

2009 City of Cle Elum Consumer Confidence Report

Is my water safe?

Last year, as in years past, your tap water met all U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and state drinking water health standards. The City of Cle Elum 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.

Do I need to take 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 Cle Elum and Yakima River watersheds bring your drinking water to the South Cle Elum Pump Station, where it is pumped from the river to the Cle Elum Water Treatment Plant for processing.

Source water assessment and its availability

The Cle Elum and Yakima Rivers are relatively clean and plentiful drinking water sources.

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, 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 animals or from human activity. » Microbial Contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which 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 stormwater runoff, industrial, or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming. » Pesticides and Herbicides, which 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, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems. » Radioactive Contaminants, which 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, EPA prescribes regulations which 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?

Stop by City Hall at 119 West 1st, or call at 509-674-2262. The City Staff will be happy to assist you.

Backflow Prevention Assembly Information

Per the City of Cle Elum Comprehensive Water Plan, and WAC 246.290.490, all irrigation systems within the city limits, supplied by City of Cle Elum treated water, require a Backflow Prevention Device. That device shall be an approved Double Check Assembly, or Atmospheric Vacuum Break. These devices will be tested yearly by the property owner, at the property owner's expense, and a copy of the results sent to the Department of Public Works in Cle Elum. Failure to comply with these guidelines could result in termination of water services.

Monitoring and reporting violations

The City of Cle Elum had one violation for the Surface Water Treatment Rule (SWTR), due to a worn chemical feed pump. The pump was replaced. Due to a formula in the monthly report to DOH, a low Inactivation Ratio was determined. All chemical levels were within DOH guidelines, but a violation was issued. There was no health hazard. This happened on December 5 and 9 of 2009.

Surface water treatment rule filtration and disinfection violations

Inadequately treated water may contain disease-causing organisms. These organisms include bacteria, viruses, and parasites, which can cause symptoms such as nausea, cramps, diarrhea, and associated headaches.

Lead & copper rule violations

The City of Cle Elum had no violations.

Violations of treatment techniques for Acrylamide/Epichlorohydrin

The City of Cle Elum had no violations.

Recordkeeping violations

The City of Cle Elum had no violations.

Violations of terms of variance, exemption, or administrative or judicial order

The City of Cle Elum had no violations.

Summary of Cryptosporidium monitoring-results

Cryptosporidium is a microbial pathogen found in surface water throughout the U.S. Although filtration removes cryptosporidium, the most commonly-used filtration methods cannot guarantee 100 percent removal. Our monitoring indicates the presence of these organisms in our source water and/or finished water. Current test methods do not allow us to determine if the organisms are dead or if they are capable of causing disease. Ingestion of cryptosporidium may cause cryptosporidiosis, an abdominal infection. Symptoms of infection include nausea, diarrhea, and abdominal cramps. Most healthy individuals can overcome the disease within a few weeks. However, immune-compromised people are at greater risk of developing life-threatening illness. We encourage immune-compromised individuals to consult their doctor regarding appropriate precautions to take to avoid infection. Cryptosporidium must be ingested to cause disease, and it may be spread through means other than drinking water.

Espanol (Spanish)

Este informe contiene informacion muy importante sobre la calidad de su agua beber. Traduscalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

Water Quality Data

The table below lists all of the drinking water contaminants that we 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 for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. Some of the data though representative of the water quality, may be more than one year old.

Terms and Abbreviations used below:

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: 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.

Variances and Exemptions: State or EPA permission not to meet an MCL or a treatment technique under certain conditions.

Contaminant(s) (units)	MCLG	MCL	Your Water	Range Low High	Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
ICR Disinfection By-Products							
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (µg/L)	NR	NR	15.7	N/A		No	
Volatile Organic Contaminants							
TTHMs [Total Trihalomethanes] (ppb)	0	100	11			No	By-product of drinking water chlorination

Units Description:

ppb: parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (µg/l)

Results of radon monitoring

Radon is a radioactive gas that you can't see, taste, or smell. It is found throughout the U.S. Radon can move up through the ground and into a home through cracks and holes in the foundation. Radon can build up to high levels in all types of homes. Radon can also get into indoor air when released from tap water from showering, washing dishes, and other household activities. Compared to radon entering the home through soil, radon entering the home through tap water will in most cases be a small source of radon in indoor air. Radon is a known human carcinogen. Breathing air containing radon can lead to lung cancer. Drinking water containing radon may also cause increased risk of stomach cancer. If you are concerned about radon in your home, test the air in your home. Testing is inexpensive and easy. Fix your home if the level of radon in your air is 4 picocuries per liter of air (pCi/L) or higher. There are simple ways to fix a radon problem that aren't too costly. For additional information, call your state radon program or call EPA's Radon Hotline (800-SOS-RADON).

For more information contact:

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