



## CITY OF ROGUE RIVER PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

# 2023 Consumer Confidence Report

Dear Water Customers,

*We are pleased to present to you our 2023 Annual Consumer Confidence Report. This report is designed to inform you about the quality of water and services we deliver to you every day. Our continuous 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 the water treatment process and protect water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your drinking water. This report presents water quality data and explains their facts on public health.*

### Source of Water

We source surface water from the Rogue River and utilize underground wells for public drinking water. During the drought of the 1980's and early 1990's the City of Rogue River realized that it could no longer supply an adequate amount of water from its wells. In 1994 the City built the Water Treatment Plant which now has been in successful operation for 28-years. Depending on the time of year and customer demand, the water treatment plant presently produces between 7,000 to 900,000 gallons of water per day, and the wells produce up to an additional 824,000 gallons a day. At the present time, the City will typically run the water treatment plant during the summer months when the demand for water is high. During the winter, when water demand is low and the river is more difficult to treat the City uses five local wells for its water supply.



### Water Treatment

Surface water from the Rogue River is pumped through an intake structure and into the treatment plant where both chemical and physical treatment takes place. The finished water is chlorinated for disinfection and then pumped into the drinking water system.

The drinking water plant is now 28 years old and has functioned amazingly well for those years. The well system is much older. With age this brings increased challenges as many critical components of the plant and well system are close to or have exceeded their useful service lives. This, with an ever increasing demand, and greater expectation in water quality monitoring and performance standards by the Oregon Health Authority meant it was time to make improvements to the two facilities. With these items pending the City has completed a significant upgrade of the Treatment facilities in the last year. Both Wells and Treatment Plant have seen many significant improvements to their automated valves systems, treatment processes, computer controls, electrical and metering. With ever increasing testing and process control monitoring requirements, the need for a high level of advanced staff training has occurred throughout the upgrading process and continues today.

### Water Conservation

It is critical to conserve water as Southern Oregon is facing severe drought conditions, and fire season is upon us. A public Drinking Water system's primary objective is to provide fire protection to the town, and secondarily drinking water. Please be conscientious of your water use. Lawns are often responsible for your largest consumption of water. Typically, 50% of household water is used outdoors. Water your lawns between 4 a.m. and 6 a.m. or between 8 a.m. and 10 p.m. when heat and evaporation levels are lower to make the most efficient use of your watering. Also consider water saving plumbing fixtures like faucets, showers, and toilets. Please reference this article for tips on water conservation; <https://learn.eartheasy.com/guides/45-ways-to-conserve-water-in-the-home-and-yard/> Water is one of our most valuable resources. Only with your help can we reduce the amount of water used.

**We are pleased to announce that our drinking water is safe and exceeds Federal and State Requirements!**

## Monitoring and Reporting Requirements

The Public Works Department routinely monitors for contaminants in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. The data within this report comes from the monitoring of our drinking water supply for the period of January 1 to December 31, 2023.

All drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. It is important to remember that the presence of these contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk.

Federal and State regulations include procedures and schedules for monitoring water from the source to the tap. The State Drinking Water Program ensures that public water systems comply with all regulations, follow monitoring schedules, and report monitoring results. The City monitors the physical, chemical, and microbiological characteristics of your drinking water and is in compliance with these regulations.

## Storage and Distribution

Treated water is pumped from the plant and wells to two reservoirs with a combined storage capacity of 1.7 million gallons. From the reservoirs the water is gravity fed into the distribution system. The distribution system is made up of 2" to 10" pipes with an approximate total length of 13-miles.

Once the water is in the distribution system, it then gravity flows to homes and businesses in town as it is needed. In order to meet the continuing demand for water, the City is constantly upgrading its system. The City has a 20-year Water Master Plan which details future water system improvements. These improvements will occur over the coming years.

### **2023 Water Production in gallons:**

|           |            |
|-----------|------------|
| January   | 5,335,000  |
| February  | 7,239,000  |
| March     | 5,068,000  |
| April     | 7,678,000  |
| May       | 11,456,000 |
| June      | 15,536,000 |
| July      | 19,828,000 |
| August    | 21,952,000 |
| September | 14,303,700 |
| October   | 11,086,000 |
| November  | 8,957,000  |
| December  | XXXXX      |

## **Acronyms and Key Definitions**

**Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs)** are set at very stringent amounts. To understand the possible health effects described for many regulated contaminants, a person would have to drink 2-liters of water every day at the **MCL** for a lifetime to have a one-in-a-million chance of contracting the described health effect.

**Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG)** The level of a contaminant in drinking water for which there is no known or expected risk to health.

**Action levels (AL)** The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

**NTU:** Nephelometric Turbidity Unit. Unit of measure used to describe water clarity. The smaller the number, the clearer the water.

**ppm:** parts per million. This is the same as mg/l. An example of 1 part per million is one drop of water in 22 gallons.

**Contaminant:** Any substance found in water; however, not all contaminants are harmful.

**ppb:** parts per billion. One ppb is approximately equal to 1-drop of water in a swimming pool that is 30" in diameter and 4' deep (21,195 gal. of water).

**@:** at the detection limit. ND@ 0.0 ppm or parts per million.

**ND@:** Not detected at a given range because laboratory instruments can only detect to certain minimum levels.

**NR:** Not required this year

**ND:** No data collected.

**MFL:** Million Fibers per Liter

**UR:** Unregulated Contaminant. A substance in drinking water that is not regulated by EPA but is monitored for other purposes.

