



# Barlow Water District

Drinking Water  
Quality Report  
2018

Barlow Water District is continuously investing in you and your children's future by providing the best possible drinking water. Please take a few moments to read this report that goes into detail of all the testing our water system undergoes to make sure we stay in compliance with the State and EPA. You can also visit the State web site at [https://yourwater.oregon.gov/inventory.php?pw\\_sno=00909](https://yourwater.oregon.gov/inventory.php?pw_sno=00909) for more information. Scroll to the bottom to search all info.



## Our Water

Our groundwater wells are recharged by precipitation infiltrating the soil surface, then percolates deep into the ground to recharge the aquifers. Water travels through the ground and is filtered naturally underground. The water is then pumped from the ground and piped to your home for drinking.

### An Important Message from the Environmental Protection Agency

The sources of (both tap 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 and human activity.

**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 wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.

**Pesticides and Herbicides**, comes from agricultural, urban storm-water runoff, and residential uses.

**Organic Chemical Contaminants**, synthetic and volatile organic chemicals are byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production, and also from gas stations, urban storm-water runoff, and septic systems.

**Radioactive Contaminants**, Naturally occurring or the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

Drinking water and bottled water may 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 Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

### Important information About Water and Your Health

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 microbial contaminants. For more information call the Safe Drinking Water Hot Line 1-800-426-4791. Additional information can be found on the CDC website: [www.cdc.gov/healthywater/drinking/public/faq.html](http://www.cdc.gov/healthywater/drinking/public/faq.html).

### Lead in Drinking Water....Are You at Risk?

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. Barlow Water District is responsible for providing high quality drinking water to your tap, we cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components in your home. 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 to drink 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>, or [www.leadline.org](http://www.leadline.org), or by contacting Edge Analytical, drinking water testing laboratory 541-639-8425.

You can see our most recent test results in the data table below. We are required to report only those substances that were present at detectable levels. We are allowed to monitor for some contaminants less than once per year, therefore some of the data can be more than one year old.

*If after reading this report and you still have questions, please feel free to contact Don Veenker, 541-544-2920 or attend our regular scheduled meetings held the 2nd Saturday of each month at the Wamic Rural Fire Department.*

Primary Standards (directly related to the safety of drinking water)						
Inorganic Contaminants	Units	MCL	MCLG	Range/Result	Did a Violation occur ?	Likely Source
2018 - Nitrate	ppm	10	10	0.38 - 1.09	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Lead and Copper	Units	MCLG	AL	90 <sup>th</sup> %	Did a Violation occur ?	Likely Source
2016 - Copper	ppm	1.3	1.3	0.03	No	Household plumbing
2016 - Lead	ppb	0	15	2.0	No	Household plumbing
Disinfection By-Products						
2018 - Chlorine Residuals	ppm	4	4	0.11 - 0.32	No	By-Product of drinking water disinfection
<b>Violation</b> - Our water system received a violation for 2018 of non reporting of Xylenes, which is a volatile Organic Chemical. John Zalaznik, Wasco County Sanitarian, is currently requesting a waiver for reduction as Xylenes have been non detect since 2014 in our water system.						

- **AL - Action Level**, the concentration of a contaminant which if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements.
- **EPA - Environmental Protection Agency**, sets water quality standards and establishes methods and monitoring requirements for water utilities.
- **MCL - Maximum Contaminant Level**, 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.
- **MCLG - Maximum Contaminant Level Goal**, the level of a contaminant in drinking water which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLG's allow a margin of safety.
- **PPB - Parts Per Billion**, the equivalent of one second in 32 years.
- **PPM - Parts Per Million**, the equivalent of one second in 12 days.
- **pCi/l - Picouries Per Liter**, a measure of radioactivity.
- **Result** - the column that shows you what level of contaminant was found in the water you drink.
- **TT - Treatment Technique**, a required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

### Barlow Water District Source Assessment

An assessment of our water system has been completed by the Department of Human Services to determine susceptibility to potential sources of contamination. A copy is on file by contacting the office @ 541.544.2920.



# Standards

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 safe drinking water hotline at 1-800-426-4791.