

2008
Town of Twisp
Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

The Water We Drink

We're very pleased to provide you with this year's Annual Quality Water Report. We want to keep you informed about the excellent water and services we have delivered to you over the past year. Our goal is and always has been, to provide to you a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. Our water comes from wells drilled about 100 feet into the underground aquifer. We currently have two wells in service.

I'm pleased to report that our drinking water is safe and meets federal and state requirements.

Should any of you have questions about our water or water system please contact David Hunter or Randy Johnson at 997-1311, voice mail is available and we return all calls or Town Hall at 997-4081. Public Works hours are from 7:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. with lunch between 12:00 - 1:00 Monday through Friday or you may contact Tom Justus with Washington State Dept. of Health at 509-456-3183.

Your Mayor is Stephanie Hickman council members are Vicki Hollowell, Tom Gehring, Clint Estes (Mayor Pro-tem), Tina di Rienzo and Tom Mulgrew, they meet the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at Town Hall. You are welcome to attend these meetings.

The Town of Twisp routinely monitors for constituents in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. Test results of our monitoring for the period of January 1st to December 31st 2008 were all satisfactory copies of these test results are available upon request. During 2008 the Town of Twisp tested Well #2, for 38 parameters for Inorganic Compounds, Total Nitrates, and Nitrite. The Town started their new Coliform monitoring plan on May 5, 2008 now we have targeted sites throughout town for compliance to Washington State Department of Health Regulations.

The Town was given susceptibility and monitoring waiver for the two wells we currently have in service, due to the lower possibilities of contamination, they are rated as moderate.

Terms and abbreviations used on test results are as follows:

Maximum Containment 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

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. Action Level (AL): the concentration of a contaminant which, when exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

n/a: not applicable * nd: not detectable at testing limit * ppb: parts per billion or micrograms per liter * ppm: parts per million or milligrams per liter * pCi/l: picocuries per liter (a measurement of radiation).

As water travels over the land or underground, it can pick up substances or contaminants such as microbes, inorganic and organic chemicals, and radioactive substances. All drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some constituents. It's important to remember that the presence of these constituents does not necessarily pose a health risk.

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. Their presents do not necessarily indicate that the water poses any health risks. More information about contaminants and potential health risks can be obtained by calling EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 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 moves over the surfaces of the land or through the ground it dissolves naturally-occurring minerals and in some cases, radio-active material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or human activity.

About Nitrate: Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 10ppm (parts per million) is a health risk for infants of less than six months of age. High nitrate levels in drinking water can cause blue baby syndrome. Nitrate levels may rise quickly for short periods of time because of rainfall or agricultural activities. If you are caring for an infant, you should ask for advice from your health care provider. Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

~ Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from wastewater 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 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 and residential uses.

~ Radioactive contaminants, which are naturally occurring.

~ Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production and can also, be from gas stations, urban storm water runoff and septic systems.

In order to ensure tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems our water meets those regulations. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

Construction of a new Booster station and installation of new water lines at Painters addition is set to begin the first week in July. This should solve the Low Pressure problem and increase fire flow.

Last summer the Town Re-Constructed Second Avenue from SR 20 to Town Limits. The road was completely redone sidewalks were added as well as new water mains.

The Town also completed improvements of the non potable water system at the wastewater treatment plant, eliminating the need for us to use city water at the facility thus allowing the town to lift the water moratorium.

We are classified as Green on our Dept. of Health Operating permit due to our Comprehensive Water Plan that was enacted in June of 2007.

Should you have any questions regarding this report or anything else to do with Public Works please feel free to contact us at 997-1311.

Respectfully,

David Hunter
Water Distribution Manager _____ Date _____

Randy Johnson,
P.W. Superintendent _____ Date _____

Comments from Mayor Hickman:

We are very fortunate to have the quality of drinking water in our Town and over the last few years we have made important steps to improving the infrastructure of our system. Hopefully, in the future we will continue to make great strides in our continuing efforts to improve our water quality for all the residents of Twisp.

I congratulate all our staff and their continuing hard work and dedication for the citizens that they serve. We have a successful team and I invite all the public to visit our Town Hall and see the devotion and loyalty our current staff and council play in their vital roles for the best interest of all the citizens.

The Town has accomplished great things over the last few years and I congratulate all those involved in making important changes in our Town Hall that was vital to the success of changing the importance of accountability back to Town Hall.