

CITY OF WINNEMUCCA 2010 CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT

The Federal Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) was amended in 1996 to require states to develop and implement source water assessment programs (SWAP) to analyze existing and potential threats to the quality of public drinking water throughout the state. The 1996 Amendments also required a summary of the findings of the assessment to be included in the water system's annual Consumer Confidence Report (CCR). The 1996 Amendments specifically required states to delineate areas that are sources of public drinking water, identify potential contamination sources within the delineated area, assess the water system's susceptibility to contamination, and to inform the public of the results. These results are summarized below.

Water System Contact Information

Water System Name: City of Winnemucca	County: Humboldt
BSDW System ID Number: NV0000248	
Number of Connections: 3300	Population Served: 9900
Owner's Rep: Steve West Telephone: 775-623-6333	Fax # (775)623-6321
E-mail: wmcadsw@winnemuccacity.org	Address: 90 W. 4 th St., Wmca, NV
Operator: Alan Smith Telephone: (775)623-6381	Fax: (775)623-6321
Address: 90 W. 4th Street, Winnemucca, Nevada 89445	

Federal and State Water Quality Standards Compliance

The City of Winnemucca public water system utilizes five active wells, one active spring, and has one inactive well. The water system serves a growing population and maintains a staff of well trained professionals who operate and maintain the system. The City of Winnemucca public water system presently complies with State and Federal maximum contaminant levels. A wellhead protection program has been implemented for the long term protection of the drinking water sources.

Water System Contamination Vulnerability

The City of Winnemucca water system is considered potentially vulnerable to the following contaminant groups: Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC) and Inorganic Compounds (IOC). Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC) are typically associated with gas stations and dry cleaners; Inorganic Compounds (IOC) are typically associated with natural deposits, fertilizers, septic systems, and asbestos components in the distribution system. The water system is considered vulnerable to the activities/sources associated with the contaminant groups listed above for the following reasons: One well is considered to be highly vulnerable to VOC contamination due to nearby sources. There is a moderate to low risk for asbestos to contaminate the drinking water. Portions of the water distribution system have been constructed using asbestos cement pipe. The water system is presently in compliance with all State and Federal maximum contaminant levels for drinking water.

Is my water safe?

Last year, as in years past, your tap water met U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and state drinking water health standards. The City of Winnemucca vigilantly safeguards its water supplies.

Do I need to take special precautions?

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

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 Winnemucca 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 drinking 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>.

Where does my water come from?

The water source for our wells and spring is the Humboldt River Basin. Other than the application of chlorine (at the rate of approximately 1.0 to 1.5 ppm) the water is untreated.

Source water assessment and its availability

The City of Winnemucca has a Wellhead Protection Plan and a Vulnerability Assessment available for review in City Hall. These reports provide information pertaining to the susceptibility of our system to potential sources of contamination (i.e. proximity of the wells to the river, parks, or various types of industry and/or asbestos components in the distribution system).

Why are there contaminants in my drinking water?

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 (EPA) Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791). The sources of drinking water (both tap and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or throughout 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. *Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife. Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, can be naturally occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial, or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production,*

mining, or farming. Pesticides and herbicides may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses. Organic Chemical Contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems. Radioactive contaminants can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and minimum activities. In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

How can I get involved?

If you have any questions about this report or concerning the water utility, please contact Steve West, City Manager/Engineer for the City of Winnemucca at (775)623-6333. You may also attend any of our regularly scheduled City Council meetings held on the first and third Tuesday of the month at 2:00 p.m.

Additional Information for Arsenic

While your drinking water meets EPA's standard for arsenic, it does contain low levels of arsenic. EPA's standard balances the current understanding of arsenic's possible health effects against the costs of removing arsenic from drinking water. EPA continues to research the health effects of low levels of arsenic which is a mineral known to cause cancer in humans at high concentrations and is linked to other health effects such as skin damage and circulatory problems.

Health Information About Water Quality

Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 10 ppm is a health risk for infants of less than six months of age. High nitrate levels in drinking water can cause blue baby syndrome. Nitrate levels may rise quickly for short periods of time because of rainfall or agricultural activity. If you are caring for an infant, you should ask for advice from your health care provider.

