



Agate Water System

Drinking Water
Quality Report
2017

Welcome to our 2017 Annual Water Quality Report. Agate Water System continues to meet, or exceed, all state and federal standards and regulations. Our company thrives on providing the highest quality water possible for our customers and future generations.

How to access more information on our water system

On the internet type in <https://yourwater.oregon.gov/>, under the blue box that has Drinking Water Program choose WS ID Look up, in the box type in 01439 and click View Results. You can scroll to the bottom and choose options to browse information for Agate Water System.



Our Water

Our groundwater wells are recharged by precipitation infiltrating the soil surface, then percolates deep into the ground to recharge the aquifers. Water travels through the ground and is filtered naturally underground. The water is then pumped from the ground and piped to your home for drinking.

An Important Message from the Environmental Protection Agency

The sources of (both tap 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 and human activity.

Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage 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, comes from agricultural, urban storm-water runoff, and residential uses.

Organic Chemical Contaminants, synthetic and volatile organic chemicals are byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production, and also from gas stations, urban storm-water runoff, and septic systems.

Radioactive Contaminants, Naturally occurring or the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

Drinking water and bottled water may 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 Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

Important Information About Water and Your Health

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. For more information call the Safe Drinking Water Hot Line 1-800-426-4791. Additional information can be found on the CDC website: www.cdc.gov/healthywater/drinking/public/faq.html.

Lead in Drinking Water....Are You at Risk?

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. Agate Water System is responsible for providing high quality drinking water to your tap, we cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components in your home. 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 to drink 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>, or www.leadline.org, or by contacting Edge Analytical, drinking water testing laboratory 541-639-8425.

In 2016 our water system had the honor of receiving the Outstanding Performance Award from Deschutes County Environmental Health and the Oregon Health Authorities. In order to be able to qualify for this award, the water system must have no violations, be current on all testing, deliver excellent water and pass all the onsite sanitary surveys. Our system has proven we deserved this award and are proud to let our customers know they are drinking the best water in Oregon.

You can see our most recent test results in the data table below. We are required to report only those substances that were present at detectable levels. We are allowed to monitor for some contaminants less than once per year, therefore some of the data can be more than one year old.

Primary Standards (directly related to the safety of drinking water)						
Inorganic Contaminants	Units	MCL	MCLG	Range/Result	Did a Violation occur ?	Likely Source
2016 - Arsenic	ppb	10	0	3.0 - 6.0	NO	Erosion of natural deposits
2017 - Nitrate	ppm	10	10	0.07 - 0.1	NO	Erosion of natural deposits
Radiological Contaminants						
2013 - Radium	pCi/l	5	0	2.29	NO	Erosion of natural deposits
Lead and Copper	Units	MCLG	AL	90 th %	Did a Violation occur ?	Likely Source
2015 - Copper	ppm	1.3	1.3	0.043	NO	Household plumbing

Lead & Copper - these tests are collected from individual homes on our water system, selected by requirements from the Oregon Health authority, and are collected on a 3 year cycle. These samples are collected in the homes that are selected to collect them. As you can see in the table the results are almost non detectable as the EPA allows up to 1.3 (with our results 0.043) before any action is required. No lead was detected and the 90th % for the copper was calculated by averaging the results of the samples collected and then took the 90th % sample result for the reporting.

- **AL - Action Level**, the concentration of a contaminant which if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements.
- **EPA - Environmental Protection Agency**, sets water quality standards and establishes methods and monitoring requirements for water utilities.
- **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 which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLG's allow a margin of safety.
- **PPB - Parts Per Billion**, the equivalent of one second in 32 years.
- **PPM - Parts Per Million**, the equivalent of one second in 12 days.
- **pCi/l - Picocuries Per Liter**, a measure of radioactivity.
- **Result** - the column that shows you what level of contaminant was found in the water you drink.

Agate Water System Source Assessment

An assessment of our water system has been completed by the Department of Human Services to determine susceptibility to potential sources of contamination. A copy is on file by contacting the office @ 541.382.2855.



Standards

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 safe drinking water hotline at 1-800-426-4791.