COLTON WATER DISTRICT
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ANNUAL DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT FOR 2024 MARCH 2025

The following is the annual Consumer Confidence Report regarding the quality of your drinking water for the period of January through December 31, 2024. Our goal is to provide a safe and dependable supply of drinking water.

WHY AM I RECEIVING THIS REPORT? In 1996, Congress passed amendments that require drinking water systems to give consumers important information about their water, including where it comes from, what is in the water, and how your water quality compares with federal standards. This report is brought to you in accordance with EPA's 40 Code of Federal Regulations, NPDWR Parts 141 and 142.

WHAT IF I HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT MY WATER? This report shows our water quality and what it means. If you have questions about this report or your water utility, please contact Betty Hodges, District Manager, or Pete Dostert, Superintendent, at 503-824-2500. If you want to learn more, please attend any regularly scheduled monthly board meetings held on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 6 p.m. at the Colton Fire Station.

WHERE DOES OUR WATER COME FROM? Colton Water District's water source is surface water from Jackson Creek, a tributary of Milk Creek. Jackson Creek originates in the foothills of the Cascade Mountain range near Goat Mountain and has no major tributaries.

A Source Water Assessment Report was prepared for Colton Water District in December 2002 by the State of Oregon Department of Environmental Quality as a tool to map out the area that serves as the source of the public water supply, identify sensitive areas, and inventory any significant risks to the water source. To minimize potential hazards to the watershed, Colton Water District, in conjunction with the Bureau of Land Management and other surrounding landowners within the watershed, created an agreement to install a gate across the roadway to limit access and reduce dumping in the watershed. This has proven effective.

In September 2004, February 2008, November 2011, November 2014, November 2017, June 2021, and August 2024, the Oregon Health Authority conducted a Water System Survey of Colton Water District. The surveys are designed to provide guidelines for maintaining and improving production, storage, security, and reliability of the system.

WHAT CONTAMINANTS MIGHT BE IN THE WATER? Contaminants that may be present in raw or source water before it is treated are microbial contaminants, inorganic contaminants, pesticides, herbicides, radioactive contaminants, and organic chemical contaminants.

IS OUR WATER TREATED? Chlorine is added to the water for disinfecting purposes, then the water goes through a filtration process that removes dirt, sediment, and other materials. The chlorine is required to keep the water safe as it travels to your tap. 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 EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791 or the Oregon Health Authority at 971-673-0462.

ARE THERE CONTAMINANTS IN COLTON WATER DISTRICT'S WATER? Colton Water District routinely monitors for constituents in the water according to Federal and State Laws.

"COLIFORM" – WHAT IS IT? Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other potentially harmful bacteria may be present.

CONTAMINANT	VIOLATION Y/N	TEST RESULTS LEVEL DETECTED	UNIT MEASURE	MCLG	MCL	PROBABLE SOURCE
INORGANICS						
14. **COPPER**	N 90%	0.178	PPM	1.3		CORROSION OF HOUSE HOLD PLUMBING SYSTEMS. EROSION OF NATURAL DEPOSITS LEACHING FROM WOOD PRESERVATIVE
TESTED: 12/02, 12/05, 1/05, 9/09, 9/12, 9/13, 9/16, 9/19, 9/22						
17. **LEAD**	N 90%	0.022	PPM	AL15		CORROSION OF HOUSE HOLD PLUMBING SYSTEMS. EROSION OF NATURAL DEPOSITS
TESTED: 12/0, 1/05, 1/06, 9/9, 9/12, 9/13, 9/16 , 9/19, 9/22						
19. **NITRATE**	N	0.413	PPM	0.100	10.0	RUN OFF FROM FERTILIZER USE; LEACHING FROM SEPTIC TANKS, SEWAGE
TESTED: 10/02, 10/04, 10/05, 12/06, 12/07, 9/08, 6/09, 5/10, 12/10, 1/12, 12/13, 12/14, 12/15, 2/17, 12/18, 12/19, 12/2020, 12/2021, 12/22, 12/23, 10/24						
TOTAL ORGANIC CARBON	N	NO DETECT				
Tested: Beginning monthly 10/04 thru 12/05 then quarterly, 1/06, 5/06, 10/06, 2/07, 4/07, 7/07, 9/07, 12/07, 1/08, 5/08, 9/08, 12/08, 4/08, 3/10, 6/10, 4/13, 12/14, 12/15, 5/18, 10/19, 12/20, 12/21 3/23, 4/24						
ARSENIC	N	NO DETECT	0.015			EROSION OF NATURAL DEPOSITS
Tested 10/04, 10/05, 12/06, 12/07, 9/08, 6/09, 5/10, 7/19						

CONTAMINANT	VIOLATION Y/N	LEVEL DETECTED	UNIT MEASR.	MCLG	MCL	PROBABLE SOURCE
FECAL COLIFORM AND E. COLI	N					HUMAN AND ANIMAL FECAL WASTE
TESTED: TWICE A MONTH 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019,2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024						
ASBESTOS –TESTED 5/15	N	ND		0.078	Next Test Due by: 12/2028	
TOTAL COLIFORM	N					NATURALLY PRESENT IN THE

BACTERIA					ENVIRONMENT AND ARE USED AS AN INDICATOR THAT OTHER POTENTIALLY HARMFUL BACTERIA MAY BE PRESENT

A "false" positive was recorded in July 2008; 5 repeat tests were taken, all with negative results. Normal testing with negative results was done twice a month during 2008, 09, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24. To date, results have been negative.