Water Quality Data Table

The table below lists all of the drinking water contaminants that were detected during the calendar year of this report. The presence of contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table is from testing done in the calendar year of the report. The EPA or the State requires us to monitor certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently.

Regulated Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Value	Range	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source
Arsenic	2010	8	3-8	ppb	10		Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronics production waste
Barium	2010	.06	.06	ppm	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Chromium	2010	2	2	ppb	100	100	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; Erosion of

							natural deposits
Fluoride	2010	0.3	0.2 -0.3	ppm	2.0	4.0	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Nitrate-Nitrite (as N)	2010	6.5	<0.5 – 6.5	ppm	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Selenium	2010	.2	.2	ppb	50	50	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from mines

Lead and Copper	Date	90 th Percentile	Range	Unit	AL	Sites over AL	Typical Source
Copper	2010	.22	.003-.370	ppm	1.3	0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives.
Lead	2010	7	1-11	ppb	15	0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits

Microbiological	Result	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source
COLIFORM (TCR)	In the months of July, August, September , several sample(s) returned as positive*	MCL: Systems that Collect Less Than 40 Samples per Month - No more than 1 positive monthly sample	0	Naturally present in the environment

*Followup samples indicated an absence of coliform

Radionuclides	Collection Date	Highest Value	Range	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source
Gross Alpha	2010	7.6	6.9-7.6	pCi/L	15	0	Erosion of natural deposits
Gross Beta inclndg RA, excludng RN & U	2010	5.9	2.1-5.9	pCi/L	50	0	Decay of natural and manmade deposits.
Uranium	2010	6	1-6	ug/L	30	0	Erosion of natural deposits

Violations

For the 2010 calendar year, the City of Winnemucca is required to include an explanation of the violations in the table below and the steps taken to resolve the violations with this report. Monitoring requirements not met: Repair putty used to repair the inside of a tank came free and needed to be flushed from the system to resolve the coliform issue. The City of Winnemucca public water system failed to monitor for Nitrite and residual Chlorine in November 2010. We will return to compliance by sampling for Nitrite during the calendar year of 2011. As this was a failure to monitor violation and not an exceedance, no known health effects are believed to have resulted from this missed sample. Routine sampling for chlorine has resumed beginning in December 2010, and results indicate that there was no violation of the standards. You do not need to boil water or use an alternative source of water at this time.

Viol type	Category	Contaminant	Monitoring Period	Samples required	Samples taken
MCL (TCR), Monthly	Maximum Contaminant Level Violation	Coliform (TCR)	7/01/10- 8/31/10	Met	Met
Monitoring Routine (DBP), Minor	DS01 Distribution system	Chlorine	7/1/10 – 7/31/10	13	12
Monitoring Routine (DBP), Minor	DS01 Distribution system	Chlorine	11/1/10 – 11/30/10	10	9
Monitoring, Routine Major	Failure to Monitor	Nitrite	Year 2010	1	0

If other people, such as tenants, residents, patients, students, or employees, receive water from you, it is important that you provide this notice to them by posting in a conspicuous location or by direct hand or mail delivery. Violation code 27 is a State and Federal violation and is reported to water users and the US Environmental Protection Agency. Violations with this type code must be included in the annual community Consumer Confidence Report.

Unit Descriptions

Definition

ug/L	water	ug/L: Number of micrograms of substance in one liter of
mg/L	water	mg/L: Number of milligrams of substance in one liter of
ppm		ppm: parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/L)
ppb		ppb: parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (ug/L)
NA		NA: not applicable
ND		ND: not detected

Important Drinking Water Definitions

MCLG	MCLG: Maximum Contaminant Level Goal: 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.
MCL	MCL: Maximum Contaminant Level: 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.
AL	AL: Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
Variations & Exemptions	Variations and Exemptions: State or EPA permission not to meet an MCL or a treatment technique under certain conditions.
MRDLG	MRDLG: Maximum residual disinfection level goal. The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.
MRDL	MRDL: Maximum residual disinfectant level. The highest level of

a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.