

Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

For the City of Lafayette, Oregon

For Calendar Year 2008

The City of Lafayette is pleased to provide you with this year's Annual Drinking Water Quality Report. We want to keep you informed about the excellent water and services we have delivered to you over the past year. Our goal is, and always has been, to provide to you a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. Our active water sources (groundwater) are as follows:

1. Four wells and three springs in the Henry Creek Watershed situated Northeast of the city (the "**Lafayette Combined Watershed Sources**");
2. A well in Perkins Park in the city ("**City Park Well**").
3. Three wells shared with the City of Dayton located south of Dayton ("**Dayton/Lafayette Well Field**").
4. A well located on Hwy 18, 2 miles southeast of the city ("**Well #7**") – Currently Inactive.

The 1996 Amendments to the Safe Drinking Water Act require that all states conduct Source Water Assessments for public water systems within their boundaries. The assessments consist of (1) identification of the Drinking Water Protection Area, i.e., the area at the surface that is directly above that part of the aquifer that supplies groundwater to our wells, (2) identification of potential sources of contamination, and (3) determining the susceptibility or relative risk to the well water from those sources. Based on the assessment results, which indicate that the aquifer is highly sensitive in the immediate vicinities of the springs and wells 1 and 2, the drinking water source is considered to be susceptible to viral contamination because viral contaminant sources (surface water) have been identified within the 2-year Time-of-Travel of the wells. A copy of the Source Water Assessment is available for review at City Hall.

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact the City Administrator at 503-864-2451 or the Public Works Foreman, Jim Anderson at 503-864-3119. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. If you want to learn more, please attend any of the regularly scheduled meetings of the City Council. They are held on the second Thursday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at City Hall (486 3rd Street).

The City of Lafayette did receive two reporting violations during 2008 for failing to report the correct number of coliform samples. The violations for December 2007, determined in January 2008, and March 2008 were not due to an actual failure to take the correct number of samples, but were solely the failure to submit the reports in a timely manner because of a miscommunication between the staff and lab. We also received a violation for an occurrence on April 1, 2008 through April 3, 2008 when routine test results at the point of entry to the distribution system indicated that our system exceeded the standard or Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL) of 4.0 mg/l or less for chlorine. The level was found to be at 4.09 mg/l, which could cause some people to experience stomach discomfort. A malfunctioning chlorine pump in the city's watershed was the cause of this violation. Immediately upon discovering that the level exceeded the MRDL, the chlorine pump was taken off line to allow time for dissipation. The residual readings in parts of the distribution system reached a maximum level of 5.5 mg/l by the time the water made its way through the system, even after the corrective action was taken and was monitored by staff throughout the day and night until it dropped below the MRDL during the early evening of April 3, 2008. Public Notice of this violation was mailed to all water customers as required by state law.

In this report and the following table you will find many terms and abbreviations you might not be familiar with. To help you better understand these terms we've provided the following definitions:

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

Detected - laboratory analysis indicates that the constituent is present.

Non-Detects (ND) - laboratory analysis indicates that the constituent is not present.

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) - (mandatory language) The "Maximum Allowed" (MCL) is the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCL's are set as close to the MCLG's as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG) - (mandatory language) The "Goal" (MCLG) is 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.

Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/l) - one part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in \$10,000.

Parts per billion (ppb) or Micrograms per liter (µg/L)- one part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000.

Picocuries per liter (pCi/L) – picocuries per liter is a measure of the radioactivity in water.

Although we routinely monitor our water for more than 100 constituents, the table below will only show the results of our tests for *coliform* and *ecoli* bacteria and for those constituents for which a "detect" was found. Bear in mind that just because a contaminant was detected does not mean that the level found exceeds the maximum contaminant level ("MCL") allowed by the Safe Drinking Water Act. A constituent can be detected in trace amounts and the water is still safe to drink.

This table shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1st to December 31st, 2008 and also includes test results from the most recent testing done in accordance with the regulations for items not required to be tested annually. As you can see by the table, our system had no contaminant violations. We're proud that your drinking water meets or exceeds all Federal and State requirements. We have learned through our monitoring and testing that some constituents have been detected, however, the EPA has determined that your water IS SAFE at these levels.

Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Unit	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Microbiological Contaminants						
1. Total Coliform Bacteria	N	ND		0	Presence of coliform bacteria in 1 monthly sample	Naturally present in the environment.
2. Fecal coliform and <i>E.coli</i>	N	ND		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
Disinfection Byproducts, Byproduct Precursors, and Disinfectant Residuals						
THMs	N	69.7 Average 65.3-74 Range 08/13/08	ppb	N/A	80 ppb	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
Haloacetic Acids	N	52.3 Average 49.7-54.8 Range 08/13/08	ppb	0	60 ppb	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
Inorganic Contaminants (IOC)						
Lead	N	2.00 10/03/07 & 11/28/07 & 12/20/07	ppb	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits
Copper	N	0.34 10/03/07 & 11/28/07 & 12/20/07	ppm	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Nitrate (as Nitrogen) Watershed	N	2.50 5/09/08 .80 8/15/08	ppm	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits.
Arsenic Watershed City Park Well	N	ND 3/26/08 ND 3/26/08	ppb	N/A	50	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronics production wastes.
Radioactive Contaminants						
Combined radium Watershed	N	1.452 12/4/03	pCi/l	0	5	Erosion of natural deposits
Combined radium City Park Well	N	1.068 12/4/03	pCi/l	0	5	Erosion of natural deposits
Uranium Watershed City Park Well	N	0.011 0.051 12/4/03	µg/L	0	30	Erosion of natural deposits

All sources of drinking water are subject to potential contamination by substances that are naturally occurring or man-made. These substances can be microbes, inorganic or organic chemicals and radioactive substances. 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.

Although the city routinely monitors for lead and copper in the water, and has been in compliance since the upgrades to our system were completed in 2003 to address this issue, all water providers are required to include the following language in this report:

Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. The City of Lafayette 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 drinking 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 at 1-800-426-4791 or at www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

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. 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.

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).

Proposed improvements to our water system projected for the coming year include telemetry and metering improvements in the city's watershed and the replacement of the transmission line bringing water from the Bluebird Spring to the treatment building in the watershed. An application has been submitted to obtain ARRA Stimulus funds to be used to replace the transmission main that brings water from the watershed into town.

Si Ingles no es su lenguaje, favor de leer lo siguiente: Este reporte es para informales a todo nuestro clientes sobre la cualidad de la agua de la ciudad de Lafayette. Varios de nuestros clientes son hispanos y queremos que todos reciban y entiendan este reporte. Si usted tiene dificultad en entender este reporte y desea que se le traduzca en español o si tiene alguna pregunta que desea que se le conteste en español, favor de llamar al city hall al (503) 864-2451.

We at the City of Lafayette work around the clock to provide top quality water to every tap. We ask that all our customers help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community, our way of life, and our children's future.