CITY OF TOPPENISH WATER DEPARTMENT

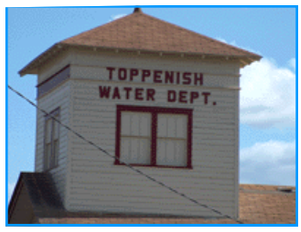
Consumer Confidence Report 2015

Este informe contiene información importante sobre su agua potable. Debe ser traducido por alguien que habla bien Inglés.

Meeting the Challenge

The City of Toppenish is proud to present our annual Consumer Confidence Report, which keeps our residents informed of their water quality. This report includes the results of water sampling performed between January 1 and December 31, 2015.

Over the years, we have dedicated ourselves to producing drinking water that meets all state and federal standards. We continually strive to adopt new methods for delivering the best quality drinking water to you. As new challenges to drinking water safety emerge, we remain vigilant in meeting the goals of source water protection, water conservation, and community education while continuing to serve the needs of all our water users. We encourage you to share your thoughts or concerns about this report with us. After all, well-informed customers are our best allies.



2015 System Improvements

In May - June 2015, the City of Toppenish conducted a Water Improvement Project on Lincoln and Franklin Avenues. The project consisted of water line upgrades, new butterfly and gate valves, hydrants, and service connections to upgrade undersized and aging infrastructure.

Drive Safe this Summer

A tragic event was in the headlines at few years ago—A traffic flagger in a work zone was hit and killed by a speeding car, leaving behind a young family. The driver of the car was not physically hurt; his only injury was to his psyche. Without a doubt, he will be dealing with the consequences of his carelessness for the rest of his life. What a sad and senseless story. Each utility worker or flagger out there is part of a family; someone loves them and is probably waiting for them to come home. When that young father did not come home that day, the landscape of many lives was changed forever.

Driving is not the time to multitask. Distracted driving is an epidemic in today's gadget-focused culture. In this age of instant gratification and amazing technology, we sometimes forget what's truly important. We are also guilty of thinking "That can't happen to me" or "Replying to this text will just take a second"… please, don't make that mistake again. Whatever it is, it can wait. If it can't wait, you can always pull over. Make wise decisions for yourself and the people that love and depend on you.

In 2014, auto accidents in work zones resulted in 669 fatalities and about 30,500 injuries in the US. Drive safe this Summer by being smart, careful and respectable... especially in road construction and utility work zones.

This report was prepared for the City of Toppenish by Backflow Management Inc. © 2016

Our Drinking Water Source

Toppenish derives its drinking water from six deep wells: Well #3, Well #5, Well #6, Well #7, Well #8 and Well #9. These pump groundwater to four storage reservoirs (two elevated water storage reservoirs and two standpipe reservoirs). These reservoirs help to protect the City's estimated 9,000 residents, businesses and visitors during fire, power outages, and high water-use periods. Water is carried from the wells, treated with fluoride then disinfected with chlorine. Residual chlorine levels in the distribution system are checked daily to ensure that the amount of chlorine utilized is effective while remaining at the safe levels determined by the EPA. Finally, the water travels from the reservoirs to you through approximately 34.14 miles of water distribution piping.

Water Use Efficiency Program Update

The Water Use Efficiency (WUE) Rule was established by the Washington Department of Health to better manage the state's limited water resources. The Rule requires water systems to establish a program to ensure that water is used wisely and efficiently. The City of Toppenish has a responsibility to educate the public on conservation and to be able to account for at least 90% of the water it produces. In 2015, we were able to account for 87.1% of the water that we produced. You can help us reach our WUE goals by conserving water whenever possible. The WUE Program will not have an impact unless both the City and our water customers work together. Thank you for doing your part!

Cross Connection Control

The City of Toppenish ensures the quality of your drinking water with a *Cross Connection Control Program* (CCCP). Cross connections are links between drinking water piping and any plumbing or equipment through which it may be possible for used water or other substances to enter (or *backflow*) into the public water supply. Our CCCP helps control backflow and cross connections by identifying and eliminating unsafe situations or practices; however, a large part of the success of the CCCP depends on the cooperation of our City's property owners.

Each individual property owner is responsible for maintaining their plumbing system according to the plumbing code and state regulations. This includes preventing or eliminating cross connections. If you have a lawn irrigation system, fertilizer hose attachment or any other type of water-using equipment, you have a cross connection and should be taking measures to prevent backflow. Many of these household cross connections require the installation of mechanical units called *backflow prevention assemblies*. These units, when properly installed, tested and maintained, prevent used water or substances from flowing backward.

If you have questions about cross connections, or plan on installing a backflow prevention assembly, you are encouraged to contact Toppenish Water Department/ Public Works at (509) 865-4500.

WATER QUALITY DATA TABLE FOR 2015

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regulates the frequency of sampling for various contaminants. The data presented in this table is from testing conducted in 2015. The table may also include any other results within the last five years for analyses that were not required in the year 2015.

Contaminants (units)	MCLG	MCL	Range Low-High, or Result	Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
Inorganic Contaminants						
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	0.82—.99	Monthly 2015	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
Nitrate (ppm)	10	10	0.05—2.33	2015	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.
Nitrite (ppm)	1	1	0.05—0.07	2013	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.
Disinfection By-Products						
HAA5 [Haloacetic Acids] (ppb)	0	60	ND	July 2015	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
TTHM [Total Trihalomethanes] (ppb)	0	80	ND—6.9	July 2015	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
Lead and Copper	**MCLG**	**AL**	90th Percentile			
Lead (ppb) 25 samples, 0 were over the AL	0	15	1.5	July 2015	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits.
Copper (ppm) 25 samples, 0 were over the AL	1.3	1.3	0.0163	July 2015	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits.

TERMS & ABBREVIATIONS

Aesthetic effect: An undesirable taste, odor or cosmetic effect which does not pose a health risk.

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

Contaminant: A word used to describe anything detected in the drinking water supply. This term is commonly used in the drinking water industry and should not necessarily invite concern, as all drinking water contains trace amounts of minerals and other substances.

MCL: Maximum Contaminant Level: The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCL's are set as close to the MCLG's 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. MCLG's allow for a margin of safety.

n/a: not applicable.

ND: Not Detected: Lab analysis indicates that the contaminant is not present or not detectable with the best available technology.

ppb: Parts per billion, or micrograms per liter. For example, 1 ppb is 1 second out of 32 years; 1 penny in $10,000,000.

ppm: Parts per million, or milligrams per liter. For example, 1 ppm is 1 second out of 12 days; 1 penny in $10,000.

Range: The lowest (minimum) amount of contaminant detected and the highest (maximum) amount detected during a sample period.

90th percentile: The level reported represents the 90th percentile value of the 25 sites sampled. The result reported indicates that out of the 25 homes sampled, 23 were at or below this level.

Important Health Information

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least trace amounts of some "contaminants". The presence of these do not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons, such as persons 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. Environmental Protection Agency/Centers for Disease Control (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 at (800)426-4791.

Public Participation Opportunity

Our water customers are welcome to attend and participate in City Council meetings. Meetings are held at 7:00 PM on the second and fourth Monday of every month at City Hall in the Council chambers, located at 21 West First Ave.

CONTACT:

Toppenish Water Department/Public Works (509) 865-4500

Washington Department of Health (509) 329-2100

US EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800) 426-4791

The Effects of 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.

The City of Toppenish 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 two 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 are available from the US EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791 or at their web site www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.