

Consumer Confidence Report

2020

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 most recent water sampling test results. Over the years, we have dedicated ourselves to producing drinking water that meets all state and federal standards. 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.

Este informe contiene información importante sobre su agua potable. Póngase en contacto con el departamento de obras públicas para obtener una copia en español.

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 Wells 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 and fluoride levels in the distribution system are checked daily to ensure that the amounts of chlorine and fluoride utilized are 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 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 2020, we were able to account for 86% of the water that we produced.** Which, brings our three year running average to 89.5%. You can help us maintain our success by using water wisely. With your support, the WUE Program can have a true and lasting impact.

Thank You!

Water System Improvements

In 2020 the City of Toppenish made improvements to the City's infrastructure despite COVID-19 restrictions.

- Eleven water services and three fire hydrants were replaced.
- Portions of North D Street AC water mains were replaced with ductile iron piping during Phase IV of the Sewer Improvements Project.



The Effect of COVID-19 on the Water Industry

The COVID-19 pandemic has caused numerous hardships, inconveniences and frustrations in the service industry. At times it was challenging to find goods like toilet paper or certain foods, however, at no point should anyone have been concerned water would not reach their tap.

Operators and members of the public works departments worked diligently throughout the pandemic and made sure clean, safe, and adequate drinking water reached everyone's home and business.



The Effect 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 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 (800)426-4791 or on their website www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.



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.

A Note about Fluoride

Although we're not mandated to fluoridate by The Department of Health (DOH) or The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), our city voted to maintain fluoride levels recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

The city wells contain naturally-occurring levels of fluoride and we add a little bit more to the water from each well to increase the level to the concentration recommended. At the recommended levels, fluoride can help keep tooth enamel strong and can help prevent cavities (tooth decay) in children and adults. Community water fluoridation has been shown to save money for both families and the health care system. The treated water fluoride level in 2020 ranged from 0.38 mg/L to 0.76 mg/L.

Want to get involved ?

City council meetings are held on the following schedule:

- 1st Monday of every month at 5:00 pm - Study Session.
- 2nd Monday of every month at 7:00 pm - Regular Council Meeting.
- 4th Monday of every month at 7:00 pm - Regular Council Meeting.



Do you have questions
about this report or your
drinking water?

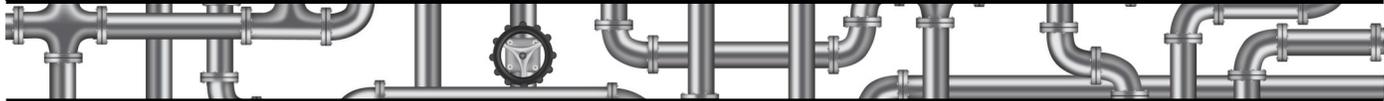


City of Toppenish Public Works/Water Division (509) 865-4500
Washington Department of Health (509) 329-2100 US-EPA
Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800) 426-4791

2020 WATER QUALITY DATA TABLE

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regulates the frequency of sampling for various contaminants. The data presented in this table is from testing conducted in 2020. The table may also include any other results within the last five years for analyses that were not required in the year 2020

Contaminants (units)	MCLG	MCL	Range Low-High or Result	Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
Inorganic Contaminants						
Arsenic (ppb)	0	10	0.2 - 0.9	Aug 2019	No	Found in natural aquifer deposits
Nitrate (ppm)	10	10	0.08 - 2.6	Sep. 2020	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Manganese (ppm)	n/a	0.05	ND - 0.107	Jul - Nov 2019	No	Naturally occurring in surface water, ground water, and soils that may erode into these waters
Iron (ppm)	n/a	0.3	0.001 - 0.332	Jul - Nov 2019	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems
Disinfection By-Products						
HAA5 (Haloacetic Acids) (ppb)	0	60	ND	July 2020	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
TTHM (Total Trihalomethanes) (ppb)	0	80	5.83	July 2020	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
Lead and Copper (Distribution)						
	MCLG	AL	90th Percentile			
Lead (ppb) 20 samples	0	15	ND	July 2018	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Copper (ppm) 20 samples	1.3	1.3	0.04	July 2018	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits



TERMS & ABBREVIATIONS

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. 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.

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.

ppm: Parts per million, or milligrams per liter.

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

90th percentile: Out of every 30 homes sampled, 27 were at or below this level. One site exceeded the state trigger level of 0.6 ppb. A trigger level is set as a caution and does not necessarily indicate a health hazard. It may indicate that additional sampling is required.

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.