

CITY OF EVERSON

2016 WATER QUALITY CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT

The City of Everson 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 Everson. 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. Last year, as in years past, your tap water met all EPA and State drinking water health standards. The City of Everson vigilantly safeguards its water supplies and once again, we are proud to report that our system has never violated a maximum contaminant level or any other water quality standard.

NOTICE: It is the responsibility of the property owner to provide this report to all tenants residing at the physical address.

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—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 Everson 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 or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

Drinking Water Source

Our water comes from the Strandell Well Field located about 3/4 miles southwest of downtown Everson. The water in the aquifer flows in a northerly direction toward the well field. We have 3 wells that draw from the Well field; wells #4, #5, and #6. Wells #4 & #5 draw from a shallow, unconfined aquifer underlain by glacial sand and gravel. Well #6 draws from a deeper aquifer (156 ft.). Deep well #6 is used as our primary source of 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 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 at: water.epa.gov/drink/hotline



2016 WATER QUALITY DATA

| Primary Contaminants | Violation Yes/No | Level Detected | Unit of Measurement | AL | MCL | Likely Source of Contamination |
|---|------------------|----------------|---------------------|-----|-----|---|
| Microbiological Contaminants | | | | | | |
| Coliform Bacteria | N | ND | MPN | | | Viruses and bacteria from human or animal waste |
| Fecal Coliform & E-coli | N | ND | MPN | | 0 | Human and animal fecal wastes |
| Inorganic Contaminants | | | | | | |
| Nitrate (Wells 4 & 5) | N | 4.6 | ppm | 5.0 | 10 | Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits |
| Nitrate (Well 6) | N | 1.0 | ppm | 5.0 | 10 | |
| Manganese | N | ND | ppm | | .05 | Naturally occurring |
| Synthetic Organic Contaminants including Pesticides and Herbicides | | | | | | |
| Pesticides (SOCs) | N | ND | ppb | | | Synthetic Organic Chemicals |
| Volatile Organic Contaminants | | | | | | |
| VOCs | N | ND | ppb | | | Byproducts of petroleum processes |
| Haloacetic Acids | N | 3.5 | ppb | | 60 | By-product of drinking water disinfection |
| Total Trihalomethanes | N | 9.4 | ppb | | 80 | By-product of drinking water disinfection |

In 2016 the City tested monthly for **coliform bacteria** at twelve rotating places in the system, and had **no detects**.

Thank you for taking the time to read this report. We ask that our customers help us protect our valuable water resources, which are the heart of the community, our way of life, and our children's future. We would also encourage all our water customers to conserve water usage by installing water-saving devices, eliminating leaks, and being prudent in outside water use.

Our water system serves all residents within the city limits of Everson, as well as the Everson Water Association, the Hampton Water Association, and as far south and including the Percy Hoekema farm on Emerson Road. This report can also be found on the City of Everson website at: www.ci.everson.wa.us. — Jim Glass, WDM 2, (360) 410-9396

Should I buy bottled water?

Water treatment providers, such as the City of Everson, test their water for more substances than the manufacturers of bottled water! City water meets all federal and state drinking water standards. You may enjoy the convenience of bottled water, but it can cost up to **1000 times more** than water from your tap. According to Co-op America, as much as 40% of bottled water is simply tap water, often with additional treatment, though not always. **If you use bottled water, consider it a food and refrigerate it after opening.** Questions about water quality can be directed to the city's laboratory at 360-966-0282.

We continue to strongly recommend that air expansion tanks be installed in the cold water supply lines just ahead of water heaters, if not already installed. This alleviates **thermal expansion** caused by your hot water tank, which can cause thermal pressure relief valves to leak, and even cause dangerous high pressure situations. Also, please be sure your relief valve is installed and in good working condition. It is recommended that hot water tanks are cleaned once a year. For more info, contact Jack Faulkner, Certified Building Official, at 360-966-3411.

NOTICE: We do **NOT** recommend the installation of **Tankless water heaters** using city water. The operation of this type of equipment causes deposits to clog the heaters and cause them to prematurely fail.

DEFINITIONS AND ACRONYMS

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL): The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCL's 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.

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

Parts Per Million (PPM): parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/l)

Parts Per Billion (PPB): parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (ug/l)

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

Voluntary Watering Schedule

June 1—September 15

| | |
|-----------|-----------------------|
| 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 |