

Orting 15 2020
State ID: 047783
Water Quality Report

Northwest Water Systems is pleased to present you with the annual Water Quality Report on behalf of Orting 15 as required by the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). This report is a snapshot of last years' Water Quality and the purpose is to provide you with details about where your water comes from, what it contains and how it compares to standards set by regulatory agencies. Safe drinking water is essential, and we are committed to informing you so that you can make personal health-based decisions regarding your drinking water consumption and become more involved in decisions which may affect your health. We hope you find this information helpful.



Orting 15 receives its water from 1 groundwater well. Well #1 is 171 feet deep and provides 45 GPM.

Contaminants in 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. In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations that limit the number 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. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA's Safe Drinking Water hotline (1-800-426-4791).

Sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) can 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, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animal or human activity.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include: **MICROBIAL CONTAMINANTS:** such as viruses, parasites, and bacteria that may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems and agricultural livestock operations or wildlife. **INORGANIC CONTAMINANTS:** such as salts and metals, which can occur naturally or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining and farming. **PESTICIDES AND HERBICIDES:** which may come from various 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. They can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems. Radioactive contaminants, which can occur naturally or result from oil and gas production and mining activities. **SOURCE PROTECTION INFORMATION:** The Department of Health Office of Drinking Water has compiled Source Water Assessment Program (SWAP) data for all community water systems in Washington State. SWAP data your system online at <https://fortress.wa.gov/doh/swap/index.html>

Water Quality Data

Your drinking water is regularly tested in accordance with all federal and state regulations for over 50 substances in both the water sources and throughout the distribution system. In 2020, **Orting 15** conducted over 100 tests for the parameter listed below. Only those substances that were detected are included in the water quality summary.

Inorganic Chemicals	Units	Year Tested	MCL	MCLG	Your Results	Violation?	Major Sources in Drinking Water
Nitrate	Ppm	2020	10	10	1.42	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tank sewage; erosion of natural deposits.
Arsenic	Ppb	2019	0.0104	10	0.0010	No	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards, glass and electronic production wastes.
Primary Contaminants	Units	Year Tested	AL	90 th Percentile	Samples <AL	Violation?	Major Sources in Drinking Water
Copper	Ppm	2019	0.0200	0.02	0 of 5	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits.
Lead	Ppb	2019	0.0010	0.02	0 of 5	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits.
Table 2: Secondary Contaminants:	Units	Year Tested	SMCL	SMCLG	Your Water	Violation?	Major Sources in Drinking Water
Iron	Ppm	2019	250	1	1.47	No	Leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
Manganese	Ppm	2019	2	.05	0.01	No	Discharge of drilling wastes, metal refineries and erosion of natural deposits.
Hardness	ppm	2019	NA	NA	71.0	No	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Conductivity	µmhos/cm	2019	700	256	170.3	No	Substances that form natural deposits
Sodium	ppm	2019	5.0	NA	6.4	No	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Turbidity	NTU	2019	NA	0.32	11.97	No	Soil Runoff

Lead in Drinking Water: 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. **Orting 15** 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 online at: <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>

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

Glossary

Please note samples have different compliant periods; results in this table reflect the most up to date results with DOH.

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.

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.

AL (Action Level): The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.

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.

Secondary Maximum Contaminant Level (SMCL): These standards are developed as guidelines to protect the aesthetic qualities of drinking water and are not health based.

IOC (Inorganic Chemicals): Mineral-based compounds.

Ppm: Parts per million

Ppb: Parts per billion

N/A: Not applicable

µmhos/cm: Micromhos per centimeter.

NTU: Nephelometric turbidity units

Cryptosporidium: A microorganism commonly found in lakes and rivers which is highly resistant to disinfection. Cryptosporidium has caused several large outbreaks of gastrointestinal illness, with symptoms that include diarrhea, and/or stomach cramps. People with severely weakened immune systems are likely to have more severe and more persistent symptoms than healthy individuals.