



PALOUSE 2025 CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT

Is my water safe?

We are pleased to present this year's Annual Water Quality Report (Consumer Confidence Report), as required by the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). This report is designed to provide details about the source of your water, its composition, and how it compares to standards set by regulatory agencies. It is also a snapshot of last year's water quality. We are committed to providing you with information because informed customers are our best allies.

Do I need to take special precautions?

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 individuals should consult their healthcare providers for advice on drinking water. EPA/Centers for Disease Control (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 (800-426-4791).

Where does my water come from?

Palouse's water is pumped from the Grand Ronde Aquifer. Well #1 pumps 725 gallons per minute. Depth of the well is about 300' with water level at about 184'. Well #3 pumps 800 gallons per minute. The well's depth is about 450', and the water level is about 260'.

Source water assessment and its availability

According to federal and state laws, the City of Palouse routinely monitors for constituents in your drinking water. All testing is done on a rotating schedule. If you have any questions about this report, please contact Palouse City Hall.

Description of Water Treatment Process

Your water is treated by disinfection. Disinfection involves the addition of chlorine or other disinfectants to kill dangerous bacteria and microorganisms that may be in the water. Disinfection is considered to be one of the significant public health advances of the 20th century.

Palouse water rate

A base rate of \$34.00 per first 600 cubic feet of water metered. In addition to that, \$2.00 per 100 cubic feet for 601-1200 cubic feet of water metered; and in addition to that, \$2.25 per 100 cubic feet for anything over 1200 cubic feet of water metered.

Why are there contaminants in my drinking water?

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 water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Safe Drinking Water Hotline (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: microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, that 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 by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems; and radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities. To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amounts of specific contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that must provide the same protection for public health.

Water Conservation Tips

Did you know that the average U.S. household uses approximately 400 gallons of water per day, or 100 gallons per person per day? Luckily, there are many low-cost and no-cost ways to conserve water. Small changes can make a big difference - try one today, and soon it will become second nature.

Take short showers - a 5-minute shower uses 4 to 5 gallons of water compared to up to 50 gallons for a bath. Shut off the water while brushing your teeth, washing your hair, and shaving, and save up to 500 gallons a month.

Use a water-efficient showerhead. They're inexpensive, easy to install, and can save you up to 750 gallons a month.

Run your clothes washer and dishwasher only when they are full. You can save up to 1,000 gallons a month. Water plants only when necessary

Fix leaky toilets and faucets. Faucet washers are inexpensive and can be replaced in just a few minutes. To check your toilet for a leak, place a few drops of food coloring in the tank and wait for the color to appear in the bowl. If it seeps into the toilet bowl without being flushed, you leak. Fixing it or replacing it with a new, more efficient model can save up to 1,000 gallons a month.

Adjust sprinklers so only your lawn is watered. Apply water only as fast as the soil can absorb it, and do so during the cooler parts of the day to reduce evaporation.

Teach your kids about water conservation to ensure a future generation that uses water wisely. Make it a family effort to reduce next month's water bill!

Visit www.epa.gov/watersense for more information.

Additional Information for 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. City of Palouse is responsible for providing high-quality drinking water, but it

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, consider having it 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>.

Water Quality Data Table

To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amounts of contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The table below lists all the drinking water contaminants detected during the calendar year covered by this report. Although many more contaminants were tested, only those substances listed below were found in your water. All sources of drinking water contain some naturally occurring contaminants. At low levels, these substances are generally not harmful in our drinking water. Removing all contaminants would be extremely expensive, and in most cases, would not provide increased protection of public health. A few naturally occurring minerals may improve the taste of drinking water and have nutritional value at low levels. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table are from testing done in the calendar year of the report. The EPA or the State requires us to monitor for specific contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not vary significantly from year to year, or the system is not considered vulnerable to this type of contamination. As such, some of our data, though representative, may be more than one year old. In this table, you will find terms and abbreviations that might not be familiar to you. To help you better understand these terms, we have provided the definitions below the table.

| Contaminants | MCLG or MRDLG | MCL, TT, or MRDL | Detect In Your Water | Range | | Sample Date | Violation | Typical Source |
|--|---------------|------------------|----------------------|-------|------|-------------|-----------|---|
| | | | | Low | High | | | |
| Disinfectants & Disinfection By-Products | | | | | | | | |
| (There is convincing evidence that the addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.) | | | | | | | | |
| Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (ppb) | NA | 60 | 1.08 | NA | NA | 2025 | No | By-product of drinking water chlorination |
| TTHMs [Total Trihalomethanes] (ppb) | NA | 80 | 5.03 | NA | NA | 2025 | No | By-product of drinking water disinfection |

Undetected Contaminants

The following contaminants were monitored for, but not detected, in your water.

| Contaminants | MCLG or MRDLG | MCL, TT, or MRDL | Your Water | Violation | Typical Source |
|--------------------------------------|---------------|------------------|------------|-----------|---|
| Nitrate [measured as Nitrogen] (ppm) | 10 | 10 | ND | No | Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits |

| Unit Descriptions | |
|-------------------|------------|
| Term | Definition |
| | |

| Unit Descriptions | |
|-------------------|--|
| ppm | ppm: parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/L) |
| ppb | ppb: parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (µg/L) |
| NA | NA: not applicable |
| ND | ND: Not detected |
| NR | NR: Monitoring not required, but recommended. |

| Important Drinking Water Definitions | |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| Term | Definition |
| MCLG | MCLG: Maximum Contaminant Level Goal: 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. |
| MCL | MCL: Maximum Contaminant Level: 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. |
| TT | TT: Treatment Technique: A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water. |
| AL | AL: Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant that, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow. |
| Variances and Exemptions | Variances and Exemptions: State or EPA permission not to meet an MCL or a treatment technique under certain conditions. |
| MRDLG | MRDLG: Maximum residual disinfection level goal. The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected health risk. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of using disinfectants to control microbial contaminants. |
| MRDL | MRDL: Maximum residual disinfectant level. The highest level of disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that the addition of a disinfectant is necessary for controlling microbial contaminants. |
| MNR | MNR: Monitored Not Regulated |
| MPL | MPL: State Assigned Maximum Permissible Level |

For more information, please contact:

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