



# City of Colville

## Consumer Confidence Report

### 2019

#### **INTRODUCTION**

The City of Colville Water Department (**Public Water System ID# 14200J**) is pleased to present the 2019 Consumer Confidence Report. This report presents the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1<sup>st</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2019. Our goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We routinely monitor for constituents in our drinking water according to Federal and State laws. **We are happy to report that our drinking water is safe and meets federal and state requirements.**

#### **CITY OF COLVILLE WATER SOURCES**

Our water comes from seven groundwater wells located within one aquifer. Wells #1, #2, #3, and #6 comprise the upper system, which is located east of Highway 20 on Church Flat and Prouty Corner. This system serves the areas on the North Hill from 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue to 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue, extending to Main Street, Summit Street (East), Swede Anderson Road, and Garden Homes Drive. Wells #4, #5, and #7 comprise the lower system, which is located north of Highway 20 on Church Flat, and serves Church Flat, Silke Road, and the remaining sections of the city. To help ensure that our drinking water is safe, the City of Colville has a source water protection plan, which is available from our office. To learn more about wellhead protection, and source water assessment programs (SWAP), please visit:

<http://www.doh.wa.gov/CommunityandEnvironment/DrinkingWater/SourceWater/Assessment.aspx>

#### **HEALTH INFORMATION**

All drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. However, the presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate a health risk. Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immune-compromised people, such as people with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, people who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk for infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers.

EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lower the risk of infection by cryptosporidium and other microbiological contaminants along with more information about contaminants and potential health effects are available from the **EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791)**.

#### **CONTACT INFORMATION**

If you have any questions concerning this report, please contact Jeff McFrederick, Director of Public Works, at 509-684-2244. You can also visit our website at [www.colville.wa.us](http://www.colville.wa.us).

Landlords, please share this consumer confidence report with your tenants. Inform them of our website or request that they call City Hall (509-684-5094) or the Colville Water Department (509-684-2244) to receive a copy.

#### **GET INVOLVED**

If you would like to be more involved in making decisions regarding your drinking water, the City of Colville holds regularly scheduled council meetings on the second and fourth Tuesdays of every month at City Hall, located at 170 S. Oak. Council meetings begin at 6:30 p.m.

## DEFINITIONS

**MCL:** maximum contaminant level. The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs 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 below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLG's allow for a margin of safety.

**NTU:** nephelometric turbidity unit. A measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is typically noticeable to the average person.

**ppb:** parts per billion (equivalent to ug/L—micrograms per liter)

**ppm:** parts per million (equivalent to mg/L—milligrams per liter)

**pCi/L:** picocuries per liter (a measure of the radioactivity in water)

## RESULTS -- UPPER SYSTEM

Detected Substance	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	MCL	MCLG	Likely Source of Contamination
<b>Inorganic Contaminants</b>					
Barium	N	.12 ppm	2	2	Erosion of natural deposits
Copper (90th Percentile of Residential Samples)	N	0.66 ppm	1.3	1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing, erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride	N	.29 ppm	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits
Lead (90th Percentile of Residential Samples)	N	4.4 ppb	15	0	Corrosion of household plumbing, erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate	N	.47 ppm	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use, erosion of natural deposits
<b>Microbiological Contaminants</b>					
Turbidity	N	3.61 NTU	N/A	N/A	Soil runoff
<b>Radioactive Contaminants</b>					
Gross Alpha	N	6.49+/-2.14 pCi/L	15	0	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium 226	N	0.670+/-0.296 pCi/L	5	0	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium 228	N	0.596+/-0.197 pCi/L	5	0	Erosion of natural deposits
<b>Synthetic Organic Contaminants</b>					
The City of Colville has a waiver for the testing of Synthetic Organic Contaminants. The waiver is based on the Upper System having moderate susceptibility as determined by prior testing. The waiver was renewed in 2010.					
<b>Volatile Organic Contaminants</b>					
Total Trihalomethanes	N	3.36 ppb	80	N/A	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Total Haloacetic Acids	N	None Detected	60	N/A	By-product of drinking water disinfection

The upper system has a hardness rating of 262 mg/L or approximately 15.3 grains per gallon. The iron level is 0.039 mg/L and no manganese was detected.

The lower system has a hardness rating of 294 mg/L or approximately 17.2 grains per gallon. The iron level is 0.027 mg/L and the manganese level is 0.412 mg/L.