Testing for Radiological was done in 2003, 2009, and 2017. Testing is next due in 2026.

	HIGHEST DETECT				
TURBIDITY	0.30	100% OF SAMPLES	0	TT,0.5	USED TO INDICATE THE CLEANESS OF WATER AND IS MEASURED IN NEPHELOMETIC TURBIDIDTY UNITS

TURBIDITY IS MONITORED CONSTANTLY WHEN THE PLANT IS IN OPERATION. IN JULY 2009, OVER 5% OF DAILY TURBIDITY READINGS WERE NOT UNDER THE REQUIRED 0.3 NTU. THIS WAS DUE TO MATERIAL IMPEDING THE CREEK FLOW PRIOR TO DISTRIBUTION. THE PLANT WAS SHUT DOWN UNTIL THE CREEK CLEARED AND NORMAL TURBIDITY OF .2 WAS MAINTAINED. A NOTICE WAS SENT TO ALL PATRONS REGARDING THE SPIKE. IN SEPTEMBER 2020, DUE TO THE WILDFIRES, WE WERE NOT ABLE TO MEET OUR REQUIRED 0.3 NTU AND HAD TO SEND OUT BOIL-WATER NOTICES TO ALL PATRONS. THE PLANT WAS SHUT DOWN UNTIL WE WERE ABLE TO PRODUCE SAFE POTABLE WATER AND HAS BEEN MAINTAINED SINCE. IN 2014,15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 21, 22, 23 DAILY TURBIDITY READ AT OR UNDER THE REQUIRED 0.3 NTU

DISINFECTION BY-PRODUCTS	VIOLATION	LEVEL	UNIT	MCLG	MCL	PROBABLE SOURCE
TTHMs Total Trihalomethanes	N	0.0128		0.080		BY-PRODUCT OF DRINKING WATER
HALOACIDIC	Y	0.012	EXC MAX	0.060	4/24	BY-PRODUCT OF DRINKING WATER DISINFECTION

Tested: Quarterly 10/2004-12/2005; annually 9/06, 9/08, 5/09, 5/10, 12/11, 11/12,9/13,12/14,10/15, 5/18, 11/19, 12/20, 12/21, 7/22, 12/23, 10/24

Synthetic Organic Chemicals and Volatile Organic chemicals were tested on 10/04, 12/10, 12/13, and 12/16 with no detections. This testing is for By-products from storm run-off and septic systems. A violation was issued for not testing Volatile Organics in 2006, but Volatile Organics were tested in 4/07, 5/09, 6/10, 1/12, 4/12, 5/13, 12/13, 12/14, 12/15, 12/16, 12/19, 12/20, and 12/22 with no detects.

UCMR2 (unregulated contaminants) was tested with no positive results in 2016. The letter is on file in the office. Beginning October 2008, EPA required testing for e. coli every two weeks for a period of one year. The one-year period was completed. All test results were negative.

Colton Water District regularly monitors for various constituents in the water to meet all regulatory requirements. It has been learned through monitoring and testing that some constituents have been detected. However, the EPA has determined that your water is safe at these levels.
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.

Colton Water District 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 the 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 or at www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immune-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 microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

DEFINITION OF TERMS: **EPA**: Environmental Protection Agency; **MAXIMUM CONTAMINANT LEVEL GOAL OR "MCLG"**: The level of a contaminant in the drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. Mclgs allow for a margin of safety. **MAXIMUM CONTAMINANT LEVEL or "MCL":** 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.
ACTION LEVEL or "AL": The concentration of a contaminant, which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.
90th PERCENTILE: This means 90% of the samples collected were equal to or less than the value reported.
PPM: Parts per million. One part per million corresponds to a single penny in $1,000,000.
PPB: Parts per billion. One part per billion corresponds to a single penny in 1,000,000,000.
IMPORTANT INFORMATION: MCLs are set at very stringent levels. To understand the possible health effects described for many regulated constituents, a person would have to drink 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.

In continuing efforts to maintain a safe and dependable water supply, improvements may be necessary. The water rate structure is reviewed annually by the Board of Directors to address required improvements and to keep up with the rising costs of maintaining the system.

Your patronage is appreciated.