

MACLAREN OREGON YOUTH AUTHORITY

Consumer Confidence Report

2019

The MacLaren Oregon Youth Authority (OYA) provides its water users with clean, safe drinking water. Improvements have been made on our goals and all state and federal requirements have been met or exceed. Water is the one thing we cannot live without, and we take great pride in safeguarding this valuable resource. Please stay informed on the quality of your drinking water by reading this report.

How to Interpret this Report

Although this report may seem overwhelming, it contains valuable information for water users. In order to alleviate confusion and/or concern as you review the supplied information, terms and units have been defined. The word "*contaminant*" is used throughout this document to describe anything detected in the drinking water supply. This term is commonly used in the drinking water industry and should not necessarily invite concern, for all drinking water contains trace amounts of minerals and other substances. The purpose of this report is to provide you with an understanding and perspective enabling you to make informed decisions about your drinking water. Units used to measure contaminants in drinking water are parts per million (ppm) or parts per billion (ppb). To gain a perspective on this measurement, imagine one billion (1,000,000,000) blue jelly beans. Now imagine that one of these jelly beans is red. The amount of red jelly beans in relation to blue ones would be 1 ppb, or 1/1,000,000,000. This example works the same way in respect to ppm as well. As you read this report, be sure and keep these figures and definitions in mind. This will assist you in interpreting what you are reading and empower you as a water customer.

Important Health Information

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least trace amounts of some "contaminants". The presence of these do not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons, such as those undergoing chemotherapy, those who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly people, and all infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. Environmental Protection Agency/Centers for Disease Control (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 at (800) 426-4791.

Our Water Source and Treatment Process

MacLaren OYA draws its water from two Wells located near campus. The water is stored in tanks and a coagulation treatment process is used to remove arsenic. Chlorine is added as a disinfectant and residuals are measured daily to ensure they stay well below the maximum level established by the EPA. Very low amounts of chlorine (0.5 ppm on average) are used to keep the water free of bacteria and safe to drink as it moves through the distribution system.

One of the health concerns surrounding chlorine is the potential for disinfection by-products that may form in the distribution system. The water at MacLaren OYA was tested for these by-products in 2019 and the results were well below the Maximum Contaminant Level.



Questions about
drinking water or this
report?



Dan Deder, Oregon Youth Authority (503) 986-6740

EPA Safe Drinking Water (800) 426-4791

Oregon Health Authority (971) 673-0405

2019 WATER QUALITY DATA TABLE

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regulates the frequency of sampling for various contaminants. The data presented in this table is from testing conducted in 2019. The table may also include any other results within the last five years for analyses that were not required in the year 2019.

Contaminants (units)	MCLG	MCL	Range Low-High or Result	Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
Disinfectant By-Products						
Arsenic (ppb)	0	10	6.8	Feb 2019	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
Inorganic Contaminants						
HAA5 [HaloaceticAcids] (ppb)	0	60	3.1 - 3.3	Sep 2019	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
TTHM [Total Trihalo-methanes] (ppb)	0	80	15.6 - 15.9	Sep 2019	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Lead & Copper	MCLG	AL	90th Percentile			
Lead (ppb) 10 samples	0	15	7.7	Sep 2019	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits

TERMS & ABBREVIATIONS

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

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: 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.

n/a: Not applicable

ND: Not Detected: Laboratory analysis indicates the constituent is not present or detectable using the best technology available.

ppb: Parts per billion, or micrograms per liter.

ppm: Parts per million, or milligrams per liter.

Range: The lowest amount (minimum) of the contaminant detected and the highest amount (maximum) of the contaminant detected during a sample period.

90th Percentile: The level reported represents the 90th percentile value of the twenty sites sampled. The result reported indicates that out of the 10 homes sampled, 9 were at or below this level.

The Effect of Lead in Drinking 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. MacLaren OYA 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 (800) 426-4791 or on their website www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.



Are You Drinking Enough Water?

- ⇒ 75% of Americans are chronically dehydrated.
- ⇒ In 37% of Americans, the thirst mechanism is so weak that it is often mistaken for hunger.
- ⇒ Even mild dehydration will slow down one's metabolism as much as 3%.
- ⇒ One glass of water shuts down midnight hunger pangs for almost 100% of the dieters studied in a University of Washington study.
- ⇒ Preliminary research indicates that 8-10 glasses of water per day could significantly ease back and joint pain for up to 80% of sufferers.
- ⇒ A mere 2% drop in body water can trigger fuzzy short-term memory, trouble with basic math, and difficulty focusing on the computer screen or a printed page.

Information About Arsenic

While your drinking water meets EPA's standard for Arsenic, it does contain low levels. EPA's standard balances the current understanding of possible health effects associated with low levels of Arsenic in drinking water. EPA continues to research the health effects of low levels of Arsenic, which 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.