

# **Ponderosa Community Club Annual Drinking Water Quality Report For the Year 2014**

We're pleased to present to you this year's Annual Water Quality Report. This report is designed to inform you about our water quality and the water services we deliver to you every day. We are committed to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water distribution process and protect our water resources.

## **2014 Water Quality Summary**

In compliance with Federal and State laws, the Ponderosa Community Club, Inc. routinely monitors for contaminants in your drinking water. One test is for coliform bacteria and we take two test samples each month. No coliform bacteria were detected except for the month of September: one of the two tests was positive for the presence of coliform. As specified by the Department of Health, we took five (5) additional samples within 24 hours of the original two samples. These tests showed that no coliform or E.coli were present. All monthly coliform tests since then have been satisfactory.

Apart from the coliform tests, all the other water tests we performed met all U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and State drinking water health standards. Any substances detected in our water were at levels acceptable by State requirements. No violation of any contaminant level (except for the one September positive coliform test) or violation of any other water quality standard has been issued.

## **How can I get more information?**

The Ponderosa Community Club, Inc. (PCC) in Plain, Washington, owns and operates your water system (DOH Water System ID #684173.) We want our members to be informed about their water utility. If you have any questions about this report, please contact a Ponderosa Board Member, the Association Manager, or our Water Distribution Manager, Ken Severance, at (509) 763-0320. All PCC members may attend any of our regularly scheduled Board of Trustee meetings to discuss water quality issues. They are held on the second Saturday of every month at 10:30 AM in the Ponderosa Clubhouse. Information on our water system is also available on our web site at [www.ponderosacommunityclub.org](http://www.ponderosacommunityclub.org).

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

Our water source consists of six (6) wells in an aquifer, which runs through the Wenatchee River drainage basin. This basin is within what is called the Chiwaukum Graben fault line, which extends from about 10 miles north of Lake Wenatchee to about 5 miles south of the city of Wenatchee. The Department of Health (DOH) drinking water source identification numbers for our system are S05 and S08.

## **Source Water Assessment**

A Well Head Protection study is available for review at the Ponderosa office. This study provides information on well site conditions and the geology of the area. In addition, the DOH has developed a Source Water Assessment Program (SWAP) for all community water systems (such as PCC) within Washington State. This information is available online at <http://www.doh.wa.gov/ehp/dw/sw/assessment.htm>

### **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 (EPA) Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791). 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. 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, agricultural livestock operations, or 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**, which 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, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production. They can also come from gas stations, urban storm water 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, the Department of Health and EPA prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and the Washington Department of Agriculture regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

### **Additional Information for 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. Ponderosa Community Club, Inc. 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>. We also perform Lead and Copper test as required by the Department of Health. If you are interested in having your water tap tested, please contact the Ponderosa office at (509) 763-0320.

### **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 (1-800-426-4791).

### **PCC Water Use and Conservation Tips**

In 2014, the Ponderosa Community Club produced approximately 29,330,883 gallons of water, which was greater than the 12,394,000 produced in 2013. Contributing factors for the increase in water production include high water usage during the 2014 wildfire, private residence leaks, and a leaking pressure reducing valve.

Please help conserve water through practices such as watering your lawn at the least sunny times of the day, fixing toilet leaks, and fixing faucet leaks. Additional ways to conserve water include the following: take short showers – a 5 minute shower uses 12 - 13 gallons of water compared to up to 50 gallons for a bath; turn the faucet off while brushing your teeth and shaving - 3 gallons go down the drain per minute; teach your kids about water conservation to ensure a future generation that uses water wisely - make it a family effort to reduce your water usage!

### **Water Quality Data Table**

The table below lists all of the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the calendar year of this report. Some data presented in this table is from testing done in previous years because the EPA, or the State, requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year, but we must still report the results of the latest test performed. The presence of contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk.

We also post the monthly water test results on the bulletin board outside the office. If you would like to see all of our testing results, please contact Ken Severance at the Ponderosa office.

## Water Quality Data Table

We test monthly for coliform bacteria: each sample tested satisfactory, except for one of the two September samples, as noted in the **2014 Water Quality Summary on page 1**. In 2014, we tested for 25 IOC's (inorganic contaminants): none were detected in amounts that exceeded the regulatory AL or MCL. Fluoride is an IOC which is reported separately below. In 2014, we also tested for lead and copper. Neither was detected in amounts that exceeded the regulatory Action Level (AL). In 2012, we tested for 28 VOC's (volatile organic contaminants) and for Radionuclides (Gross Alpha): none were detected in your water.

<u>Contaminants</u>	<u>MCLG</u>	<u>SRL</u>	<u>AL</u>	<u>MCL or TT</u>	<u>Your Water</u>	<u>Range</u>	<u>Sample Date</u>	<u>Violation</u>	<u>Typical Source</u>
Nitrate as nitrogen (mg/L)	10	2	--	10	1.07*	0.45-1.07	2014	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.
IOC's	--			--	ND	ND	2014	No	
VOC's	--			--	ND	ND	2012	No	
Lead (mg/L)	--	0.001	0.015	NA	0.00709*	0.0004-0.00709	2014	No	Household plumbing
Copper (mg/L)	--	0.02	1.3	NA	0.346*	0.0471-0.346	2014	No	Erosion of natural deposits, household plumbing
Flouride (mg/L)	--	0.5		4	0.12	NA	2014	No	Flouride is not a contaminant
Radionuclides	--			--	ND	ND	2012	No	

<b>Unit Descriptions</b>	
<b>Term</b>	<b>Definition</b>
ppm	ppm: parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/L)
mg/L	Milligrams per liter
NA	NA: not applicable
ND	ND: Not detected
*	Highest number in reported range
<b>Important Drinking Water Definitions</b>	
<b>Term</b>	<b>Definition</b>
MCLG	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.
SRL	State Reporting Level: The minimum reporting level established by the Washington State Department of Health.
MCL	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.
TT	TT: Treatment Technique: A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
AL	AL: Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.