## RESULTS -- LOWER SYSTEM

Detected Substance	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	MCL	MCLG	Likely Source of Contamination
<b>Inorganic Contaminants</b>					
Barium	N	.11 ppm	2	2	Erosion of natural deposits
Copper (90th Percentile of Residential Samples)	N	0.66 ppm	1.3	1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing, erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride	N	.24 ppm	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits
Lead (90th Percentile of Residential Samples)	N	4.4 ppb	15	0	Corrosion of household plumbing, erosion of natural deposits
<b>Microbiological Contaminants</b>					
Turbidity	N	.32 NTU	N/A	N/A	Soil runoff
<b>Radioactive Contaminants</b>					
Gross Alpha	N	5.96+/-2.21 pCi/L	15	0	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium 226	N	<1+/- .0459 pCi/L	5	0	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium 228	N	0.374+/-0.212 pCi/L	5	0	Erosion of natural deposits
<b>Synthetic Organic Contaminants</b>					
The City of Colville has a waiver for the testing of Synthetic Organic Contaminants. The waiver is based on the Lower System having low susceptibility as determined by prior testing. The waiver was renewed in 2010.					
<b>Volatile Organic Contaminants</b>					
Total Trihalomethanes	N	1.2 ppb	80	N/A	By-product of drinking water chlorination

We are proud that our drinking water meets or exceeds all Federal and State requirements. Our testing shows that any detected constituents are well below the level posing any long term health risks. MCL's are set at very stringent levels, and the EPA has determined that **your water is safe** at these levels.

The upper system has concentrations of the secondary contaminants magnesium and calcium. These produce what is commonly referred to as "hardness" in water. Iron and sulfate were also detected. Iron, like manganese, can affect the color and taste of water. High levels of sulfate can give water a bitter or astringent taste. The City of Colville also chlorinates our drinking water supply as a precautionary measure.

Our lower system has an abundant and widespread concentration of manganese, which is a constituent of rock and soil in the Colville area. At sufficient concentrations, manganese can affect the color and taste of water and leave brown or black discolorations on laundry, plumbing, fixtures, and porcelain. Manganese is a secondary contaminant, which is considered a nuisance problem. The City of Colville currently manages the manganese levels by flushing mains and chemically treating with polyphosphates.

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. The City of Colville 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 2 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 on the USEPA Web site. <http://water.epa.gov/drink/info/lead/index.cfm>

## WATER USE EFFICIENCY

In 2003, Washington State Legislature passed the Municipal Water Supply Efficiency Requirements Act, which requires municipal water systems to use water efficiently and comply with the Water Use Efficiency (WUE) Rule. This rule requires the City of Colville to:

- Collect data, forecast demand, evaluate leakage, evaluate rate structures that encourage water use efficiency, and implement water use efficiency measures.
- Reduce distribution system leakage to 10% or less.
- Enact water use efficiency measures to manage water use.
- Develop water use efficiency goals through a public process and report annually on performance.
- Install service meters, if not already installed, within 10 years to account for water use and leakage.

### HOW THE CITY OF COLVILLE WILL COMPLY:

- Use reclaimed water for irrigation purposes at our Wastewater Treatment facility (WWTF).
- Complete a rate study by 2018.
- Report to the Department of Health and our customers yearly through the Consumer Confidence Report (this document).
- Distribute brochures to help educate customers on conservation.
- Show consumption history on utility bills.
- Distribute conservation kits to customers.
- Provide education to elementary school students on water conservation.



### HOW OUR CITIZENS CAN HELP:

- Check all faucets, pipes, and toilets for leaks.
- Take shorter showers.
- Turn off the water while brushing teeth or shaving.
- Install water saving showerheads and low-flush toilets.
- Wash full loads of clothes and dishes.
- Apply mulch around shrubs and flower beds to reduce evaporation and control weeds.
- Deep soak your lawn.
- Water early or late and avoid daytime watering.
- Use a broom, not a hose, to clean your driveway.
- Don't run the hose while washing your car.
- Monitor your water bill for unusually high use that may indicate a leak.

## BACKFLOW AND CROSS CONNECTION

During normal operation, water from the public water supply flows directly from the City's main to your property. In certain situations, a backflow can occur causing water and contaminants to flow back into the distribution system. Backflow is a reversal of the normal flow of water in a piping system. It can be caused by back-pressure or back-siphonage. This is most likely to happen during periods of high usage, such as firefighting, flushing fire hydrants, or when water main breaks occur. The Federal Safe Drinking Water Act requires water purveyors to protect the public water from cross connection and backflow. Washington State Department of Health and the Colville Municipal Code have additional requirements supporting this goal.

### HOW THE CITY OF COLVILLE WILL COMPLY:

- Identify locations within the city that require backflow protection.
- Ensure that these locations install, test, and maintain appropriate backflow assemblies.
- Maintain records of annual testing and repairs.
- Perform periodic surveys to ensure compliance.



### HOW OUR CITIZENS CAN HELP:

- Avoid activities that create cross connection, such as a hose submerged in a pool or trough.
- Contact the City when installing any new backflow devices to ensure they provide appropriate protection.
- Comply with testing and maintenance procedures when notified by the City.