

ANNUAL
**WATER
QUALITY
REPORT**

Water Testing Performed in 2008



Drinking water in Dallas exceeded all mandated Federal and State standards in 2008. There were no violations of contaminant levels.

City of Dallas
187 SE Court Street
Dallas, Oregon 97338

Photo:
Main Street
Water Reservoir
Completed 2008



This is our report to you of the summary of the quality of water provided to our customers last year. It includes additional information that you may find helpful, such as where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to standards set by regulatory agencies. The City welcomes your questions and comments about this report and other matters concerning your water. You may contact the Department of Public Works by calling City Hall at 503-623-2338, extension 3562.

The Water Treatment Plant, built in 1973 and upgraded in 1994 and 2008, represents one of the most reliable water processes in the country. The plant provides water treatment year-round under a wide variety of seasonal conditions in the creek. The citizens of Dallas are fortunate to have a source of such high quality water.

The City uses surface water from Rickreall Creek and the Rickreall Watershed. 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. Cryptosporidium is a microbial Pathogen found in surface water throughout the U.S. Although filtration removes Cryptosporidium, the most commonly used filtration methods cannot guarantee 100 percent removal. Our monitoring detected the presence of one of these organisms in one of nine samples collected from our source water in 2008. Current test methods do not allow us to determine if the organisms are dead or if they are capable of causing disease. Ingestion of Cryptosporidium may cause cryptosporidiosis, an abdominal infection. Symptoms of infection include nausea, diarrhea, and abdominal cramps. Most healthy individuals can overcome the disease within a few weeks. However, 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.

Environmental Protection Agency/Center for Disease Control guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

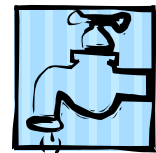
Cryptosporidium must be ingested to cause disease, and it may be spread through means other than drinking water.

A Source Water Assessment of the City's watershed area was conducted in 2003 in compliance with the Safe Drinking Water Act. This report describes potential contaminant sources that could occur from activities surrounding the watershed. Increased sediment and turbidity resulting from accidental wildfire as a consequence of the activities within the watershed is of greatest concern. A copy of the Source Water Assessment Report is available at the Dallas Public Library or from the Director of Public Works at City Hall.

FINDINGS FROM WATER TESTING

The City conducts tests on contaminants that may be present in the source water, which include microbial contaminants; inorganic contaminants; pesticides and herbicides; organic chemical contaminants; and radioactive contaminants. Many of the substances the City is required to test are not detected in the water system. The information about those substances that have been detected in your drinking water and how the test levels compare to regulatory standards are listed in the table enclosed in this pamphlet.

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 (1-800-426-4791).



For questions on issues such as water pressure, water leaks and/or taste or odor, call our Public Works Department at City Hall 503-623-2338, ext. 3562. Opportunities for public comment are provided at City Council meetings held on the first and third Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m., City Hall, 187 SE Court Street.

Results of Monitoring for Contaminants in Drinking Water for the period of January 1 to December 31, 2008

Contaminant	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Level Detected	Range	Major Sources	Violation?
Inorganic Contaminants							
Fluoride	ppb	4000	4000	76 avg	0-1350	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive that promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.	No
Disinfection By-products							
TTHMs (Total Trihalomethanes)	ppb	80	n/a	30.8 avg	11.4 – 41.0	By-products of drinking water chlorination for disinfection	No
HAA5s (Total Haloacetic Acid)	ppb	60	n/a	37.8 avg	14.1 – 54.9	By-products of drinking water chlorination for disinfection	No
Turbidity *	NTU	TT = 1 NTU	0	0.27	n/a	Soil runoff	No
		TT = percentage of samples < 0.3 NTU		100%	n/a		No

Contaminant	Units	Goal	AL	90th Percentile	Homes Exceeding AL	Major Sources	Violation?
Copper	ppb	1300	1300	340	0	Corrosion of household plumbing; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives	No
Lead	ppb	0	15	57	9	Corrosion of household plumbing; erosion of natural deposits	No**

* Turbidity has no health effects; however, turbidity can interfere with disinfection and provide a medium for microbial growth.

** The action level for lead was exceeded in 2008, however an action level is not considered a limit; therefore, the elevated lead concentration reported above is not considered a violation.

Abbreviations, Definitions and Notes:

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

MCLG - Maximum Contaminant Level Goal. The MCLG is the level of 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 MCL is 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.

ppb - Parts Per Billion. One part per billion is comparable to one penny in \$10,000,000.

pCi/L - Picocuries Per Liter. The measure of radioactivity in water.

ND - Non-Detects. Laboratory analysis indicates that the constituent is not present at a concentration below the detection limit of the test method used.

ppt - Parts Per Trillion. One part per trillion is comparable to one penny in \$10,000,000,000.

NTU - Nephelometric Turbidity Unit. NTU is a measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.

TT – Treatment Technique. TT is a required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

Notes:

- Radioactive contaminants are analyzed every nine years. Dallas water supply was tested for Gross Alpha Radiation on November 19, 2002. The results were ND at 1 (pCi/L) with a MCL of 16 (pCi/L).
- Inorganics are analyzed once every nine years. The above results encompass testing in 2001.
- Synthetic organics are analyzed once per three-year compliance period. The above results in this category encompass testing in 2007 through 2009.
- Lead and copper contaminants are analyzed every three years. These results are from water drawn from homes in 2008 that have lead and copper within their plumbing.

Lead in Drinking Water

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead enters drinking water primarily as a result of the corrosion, or wearing away, of materials containing lead in the household plumbing. In 1986, Congress banned the use of lead solder containing greater than 0.2% lead, and restricted the lead content of faucets, pipes and other plumbing materials to 8.0%. When water stands in lead pipes or plumbing systems containing lead for several hours or more, the lead may dissolve into the drinking water. When water has been stagnant (not running) you can minimize potential exposure by running your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking purposes.

The City Takes Action

The City continues to take measures to reduce the likelihood that lead will enter the drinking water from household plumbing. One such measure is the planned introduction of orthophosphate to the water system beginning in July of 2009. Orthophosphate comes from the addition of very small quantities of phosphoric acid to the water. Phosphoric acid is safe, commonly used in the processing of many foods and beverages and approved for use in food and drinking water by the USEPA, Food and Drug Administration, and the National Sanitation Foundation. The orthophosphate prevents lead from entering the water by forming a thin protective coating on the plumbing.

Red Water?

When phosphoric acid is added to the water system to prevent lead from entering drinking water, some older homes with galvanized metal plumbing may experience a temporary release of rusty reddish colored material from residue inside the pipes. If this occurs, water should be flushed through the cold water taps in the home until the water runs clear. If you experience red water, the water is not harmful; however, we recommend that it not be used for drinking, cooking, or laundry until it runs clear. If the water does not clear after several minutes, please call the City of Dallas Public Works Department at 503-831-3562.

Safe Drinking Water Hotline

If you are concerned about lead in your drinking water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information regarding lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure from lead is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline 1-800-426-4791 or visit their website at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>