– 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. The City of Colville is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials 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 30 seconds to 2 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 (1-800-126-4791) or on the USEPA Web site. <http://water.epa.gov/drink/info/lead/index.cfm>

## WATER USE EFFICIENCY

Community growth, agriculture, industry, and conservation of water for fish, animals, and humans have placed an increasing demand on our state's water resources. In 2003, Washington State Legislature passed the Municipal Water Supply—Efficiency Requirements Act, better known as the Municipal Water Law (MWL). This law gives municipal water suppliers certain benefits and obligations. One of the obligations we must comply with is the Water Use Efficiency (WUE) Rule. This rule requires municipal water systems to use water efficiently and demonstrate that we are doing so.

### WATER USE EFFICIENCY RULE REQUIREMENTS:

- ◆ Collect data, forecast demand, evaluate leakage, evaluate rate structures that encourage water use efficiency, and evaluate / implement water use efficiency measures.
- ◆ Reduce distribution system leakage to 10% or less.
- ◆ Enact water use efficiency measures to manage water use.
- ◆ Develop water use efficiency goals through a public process and report annually on performance.
- ◆ Install service meters, if not already installed, within 10 years to account for water use and leakage..

### HOW THE CITY OF COLVILLE WILL COMPLY:

- ◆ Use reclaimed water for irrigation purposes at our Wastewater Treatment facility (WWTF).
- ◆ Complete a rate study by 2018.
- ◆ Report to the Department of Health and our customers yearly through the consumer confidence report (this document).
- ◆ Distribute brochures to help educate customers on conservation.
- ◆ Show consumption history on utility bills.
- ◆ Distribute conservation kits to customers.
- ◆ Provide education to elementary school students on water conservation.

### WATER SAVING IDEAS:

- ◆ Check all faucets, pipes, and toilets for leaks.
- ◆ Take shorter showers.
- ◆ Turn off the water after you wet your toothbrush.
- ◆ Keep a bottle of drinking water in the refrigerator instead of running the water to cool it off.
- ◆ Install water saving showerheads and low-flush toilets.
- ◆ Wash full loads of clothes and dishes.
- ◆ Apply mulch around shrubs and flower beds to reduce evaporation and control weeds.
- ◆ Deep soak your lawn.
- ◆ Water early or late — avoid daytime watering.
- ◆ Plant drought-resistant lawn and shrubs.
- ◆ Use a broom, not a hose, to clean your driveway.
- ◆ Don't run the hose while washing your car.
- ◆ Monitor your water bill for unusually high use that may indicate a leak.

