

2015 Annual Drinking Water Quality

Ames Lake Water Association

We are pleased to present this year's Annual Drinking Water Quality Report. This report is designed to inform you about the quality groundwater and services we deliver to you every day. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve and protect our water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water. Our water source is a series of six wells throughout the Service Area that draw groundwater from local aquifers (Vista (3), American Hills, Daniels Ranch and Carnation Wells). We protect these six wells from possible contamination through a Wellhead Protection Plan. A copy of the Wellhead Protection Plan that provides more information, such as potential sources of contamination, is available at our office. Additional information about the Ames Lake Water Association is available on our website www.ameslkwater.org

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact our office at 425-222-7003. We want our valued members to be informed about their water utility. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled board meetings. They are held on the second Tuesday of the month, beginning at 7:00 pm at the Ames Lake Water Association's office, 33404 SE Redmond-Fall City Road, Suite 120, Fall City, WA.

Ames Lake Water Association routinely monitors for over 80 constituents in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. This table shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1 to December 31, 2015. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases radioactive materials, and can pick up substances resulting from presence of animals or from human activity.

TEST RESULTS						
Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Units	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Microbiological						
Total Coliform Bacteria	No	0		0	1 positive monthly sample	Naturally present in the environment. Contamination addressed by flushing / decon.
Inorganic						
Arsenic	No	2	ppb	n/a	10	Erosion of natural deposits
Chlorine ¹	No	Range .00-.06	ppm	MRDLG = 4	MRDL = 4	Water additive used to oxidize iron and manganese and to control microbes.
Copper	No	.54	ppm	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems.
Haloacetic Acids (HAA)	No	0	ppb	n/a	60	Byproduct of drinking water chlorination
Lead	No	5	ppb	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems.
Nitrate (as Nitrogen)	No	Range 0 – 1.7	ppm	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
TTHM [Total trihalomethanes]	No	0	ppb	n/a	80	By-product of drinking water chlorination

¹One of our six wells when utilized is treated for higher levels of iron and manganese. Chlorine is used in the treatment process to remove the iron and manganese.

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

ppb - parts per billion or micrograms per liter - one part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000.

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

MCL - Maximum Contaminant Level - The "Maximum Allowed" (MCL) is 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 "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.

MRDLG Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal - The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

MRDL Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level - The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

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In 2006, the arsenic MCL was lowered from 50 parts per billion to 10 parts per billion. Arsenic is a common naturally occurring constituent of groundwater in Western Washington. The ALWA has one emergency well source (offline) that has arsenic concentrations in excess of 10 parts per billion before treatment.

In Washington State, lead in drinking water comes primarily from materials and components used in household plumbing. The more time water has been sitting in pipes, the more dissolved metals, such as lead, it may contain. Elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially in pregnant women and children. To help reduce potential exposure to lead: for any drinking water tap that has not been used for 6 hours or more, flush water through the tap until the water is noticeably colder before using for drinking or cooking. Only use water from the cold-water tap for drinking and cooking. EPA Safe Drinking Water information at: <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

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 the 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.

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 microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

Ames Lake Water Association
PO Box 691
Fall City, WA 98024
www.ameslakewater.org
PWS ID # 020550



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serving our Members
since 1969.*