

- ***Is my water safe?***

We are pleased to report the City of Goldendale received no violations within its water system in 2022. Samples are collected on a daily basis with continuous source monitoring via telemetry.

- ***Are there needs for special precautions?***

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immune-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).

- ***Where does my water come from?***

The long-standing source of Goldendale's water supply is a series of interconnected springs from five different areas within a 2 square mile area. The City of Goldendale also has 3 ground water well sources.

- ***Source water assessment and its availability***

Spring Source

The Simcoe Mountain Spring source has been the primary source of the City of Goldendale's drinking water since 1879. Updated periodically throughout its lifetime, major renovations began in 1996 and concluded in 2015. These renovations developed the springs to a high-water quality that removed all surface water influence and allowed for classification as a groundwater source. This classification allows for minimal treatment and only chlorination of the supply. Washington State Department of Health has grouped all redeveloped springs as one source.

Ground Water Sources

Developed in 2001 – 2002 Ground Water Source #7 & #8 consists of two wells located South of Goldendale. These wells are between 400'-700' deep. Development at this depth has eliminated the elevated levels of Nitrates found in shallow, alluvial wells of the surrounding area. However, there exists a level of calcium and magnesium, which while not harmful, can cause spotting on window, glassware, cars, etc.

Ground Water Source #4 is located North of Goldendale. This is Goldendale's primary backup source when spring source levels fall. The water quality of this source is excellent and has no elevated levels of calcium or magnesium.

- ***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 Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791). The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, wells, and springs such as ours. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and, in some areas of the country even radioactive material. It can also pick up substances and bacteriological contaminants resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity:

microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria that may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife. Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial, or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming. Pesticides and herbicides that may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses. Organic Chemical Contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals that are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems. Radioactive contaminants that can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities. In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the EPA and State Department of Health prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that must provide the same protection for public health. Municipal water supplies are more closely scrutinized and regulated than the bottled water industry.

- ***Pharmaceuticals and Drinking Water***

Protecting the health of our customers is our mission. While we understand that pharmaceuticals are an issue of interest, to date research has not demonstrated an impact on human health from pharmaceutical compounds at the trace levels discovered in drinking water. Our utility analyzes hundreds of samples every year to ensure the water we provide meets or surpasses Safe Drinking Water Act standards, which were created to protect customers.

Unfortunately, there is no "blanket" water test, and there are literally tens of thousands of individual compounds for which we could search. With the absence of any known health benefit and given the amount of resources required to conduct tests for pharmaceutical compounds, we have chosen not to conduct these tests in our community at this time.

We will continue to work closely with others in the drinking water community to advance the science and understanding of this issue and will take whatever steps are necessary to protect the health of our customers.

- **Cross Connections**

A cross connection is a point in a plumbing system where the potable water supply is connected to a non-potable source. Briefly, a cross connection exists whenever the drinking water system is or could be connected to any non-potable source (plumbing fixture, equipment used in any plumbing system). Pollutants or contaminants can enter the safe drinking water system through uncontrolled cross connections when backflow occurs.

Backflow is the unwanted flow of non-potable substances back into the consumer's plumbing system and/or public water system (i.e., drinking water).

Cross connections need to be controlled through the installation of an approved mechanical backflow prevention device or assembly. Some common cross connections found in plumbing and water systems include Wash Basins and Service Sinks, Hose Bibs, Irrigation Sprinkler Systems, Boilers, Fire Sprinkler Systems, etc.

For a backflow preventer to provide proper protection, it must be approved for backflow protection, designed for the degree of hazard and backflow it is controlling, installed correctly, and tested annually by a State certified tester.

For more information regarding cross connections or backflow devices please contact City Hall (509-773-3771).

- **Is my water treated?**

The City of Goldendale chlorinates its water supply. The Chlorine residual within your water supply is normally between 0.2 and 1.0 parts per million parts of water. Variances are based on your location within the distribution system. This is well below the maximum of 4.0 parts per million allowed by DOH and EPA. All water treatment is closely monitored by Department of Health to insure your protection. Chlorination is the only treatment necessary at any of the City's water sources. The City's water supply receives NO fluoride, or other chemical treatment or enhancement.

- **How can I get involved?**

If you feel you have a drinking water problem call us immediately, we respond day or night, **FREE OF CHARGE** to investigate any concerns or potential contamination sources, or if you notice any suspicious activity related to the City's water system (i.e., tankers parked at fire hydrants, unusual vehicles at water system sites, non-city vehicles or personnel working on public water services, etc), please report it to Public Works or the Police Department immediately. The following are contact numbers to call to report suspicious activity, or if you have concerns regarding your water.

