



City of Mill City

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MILL CITY WATER SYSTEM

ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT FOR 2008

We are pleased to provide you with this Consumer Confidence Report regarding the quality of our drinking water for the year of 2008. Our goal is and always has been, to provide a safe and dependable supply of drinking water.

Why you are receiving this report.

Congress passed the **Safe Drinking Water Act** 25 years ago and gave the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) the job of making rules--National Primary Drinking Water Regulations (NPDWR)-- to insure that drinking water in the US is safe.

In 1996, Congress passed amendments that require drinking water systems to give consumers information about their water, including where it comes from, what is in the water, and how the water quality compares with federal standards. This report is being provided to you in accordance with EPA's **40 Code of Federal Regulations, NPDWR Parts 141 and 142.**

If you have questions about your water.

This report describes the water quality and what it means. If you have questions about this report or concerning the water quality please contact City Hall or call **John Dickinson, Public Works Supervisor, at 897-2302.** You are also invited to attend any regularly scheduled meeting of the Mill City City Council. Meetings are held on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday's beginning at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall, 252 SW Cedar Street, Mill City.

Where does Mill City water come from?

The City of Mill City takes its water from two municipal wells in Mill City. These wells were placed on-line in April 2005. Until then Mill City's water supply was a surface water source from the **North Santiam River.** The city's water intake was located at 128 Wall Street in Mill City. Though this intake is no longer in use, the City of Mill City has retained its surface water rights, and the intake site.

This report covers the city's well water supply during the calendar year 2008. Routine monitoring and testing of water quality is performed to assure clean, safe drinking water

What contaminants might be in water?

Contaminants that may be present in raw or source water before it is treated are microbial contaminants, inorganic contaminants, pesticides and herbicides, radioactive contaminants, and organic chemical contaminants.

- * 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 storm water runoff, industrial or domestic waste water discharges, oil and gas production, mining or farming.
- * Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources, such as agricultural and residential uses.
- * Radioactive contaminants, which are naturally occurring.

- * 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 storm water runoff, and septic systems.

The Oregon Health Division and DEQ completed a “Source Water Assessment of the Mill City Water System”, dated January 14, 2002, based on the City’s surface water intake from the North Santiam River. A copy of this report is available at City Hall for your review. Copies may be purchased for a nominal fee. The updated Source Water Assessment for the new Mill City well water has been requested. We hope to receive it soon.

Are there contaminants in Mill City Water?

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 and the Oregon Health Division at 1-503-731-4317.

Coliform Bacteria, what is it?

Coliform are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially-harmful, bacteria may be present. **Mill City water is tested monthly for this, and none has been detected.**

Is the City of Mill City’s water monitored for contaminants?

Mill City routinely monitors for contaminants in its drinking water according to Federal and State laws. This table shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1st to December 31st, 2008. Although we routinely monitor for more than 100 contaminants, the table below will show only those contaminants for which a **detectable level** was found.

Lead and copper in tap water results shown are for the most recent monitoring completed in August 2008. As you can see by the table below, our system had no violations for contaminant levels. Mill City’s drinking water meets and/or exceeds all Federal and State requirements for contaminants. We have learned through the monitoring process that some low levels of contaminants have been detected. The EPA has determined that Mill City drinking water **IS SAFE** at these levels.

TEST RESULTS OF CITY OF MILL CITY WATER SYSTEM

Contaminant	Violations Yes / No	Level Detected	Unit of Measure	Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG)	Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL)	Likely Source of Contamination
Inorganic Contaminants						
14. Copper	No	0.10	ppm	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching of wood preservatives
17. Lead	No	.012	ppm	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing; erosion of natural deposits.

Important Information:

Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 10 ppm is a health risk for infants of less than six months of age. High nitrate levels in drinking water can cause blue baby syndrome. Nitrate levels may rise quickly for short periods of time because of the rainfall or agricultural activity. If you are caring for an infant you should ask advice from your health care provider.

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. Mill City 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 two 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 (1-800-426-4791) 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 two (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.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Those who may be at a higher risk are 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 who can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC has published guidelines on the appropriate ways to lessen the risk of infection from cryptosporidium and other microbiological contaminants. These guidelines are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

Water Rates:

Upon receipt of the grant/loan funds for the 2005 water project the City of Mill City was required to implement new water rates. These rates have been implemented over the course of the last four years. This October the Mill City Water Department will implement the final increase raising the base water rate for inside city users from \$16.00 per month to \$16.65 per month, which includes the first two units of water. The per unit rate for anything above the first two units of \$2.85 will remain the same.

We work hard to provide top quality water. We ask that all our residents help us protect our water source, which is the heart of our community and way of life.

BY: _____

**John Dickinson
Public Works Superintendent**

Important Definitions:

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

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

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

Maximum Contaminant Level - 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 - 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.

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P.O. Box 256

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