

**2019 WATER QUALITY REPORT**

The City of Kelso gets its water from a groundwater well

In 2019 the City of Kelso maintained water quality compliance and tested for all required substances. Starting with good water quality is only a small part of the picture. The valuable distribution assets (piping, valves, hydrants, reservoirs, pumping, meters and pressure stations) and their ongoing operation and maintenance are just as vital to the community and public health.

**Mission Statement: To provide safe quality water supporting the Health of the Citizens and the development of the community.**

that was constructed in 1978. The well is located on the banks of the Cowlitz River and is determined by the Department of Health to be groundwater under the influence of surface water. This means we must treat our water to the higher surface water standards. **The City of Kelso Water Treatment Plant, starts with a high quality source water and further treats it. Our goal is to continue producing “optimal filtered water” 100% of the time.** The City of Kelso also supplies water to some, Beacon Hill Water & Sewer District customers in outlying parts of Kelso & to the Davis Terrace Water Association.

**Get Involved:** We encourage public interest in our community’s decisions affecting drinking water. Your City Council meets the first and third Tuesday of each month in the Council Chambers, located in Kelso at 203 South Pacific, meetings start at 6:00 PM. Information about your water and other departments can also be found at the City’s web page. <http://www.kelso.gov>. **El informe contiene informacion importante sobre la calidad del agua en su comunidad. Traduzcal o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.**

**Tips to Reduce Copper And Lead Levels that may leach from household plumbing!**

“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 Kelso 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 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 drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791) or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.” **30 Kelso residents were sampled in 2017, with great results for lead and copper.**

**YOUR WATER IS SAFE TO DRINK**



Use Water Wisely - Check out our web page for more water tips and our annual Water Use Efficiency Report - at <http://www.kelso.gov>

**Indoor Water Conservation Tips:**

- ◆ Fix leaky plumbing fixtures, faucets and appliances in the house.
- ◆ Run only full loads in the washing machine and dishwasher.
- ◆ Install water saving devices.
- ◆ Turn the water off while shaving and brushing your teeth.

**Outdoor Water Conservation Tips:**

- ◆ Sweep rather than hose down, sidewalks, driveways, and other impervious surfaces.
- ◆ Add organic matter such as a compost or peat moss to your soil to improve its ability to retain water.
- ◆ Water prudently only when necessary and in the morning or late evening when temperatures are cooler.
- ◆ Mow higher, longer grass holds soil moisture better than a shorter lawn.

*Plant staff prepared this report. If you have any questions about water quality or would like additional information please call us at (360-577-1085)*

**Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than is 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 systems 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 and Centers for Disease Control guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791). **The City of Kelso started a monthly cryptosporidium testing program on our untreated water starting in October of 2016 and completed in October of 2018 with the results of 0 oocysts resulting in no additional treatment.**

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 radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity. Contaminants that may be present in water sources include microbes, pesticides, herbicides, organic or inorganic chemicals and radioactive materials. To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA (Environmental Protection Agency) and/or the Washington State Board of Health prescribes regulations that limits the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and/or the Washington State Department of Agriculture regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled 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 (EPA) **Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791)**.

**How to Read This Table:** The chart in this report provides representative analytical results of water samples collected from our system over the last 5 years. **We are required to test for many other contaminants but we only list the ones that were detected.**

**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 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, when exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow. For lead and copper, the AL is at the 90th percentile, thus 90% of the samples must be below the AL.

**ppm**= parts per million, **ppb**= parts per billion, **pCi/l**= picocuries per liter (a measure of radiation), **NA**= Not applicable, **umhos/cm**=micromhos



Contaminant	Date	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Detected	Major Sources of these Contaminants	Violation
<b>EPA and State Primary Contaminates</b>							
Nitrate	2019	ppm	10	10	0.17	Runoff from fertilizer use, leaching from septic tanks, sewage, erosion of natural deposits.	No
Beta	4/12/16	pCi/l	50	NA	2.4	Decay of natural and man-made deposits.	No
Radium 228	4/12/16	pCi/l	5	NA	0.58	Erosion of natural deposits.	No
Lead / Homes	2017	ppb	AL=15 At 90%	0	3 At 90%	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits.	No
Copper/ Homes	2017	ppb	AL=1300 At 90%	NA	282 At 90% A	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits, leaching from wood preservatives.	No
Hardness	2015	ppm	NA	NA	29.4	Erosion of natural deposits.	No
Conductivity	2015	Umhos/	700	NA	137	Natural occurring	No
<b>EPA and State Secondary Contaminates</b>							
Chlorine	2019	ppm	4	4	.45 to 1.51	(Range during Coliform sampling) Water additive used to control microbes.	No
Fluoride	2019 Ave.	ppm	2	ave	0.63	(annual average) Water additive which promotes strong teeth, Erosion of natural deposits, discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.	No
<b>Disinfection Byproducts Monitoring</b>							
TTHMs	2019	ppb	80	ave	28.08	By-product of drinking water chlorination. (sampled in distribution system quarterly)	No
HAA(5)	2019	ppb	60	ave	14.91	By-product of drinking water chlorination. (sampled in distribution system quarterly)	No
TOC average	2019	ppm	NA	4	0.50	Naturally present in the environment.	No
TTHM	2019	ppb	80	4	3.5	By-product of drinking water chlorination. 2019 Volatile Organic Compound.	
Chloroform	2019	ppb	80	4	2.7	By-product of drinking water chlorination. 2019 Volatile Organic Compound.	
Bromodichloro- methane	2019	ppb	80	4	0.8	By-product of drinking water chlorination. 2019 Volatile Organic Compound.	
<b>Unregulated EPA and State (Kelso participates in UCMRs)</b>							

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER  
Monitoring Requirements Not Met**

**Our water system has violated surface water treatment requirements. Even though these were not emergencies, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened and what we did to correct these situations.**

*We are required to monitor raw source water for both E. coli and Cryptosporidium under CFR 141.702. Results of monitoring are an indicator of biological contamination in the watershed. During 2016 and 2017 we did not complete E. coli monitoring and have therefore incurred a monitoring violation.*

**What should I do? There is nothing you need to do at this time.**

Monthly samples for both E. coli and Cryptosporidium were required for 24 months as a part of the Long Term 2 Enhance Surface Water Treatment Rule (LT2ESWTR). 24 Cryptosporidium samples were taken but no E. coli samples were taken. Sampling revealed minimal Cryptosporidium presence in our watershed, which was placed in the highest category (Bin 1).

**What happened? What is being done? Corrective actions are not warranted and so are not being completed.**

**Note. During the above sampling event and no E. coli samples were taken, during the sampling event 24 monthly Fecal samples were taken and were found to have no Fecal.**