

# OCHOCO WEST WATER & SANITARY AUTHORITY

5488 NW PRINE ROAD

PRINEVILLE, OR 97754

## Drinking Water Report 2023 Sampling Results

### THIS IS OUR ANNUAL CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT (CCR)

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua beber.

Tradúzcalo ó hable cona alguien que lo entienda bien.

#### We provide quality drinking water that meets all Federal and State requirements.

During recent years we have sampled many different chemicals for contamination. Contamination is anything other than pure water. We sample total coliform bacteria as an indicator of microorganisms (bacteria, viruses and other small creatures) that should not be present. The table below lists all the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the past calendar year or in our most recent tests as noted. 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 a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling 541-447-1934 or U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

EPA's website is [www.epa.gov/safewater](http://www.epa.gov/safewater)

#### Terms and Abbreviations

**Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG):** 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. **IDEAL GOAL**

**Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL):** 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. **HIGHEST LEVEL ALLOWED**

**Action Level (AL):** the concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow. **na:** not applicable **nd:** not detectable at testing limit **ppm:** parts per million or milligrams per liter (1 drop in 1 million gallons) **ppb:** parts per billion or micrograms per liter (1 drop in 1 billion gallons) **pCi/L:** picocuries per liter (a measure of radiation).

Regulated Contaminant	MCLG	MCL	Our Water	Sample Date	Exceedance/ Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
Lead (ppb)	0	15AL	7.7	9-21-22	No	Corrosive water & home plumbing
Copper (ppm)	1.3	1.3AL	0.207	9-21-22	No	Corrosive water & home plumbing
Arsenic (ppb)	0	10	3.02	1-25-23	No	Natural deposits, orchards, glass & electronic production wastes
Nitrate (ppm)	10	10	1.4	6-16-21	No	Naturally occurring
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) (ppb)	na	80	13.5	8-25-22	No	Disinfection byproduct

### VIOLATION

State records indicate our system did not complete the required contaminant sampling to remain in compliance for Nitrate. We are currently working with the state, and returned to compliance March 28, 2024.

The Drinking Water Program has identified criteria for determining whether a community public water system has provided safe water to the public and should be considered to have "Outstanding Performance." Ochoco West Water & Sanitary Authority received this designation on October 30, 2013 AND again on March 6, 2018!

Your drinking water comes from ground water.

We have 5 springs. Our aquifer is called Deschutes Basin.

## SOURCE WATER ASSESSMENT

The State of Oregon has completed this assessment plan for our springs which includes a map of where the water comes from, possible sources of contamination, and a review of the susceptibility of the source for contamination. This plan is available for public review

**Sources of drinking water:** both tap water and bottled water originate as "surface water" from rivers and lakes or as "ground water" from springs and wells. As water travels over the surface of land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally-occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material. Water picks up wastes from both human and animal activities. Surface water is usually filtered and disinfected to remove bacteria, viruses, and protozoa. Ground water is usually filtered naturally.



### **Contaminants that may be present include:**

**Microbial** contaminants such as bacteria, viruses, and protozoa are very small living creatures that may be natural and harmless or harmful if originating from septic systems, agricultural livestock operations or wildlife.

**Inorganic** contaminants such as heavy metals can be naturally-occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges.

**Pesticides and herbicides** may come from agriculture and residential uses.

**Radioactive** contaminants are naturally occurring.

**Organic chemical** contaminants are usually man-made (synthetic) and vaporize easily (volatile). Petroleum products and degreasers are examples of gas station and dry cleaner waste transported by storm water and sewers.

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

**EPA ensures that tap water is safe to drink** by writing regulations that limits both natural and man-made contaminants. We follow both state and federal regulations. Interstate bottled water is regulated by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

## HEALTH TIP

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. Our system 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 & steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

## MONTHLY MEETINGS

2<sup>ND</sup> Tuesday\*\*\*6 p.m.\*\*\*Community Hall

If you have any questions or in emergencies, please call:

Office Phone: 541-447-1934