

Are contaminants in the Harbor Water source (Chetco River)?

We are pleased to report that the Harbor Water People's Utility District met and exceeded all federal water standards last year. The Oregon Health Division directs the district on testing and monitoring. The following are tests we do at Harbor Water PUD:



Definitions:

ND: Not Detected

PPB: Parts Per Billion, explained as a relation to time and money as One part per billion corresponds to One Minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000.

PPM: Parts Per Million, explained as a relation to time and money as One part per million corresponds to One Minute in 2 years, or a single penny in \$10,000.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG): 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.

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL): 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.

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

Substance	MCL {MRDL}	Level	Unit	Violation	Typical Source of Contamination
COPPER / LEAD					
Copper (ppm)	10	0.75	1.3	NO	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits.
Lead (ppb)	10	0.015	1.5	NO	Corrosion of household plumbing system, erosion of natural deposits.
INORGANIC CONTAMINANTS					
Nitrate	10	0.10	4	NO	Runoff from fertilizer use, leaching from septic tanks, sewage, erosion of natural deposits.
Asbestos	7	ND @ 0.20	7	NO	Decay of asbestos cement water mains, erosion of natural deposits.
Arsenic	ND @ 0.011	ND @ 0	0.005	NO	Erosion of natural deposits, runoff from orchards, glass and electronics production waste.
DISINFECTANTS AND DISINFECTION BY-PRODUCTS (There is evidence that the addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants)					
Haloacetic Acid (HAA5) (ppb)	0.06	0.0030	4	NO	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
Total Trihalomethanes	0.009	0.0063	4	NO	By-product of drinking water disinfection.



Water Testing Resources:

[Umpqua Testing \(umpquaresearch.com\)](http://umpqua-testing.com)

[Water Quality Standards \(oregon.gov\)](http://oregon.gov)

[Oregon Health Authority: Find Labs, Methods, and Analysis: Environmental Laboratory Accreditation: State of Oregon](#)



Special Population (Immune Compromised) Advisory

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 from their healthcare providers. EPA/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

What if I have questions about my water?

The Harbor Water People's Utility District board meets on the second Thursday of each month at 6:30pm at the district office located at:
98069 W. Benham Lane, Harbor, OR 97415

You may also call our offices [Monday-Thursday 9:00am – 2:00pm \(541\)469-3011](tel:5414693011)

EMERGENCY LINE:
(541)698-6452

www.harborwaterpud.com



Why we treat your water?

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain very small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily mean that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling EPA's Safe Drinking Water hotline at (800)426-4791.

The sources of drinking water (both tap water 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 that may be present in a source of water include;

* Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.

* Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.

* Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses.

* Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems.

* Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production or mining activities.

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.



Lead Water

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. Harbor Water P.U.D. 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 or at

<http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>

Concerning fluoride in your water

Some people who drink water containing fluoride in excess of the MCL over many years, could get bone disease, including pain and tenderness of the bones. Children could get mottled teeth. Fluoride is a natural substance found in many areas of the country; however, testing shows levels well below the MCL in our water. We do not add fluoride to the water.

Know About Your Water

EPA requires community water systems to deliver a Consumer Confidence Report, also known as an annual drinking water quality report, to their customers. These reports provide Americans information about their local drinking water quality.

The Chetco River's water quality is exceptional. It is known for its striking color, clarity, and ability to clear quickly following storm events. The river contributes to both recreation and fisheries, and it provides exceptionally pure and clean water for the domestic supplies of both Brookings and Harbor



Safe Drinking Water Hotline: 1-800-426-4791



Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) 2024-2025

This annual "Consumer Confidence Report" is required by the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). It tells you where your water comes from, what our tests show about it, and other things you should know about your drinking water. This report was prepared by the employees of Harbor Water P.U.D. using technical assistance provided by the EPA Office of Water, and the Oregon Health Division.

Where does our water, source from?

Our water is drawn from an infiltration gallery called a "Ranney Collector" located along the Chetco River about 3 miles up South Bank Chetco Road. The Oregon Health Division classifies this source of water as a "Groundwater Source". Groundwater is considered the safest source for drinking water. Most raw water, including all surface water, must go through a treatment process before it is safe to drink. Our water is treated with chlorine to disinfect the water.

The Harbor Water People's Utility District owns the property around the well and restricts activities that can contaminate it. Water from the infiltration gallery is pumped to our pump house where is checked for turbidity. That is a measure of cloudiness of water. Then chlorine is added to inactive microorganisms. This process is done so that viruses, bacteria, or other microorganisms will not be in your drinking water.