

Jefferson County PUD#1

Quimper Water System Drinking Water Report 2006

Reporting

To comply with the Safe Drinking Water Act amendments, Jefferson County PUD #1 is issuing this annual report on water quality monitoring performed in 2005. The purpose of the report is to educate consumers about the state of their drinking water and the need to protect this precious resource.

Your Water Sources

The Tri-Area Water System is now tied into the Glen Cove South and Hadlock 37 systems and is now called the “Quimper Water System”. The Sparling Well, at the corner of Rhody Dr. and Kennedy St. in Port Hadlock provides most of the water for the system, followed by the New Kively well (behind Mountain Propane), two airport wells, a well near Prospect Drive and the Eagle Ridge (Hadlock 37) well. Treatment is required to remove iron and manganese at most sources. Sparling requires treatment for natural organics (primarily tannins) when water levels are high. Additional treatment capacity will be added to Sparling in May 2006 that will improve efficiencies (requires less backwash) as well as add additional service capacity to serve new customers in Woodland Hills, the Tri-Area and Marrowstone Island. **Please help us conserve and use water wisely. See our website (listed below) for conservation tips and links to more information.**

Potential Contaminants

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the EPA prescribes regulations limiting the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. 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 EPA’s Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

<p>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.</p>	<p>Contaminants that may be present in the source water include:</p> <p>Microbial contaminants, such as viruses, protozoans, and bacteria, which may come from septic systems, agricultural livestock operations and wildlife.</p> <p>Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, or farming.</p> <p>Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses.</p> <p>Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are byproducts of industrial processes, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems.</p> <p>Radioactive contaminants are most often from naturally occurring mineral sources.</p>
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Quimper Water System Annual Water Quality Analysis (2005)

The EPA regulates the monitoring of over 80 contaminants. Presence of contaminants in the water does not necessarily suggest the water poses a health risk. **In 2005, no contaminant exceeded a State or Federal maximum contaminant level (MCL).** Data presented in the table on the opposite page is from testing performed January 1- December 31, 2005 unless stated otherwise. The State requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year based on previous results. Many of our wells were not sampled last year because 2005 was an off year in their mandatory sampling schedule.

EPA Regulated Primary Contaminants

Source	Date of sample	Chemical Contaminant	MCL	MCLG	Results	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
New Kively Well	4/6/05	Nitrate (mg/l)	10	N.A.	0.7	No	Septic effluent, natural sources
New Kively Well	11/9/05	Total Trihalomethane	80 ppb	N.A.	1.6	No	By-product of chlorination

Disinfection By-Product Detected but well below regulatory limit

The PUD uses chlorine as a disinfectant. When chlorine encounters organic compounds, particularly within the distribution system, it can form Trihalomethanes (THM's) and haloacetic acids which can cause kidney and liver problems as well as cancer with significant exposure over time. The PUD keeps these byproducts far below minimum health standards; however the New Kively well did detect some (very small) quantities.

Arsenic has been detected in your water in the past at below both the old and new regulatory limit.

While your drinking water meets EPA's standard for arsenic, it does contain low levels of arsenic. **A New Kively well raw water or pre-treatment sample tested at 6 ppb in 2003**; the MCL for Arsenic recently changed from 50 ppb to 10 ppb. EPA's standard balances the current understanding of arsenic's possible health effects against the costs of removing arsenic from drinking water. EPA continues to research the health effects of low levels of arsenic which is a mineral known to cause cancer in humans at high concentrations and is linked to other health effects such as skin damage and circulatory problems

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 the 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).

Specific Health Concerns

Infants below the age of six months who drink water-containing nitrate in excess of the MCL could become seriously or fatally ill from "blue baby syndrome". Infants and children who drink water containing lead in excess of the action level could experience delays in their physical or mental development. Children could show slight deficits in attention span and learning abilities. Adults who drink this water over many years could develop kidney problems or high blood pressure.

Definitions:

<p>Action Level (AL): The concentration of a contaminant which, when exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.</p> <p>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.</p>	<p>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.</p> <p>ppm: parts per million or milligrams per liter.</p> <p>ppb: parts per billion</p> <p>n/a: Not applicable</p>
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Public Comment

The public is invited to participate in decisions that affect drinking water through the Jefferson County PUD #1 Board of Commissioners (BOC). Your district is District 2 and your commissioner is M Kelly Hayes. The BOC meets on the first and third Wednesdays of each month at 5:00 PM at the office in Port Hadlock. The address is 230 Chimacum Road.

More Information

We are available to answer any questions you may have about our drinking water and have available complete list of compounds we test for. Your water distribution manager is Eric Storey at 301-1799 if you have system questions or contact the office for general questions at 385-5800, or email us at info@jeffpud.org. Check out our webpage at www.jeffpud.org.