

# CITY OF BLAINE

## 2016 Drinking Water Quality Annual Report

*The City of Blaine is pleased to provide our customers with its annual "Consumer Confidence Report" for calendar year 2016. This report explains the quality of drinking water provided by Blaine. The report also includes results from required water quality tests, as well as an explanation of where our water comes from and tips on how to interpret the data.*

### OVERVIEW

The City of Blaine protects, provides and treats our water supply. Various monitoring occurs at specific frequencies (continuously, daily, monthly, quarterly or annually) and at different locations (prior to treatment, entering the distribution system and throughout the distribution system) in accordance with federal and state regulations. The City testing includes inorganic compounds (IOC), synthetic organic compounds (SOC), volatile organic compounds (VOC), microbial substances and chlorine disinfection by-products.

If you have any questions about the report or about your water quality, please contact Frank Arnett at 360-332-3718. If you want to learn more, the public is welcome to attend any regularly scheduled City Council Meetings held on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of each month at 6:00pm at Blaine City Hall, 435 Martin Street Suite 4000, Blaine.

### **Drinking Water Source**

Blaine's water source is a system of moderate to deep wells tapping into aquifers underlying the City's forested reserve east of Boblett Street, south of H Street and west of Harvey Road.

### WHY MONITOR?

The sources of drinking water (both tap water 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 can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity. In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the WA Department of Health and the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

- **Microbial Contaminants** (viruses, bacteria & parasites)
- **Inorganic Contaminants** (salts & metals, naturally occurring)
- **Pesticides & Herbicides** (agricultural, stormwater runoff, residential uses)
- **Organic Chemicals** (industrial by-products, septic tanks, gas stations)
- **Radioactive Contaminants** (naturally occurring as a result of mining and/or gas production)

**LEAD AND COPPER** - The City is required to monitor for lead and copper in their distribution system. The City has taken lead and copper samples in residences since 1994 with NO EXCEEDANCES. As a result, the City is on a reduced monitoring schedule of once every three years between June and September. The City will be collecting its next round of lead and copper samples summer 2019.

*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 water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).*

*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 are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).*

*The Safe Drinking Water Hotline is also available online at [water.epa.gov/drink/hotline](http://water.epa.gov/drink/hotline).*



**INORGANIC CONTAMINANTS (MEASURED AT WELLS) \*COLLECTED 2016**

Detected Compounds	Violation Yes/No	Detected Range	Units	MCLG	MCL	Source of Contamination
Nitrate	NO	ND - 1.2	ppm	10	10	Erosion of natural deposits, runoff from fertilizer use, leaching septic tanks, sewage

**INORGANIC PARAMETERS (MEASURED AT HOMESITES) \*COLLECTED 2016**

Detected Compounds	Violation Yes/No	Detected Range	90th Percentile	Units	MCLG	AL	Typical Source
Lead	NO	ND—13	9.1	ppb	0	15	Erosion of natural deposits, corrosion of household plumbing systems
Copper	NO	ND—0.51	0.29	ppm	1.3	1.3	Erosion of natural deposits, corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits

**MICROBIOLOGICAL CONTAMINANTS**

Detected Compounds	Violation Yes/No	Level Detected	Units	MCLG	MCL	Major Source of Contamination
Total Coliform	NO	NONE	MPN	0	0	Naturally present in the environment
Fecal Coliform & E-coli	NO	NONE	MPN	0	0	Human and animal fecal waste

**SECONDARY/OTHER PARAMETERS (MEASURED IN DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM)**

Detected Compounds	Violation Yes/No	Level Detected	Units	MCL
Manganese	YES	0.052	ppm	0.05 Leaching from natural deposits
Iron	NO	ND	ppm	0.3
Chloride	NO	10	ppm	250
Sulfate	NO	ND	ppm	250

**DEFINITIONS AND ACRONYMS**

**Maximum Contaminant Level (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.

**Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG):** 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.

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

**Parts Per Million (PPM):** One part per million corresponds to one minute in two years; a single penny in \$10,000.

**Parts Per Billion (PPB):** One part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years; a single penny in \$10,000,000.

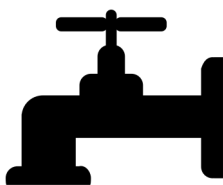
**Milligrams per Liter (mg/L):** A unit of concentration of a constituent in water. It represents 0.001 grams of a constituent in 1 liter of water.

**Picocuries Per Liter (pci/L):** A unit of measuring radionuclide levels.

**Most Probable Number Index (MPN):** The concentration of coliform bacteria in the sample (expressed as the number of bacteria per 100mL of sample).

**No Detect (ND):** A compound that was analyzed and not detected at a level greater than or equal to the state reporting level.

SUMMER WATERING SCHEDULE	
SUNDAY	ODD Numbered Address
MONDAY	NO Watering
TUESDAY	EVEN Numbered Address
WEDNESDAY	ODD Numbered Address
THURSDAY	EVEN Numbered Address
FRIDAY	ODD Numbered Address
SATURDAY	EVEN Numbered Address



Visit [www.cityofblaine.com](http://www.cityofblaine.com) for more conservation information

**City of Blaine Public Works**

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