Public Works Director or Administrative Assistant 509-773-3771

Police Dispatch (after hour emergencies) 509-773-4545 or 911

The city council meets on the first and third Mondays of the month at 1103 S. Columbus Ave. at 7:00 p.m. and appreciates both your comments and concerns. You may also visit the City of Goldendale website at www.ci.goldendale.wa.us

- **Water Restrictions**

As a result of having a variety of water sources to draw from, the City of Goldendale had an adequate water supply in 2022. No water restrictions were implemented during 2022 and we do not anticipate the need to implement any water restrictions within Goldendale during the year 2022. This is NOT a guarantee that water restrictions will not be necessary. The State of Washington requires supplies for fire and potable water be maintained to adequate levels, and conservation measures be implemented, if necessary. Any restrictions are foreseen as short-term temporary requirements with long term outside watering bans hopefully being a thing of the past. Because of security threats to public water supplies, major fires and unforeseen developments, emergency water restrictions prohibiting, or restricting water use would be announced on the radio, local T.V., and the newspaper. Information on the corresponding emergency would be available by contacting City Hall 773-3771 or City Police Department 773-3780.

- **Water Quality Data Table**

The table below lists all the drinking water contaminants that we were required to test for over the past year. 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 for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. There are several contaminants which are not present in our water and are listed as ND (Not Detectable). Some test results were over the state reporting level but not high enough to pose health risks. The State changes monitoring requirements or outlines action plans if results warrant and no 2022 test results fit that category.

- **Additional Information for Lead**

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. City of Goldendale is responsible for providing high quality drinking water but cannot control the variety of materials used in household 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

2023 WATER RESULTS:

Monthly Bacteriological Testing								
Microbiological Contaminants (units)	Result	MCLG	Avg.	Low	High	Date	Violation	Typical Source
Fecal Coliform (per 100ml)	0	0	<1.3	<1.0	<1.8	continuous	No	Livestock/Animal

Basse Well, GWS #7								
Contaminants (units)	Result	Units	SRL	TCL	MCL	Date	Violation	Typical Source
Nitrate	4.75	mg/L	0.5	5.0	10	7-5-22	No	Fertilizer/Leaching

Basse Well, GWS #8								
Contaminants (units)	Result	Units	SRL	TCL	MCL	Date	Violation	Typical Source
Nitrate	5.59	mg/L	0.1	5.0	10	4-21-21	No	Fertilizer/Leaching
Gross Alpha	< 3.00	pCi/L	3		15	10-3-22	No	Naturally occurring
Radium 228	0.102	pCi/L	1		5	10-3-22	No	Naturally occurring

Pipeline Well, GWS #10								
Contaminants (units)	Result	Units	SRL	TCL	MCL	Date	Violation	Typical Source
Nitrate	0.494	mg/L	0.5	5.0	10	9-14-22	No	Fertilizer/Leaching
Gross Alpha	< 3.0	pCi/L	3		15	9-14-22	No	Naturally occurring
Radium 228	0.177	pCi/L	1		5	9-14-22	No	Naturally occurring

Mountain Springs, GWS #6								
Contaminants (units)	Result	Units	SRL	TCL	MCL	Date	Violation	Typical Source
Nitrate	0.448	mg/l	0.5	5.0	10	10-3-22	No	Fertilizer/Leaching

Disinfection Bi-Products, GWS #6								
Contaminants (units)	Result	Units	Reporting Level	Action Level	Date	Violation	Typical Source	
THM	1.75	ug/l	0.5	80	9/14/22	No	Chlorine reaction w/ organics	
Haloacetic Acids	ND	ug/l	0.5	60	9/14/22	No	Chlorine reaction w/ organics	

Distribution System								
Contaminants (units)	Result	Units	Reporting Level	Action Level	Date	Violation	Typical Source	
Lead	0.00275	mg/l	0.001	0.015	7-11-22	No	Household Fixtures	
Copper	0.0757	mg/l	0.20	1.3	7-11-22	No	Household Fixtures	

• Important Drinking Water Definitions:

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.

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL): The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLG as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

Trigger Contaminant Level (TCL): The level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water before additional testing is required. MCLs are set as close to the MCLG as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

State Reporting Level (SRL): The level of contaminant that is allowed before reporting to the state.

LAB MDA: minimum detectable amount

THM: Trihalomethanes

VOC: Volatile Organic compounds

ND: Not Detectable

pCi/L : pCi is a measure of the rate of radioactive decay of radon

For more information contact:

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GOLDENDALE PUBLIC WORKS

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