## Rogue River Basin Report Card

The first-ever Rogue River Basin Report Card assigns grades based on the condition of some key aspects of rivers and creeks, their surrounding landscapes, and communities. If the Rogue River Basin was given a grade of A-F, what would it be? Check out the report card website [rogue-river-basin-report-card.com](http://rogue-river-basin-report-card.com) to find out!

## Additional Information:

More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the following numbers:

\* EPA, Safe Drinking Water Hotline: **800-426-4791**

\* Oregon Health Authority, DWP: **971-673-0405**

\* Jackson County Environmental Health Department: **541-774-8206**

*The following tables show that our system had no contaminant violations.  
We are proud that your drinking water meets or exceeds all Federal and State requirements.*

| <b>Results of Turbidity, Microbiological Analysis &amp; Disinfection By-Product Residuals<br/>of Treated Water After Disinfection</b><br><i>Results meet or surpass State and Federal drinking water regulations</i> |                                              |                                         |                               |                                                                   |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Variable                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Maximum Amount Tested                        | Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) Maximum | Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG) | Source of Contaminant                                             |
| Physical characteristic Testing<br><br>Turbidity<br>(Surface Water)                                                                                                                                                  | Maximum 0.29 NTU<br><br>Minimum: 0.02 NTU    | 0.30 NTU                                | <0.1 NTU                      | Soil erosion and stream sediment                                  |
| Microbiological Testing<br>Total Coliform Bacteria                                                                                                                                                                   | Zero positive tests                          | Zero positive tests                     | Zero positive tests           | Naturally present in the environment                              |
| E. Coli                                                                                                                                                                                                              | Zero positive tests                          | Zero positive tests                     | Zero positive tests           | Human and animal feces                                            |
| Disinfection Residual                                                                                                                                                                                                | All samples had detectable chlorine residual | 4.0 mg/l                                | NA                            | Chlorine is used as a disinfectant in the water treatment process |
| Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)                                                                                                                                                                                         | 0.0295 ppm                                   | 0.080 ppm                               | NA                            | Drinking water chlorination by-products                           |
| Halo Acetic Acid (five) (HAA5) *                                                                                                                                                                                     | 0.0158 ppm                                   | 0.060 ppm                               | NA                            | Drinking water chlorination by-products                           |

### **Turbidity and NTUs**

Turbidity is regulated because it can provide a medium for bacterial growth. Turbidity or (cloudiness) of water is measured in NTUs. The filtration plant consistently treats water that surpasses Federal and State standards. Well water is not required to be measured for turbidity.

### **Total Coliform Bacteria**

Testing for these bacteria after disinfection helps to confirm the effectiveness of the disinfection process. (Bacteria may have been present in the source water.) Total coliform bacteria are also indicators of possible contamination that might occur after treatment.

### **Chlorine Residual**

Federal and State drinking water regulations require detectable disinfectant (chlorine) residual throughout our distribution system. Water entering the City's distribution system from the Water Treatment Plant has an average chlorine residual of 0.80 to 1.70 parts per million.

*Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immune 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 are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791)*

## RESULTS OF LEAD AND COPPER SAMPLING IN 2022

Done every 3 years from Residential Water Taps

**\* Results exceed current State and Federal drinking water regulations \***

| Variable      | Amount Detected                                                                   | Maximum Contamination Level (MCL) Maximum                                                     | Contaminant Level Goal(MCLG) | Source of Containment           |
|---------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| <b>Copper</b> | 90-percent of the homes tested had copper levels less than 0.210 ppm              | Action Level: 90% of the homes tested must have levels less than 1.3 parts per million        | <1.3 parts per million       | Corrosion of Household plumbing |
| <b>Lead</b>   | 90-percent of the homes tested had lead levels less than 0.0008 parts per million | Action Level: 90% of the homes tested must have lead levels less than 0.015 parts per million | 0 parts per million          |                                 |

If present, 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. The City of Rogue River is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 1 to 2-minutes before using water for drinking 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 safe steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

## RESULTS OF NUTRIENT ANALYSIS:

Samples are collected at the Water Treatment Plant and Wells

**\* Results meet or exceeded State and Federal drinking water regulations \***

| Variable                | Maximum Amount Tested        | Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) Maximum | Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG) | Source of Contaminant                                                                        |
|-------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Nitrate Nitrogen</b> | ND@ at Water Treatment Plant | 10 parts per million                    | 10 parts per million          | Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits. |
| <b>Nitrate Nitrogen</b> | 0.887 ppm at Wells           | 10 parts per million                    | 10 parts per million          |                                                                                              |

***Note:*** Nutrients can support microbial growth such as bacteria and algae. Nitrate and nitrite levels in excess of the standards can contribute to methemoglobinemia (blue baby syndrome) in infants less than six months old. In adults, excessive levels can contribute to kidney or spleen problems.

The Rogue River Public Works Department strives to provide the highest quality water to every tap. That's why we participate with the Rogue Drinking Water Partnership to find ways to protect our water shed, keep it clean, and educate the public. We ask that all our customers help us protect our water source, which is the heart of our community, our way of life and our children's future. If you have any questions about this report or your water source, please contact City Public Works Director, Michael Bollweg at 541-582-4401 ext. 105, stop by City Hall at 133 Broadway, mail correspondence to Box 1137, Rogue River, Oregon 97537 or visit our website at [www.cityofrogueriver.org](http://www.cityofrogueriver.org) to view a video of our treatment system. We want all of our customers to be confident and informed about their water quality.