

# CITY OF PORT ORFORD

## Drinking Water Quality Report 2023

### WHY AM I RECEIVING THIS REPORT?

In 1996, Congress passed amendments to the Safe Water Drinking Act that require drinking water providers to give their customers important information about their water, including where it comes from, what is in the water, and how our water quality compares with federal standards.

The City of Port Orford Public Works Department routinely monitors for contaminants in your drinking water according to federal and Oregon State laws. This report covers the period of January 1 to December 31, 2023.

### WHAT IF I HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT MY WATER?

This report describes our water quality and explains what the various laboratory test results mean to our customers. If you have any questions about this report or your drinking water, please get in touch with the Public Works Department at City Hall, 555 20<sup>th</sup> St., Port Orford, Oregon 97465. You may also call the Department at 541-332-3681. You may attend any of the regular City Council meetings, held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month at 5:30 pm in the City Council Chambers, 555 W. 20<sup>th</sup> St., Port Orford.

### DO I NEED TO TAKE SPECIAL PRECAUTIONS?

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised 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 healthcare providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection of *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at:

**800-426-4791**

**[www.epa.gov/safewater/](http://www.epa.gov/safewater/)**

### WHERE DOES OUR WATER COME FROM?

Port Orford obtains its drinking water from the North Fork of Hubbard Creek, a surface water source about 1.5 miles east of town. An additional parcel of land just above the City-owned reservoir helps to ensure the quantity and quality of our drinking water. Copies of the Source Water Assessment of the Hubbard Creek Watershed, which identifies the drinking water protection area, are available at City Hall.

## WHY ARE THERE CONTAMINANTS IN MY DRINKING WATER?

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 (EPA) Safe Drinking Water Hotline (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 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 or from human activity.

- Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, that 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 stormwater 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, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses.
- Organic Chemical Contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems.
- Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.
- In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

## DEFINITIONS

To help you better understand the terms and abbreviations used in the report we've provided the following definitions:

*Non-Detects (ND)* - laboratory analysis indicates that the constituent is absent.

*Maximum Contaminant Level* - The "Maximum Allowed" (MCL) is the highest level of contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

*Maximum Contaminant Level Goal*- The "Goal"(MCLG) is 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.

*Milligrams per liter (mg/l)* - one part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in \$10,000.

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

**IS MY WATER SAFE?**

Last year Port Orford’s water system had one violation for non-reporting one day.

**CONTAMINANT LEVELS**

Copper and Lead levels are tested every three years and will be retested in 2024. The Arsenic level is tested every nine years and will be reassessed in 2028.

<b>Contaminant</b>	<b>Violation</b>	<b>Level Detected</b>	<b>Unit of Measure</b>	<b>MCL</b>	<b>Year Detected</b>	<b>Likely Source of Contamination</b>
Copper	No	0.2140	MG/L	1.3	(Last Tested) 2021	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.
Lead	No	.0000	MG/L	.015	(Last Tested) 2021	Same as above.
Arsenic	No	ND	MG/L	.010000	(Last Tested) 2019	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; runoff from glass and electronics production wastes.
Nitrate	No	0.104	MG/L	10.00000	(Last Tested) 2022	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits.

**WATER CONSERVATION TIPS**

1. Put food coloring in your toilet tank. If it seeps into the toilet bowl without flushing, you have a leak. Fixing it can save up to 1,000 gallons a month.
2. Adjust sprinklers so only your lawn is watered and not the house, sidewalk, or street.
3. Collect the water you use for rinsing fruits and vegetables, then reuse it to water houseplants.
4. Run dishwashers and clothes washers when you have a full load.
5. When cleaning out fish tanks, give the nutrient-rich water to your plants.
6. Listen for dripping faucets and running toilets. Fixing a leak can save 300 gallons a month or more.
7. Know where your master water shut-off valve is located. This could save water and prevent damage to your home.

## **City of Port Orford Elected Officials**

Pat Cox:	Mayor	Tim Pogwzd:	Councilor
Ann Vileisis:	Council President	Gregory Tidey:	Councilor
Brett Webb:	Councilor	Gary Burns:	Councilor
Perri Rask:	Councilor		

## **CITY OF PORT ORFORD EMPLOYEES**

Melissa Radcliffe:	City Administrator
Deana Lang:	Payroll/Accounting Asst.
Keely Perry:	Utilities/Court Clerk
Joseph Harrison:	Recorder/Planning Asst.
Lori Cooper:	City Attorney
Vacant:	Accountant
John Isadore:	Public Works Superintendent
Wade Phillips:	Utility
Michael Maynard:	Utility
Crystal Roy:	Waste Water Operator
Brad Quinn:	Utility
Ryan Sibley:	Utility
Hank Hobart:	Police Chief
Andrew Perry:	Corporal
RJ Aryanfard:	Detective
James Partee:	Traffic Officer
Mark Brennan:	Police Officer
Crystal Shoji:	Planning Director
Scotti Mclain:	Janitorial

## **CITY OF PORT ORFORD PHONE NUMBERS**

**CITY HALL: (541) 332-3681**

**DISPATCH (TO REPORT A WATER LEAK NOT DURING BUSINESS HOURS): (541) 247-3242**

The City of Port Orford provides equal employment opportunities to all employees and applicants for employment and prohibits discrimination and harassment of any type without regard to race, color, religion, age, sex, national origin, disability status, genetics, protected veteran status, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, or any other characteristic protected by federal, state or local laws.