

**City of Tillamook  
Water Department  
2005 Annual  
Water Quality Report**



***Environmental Protection Agency***  
*Safe Drinking Water Hotline*  
(800) 426-4791

***Oregon Health Division***  
*Drinking Water Program*  
(503) 731-401

**Tillamook City Water Department**  
(503) 842-2343

Annual Water Quality Report

for Year 2005

**City of Tillamook**  
Water Department

210 Laurel Ave.

Telephone: 842-2343

This report is for your information and has been designed to conform with the Federal Safe Drinking Water Act requirements for annual notification of your water quality.

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**Esto es una informacion importante. Por favor, silo pueden traducirlo.**

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**The City of Tillamook** is pleased to present to you this year's *Annual Water Quality Report*. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment and distribution processes and protect your water resources. Our team is committed to ensuring the quality of your water.

**Tillamook City Water Department** routinely monitors for constituents in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. Included in this document you will find tables that show the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1<sup>st</sup>. to December 31<sup>st</sup>., 2005. *All drinking water, including bottled water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some constituents.*

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**We have a Sanitary Survey Report on file** from Oregon Health Division. We are pleased to report that your drinking water is safe and exceeds federal and state requirements.

**If you have any questions about this report** or concerning your water utility, please contact the Public Works Director, Arley Sullivan or Water Department Manager, Timothy Lyda. The Water Office is located at Tillamook City Hall 210 Laurel Ave. or you may call 842-2343. Our office hours are 8:00 am – 4:00 pm, Monday thru Friday. City Council meetings are held on the first and third Monday of each month, you are welcome to attend, they begin at 7:30 pm.

**In our continuing efforts to maintain a safe and dependable water supply**, it may be necessary to make improvements in you water system. The costs of these improvements may be reflected in the rate structure. Rate adjustments may be necessary in order to address these improvements. Thank you for understanding. We work hard to provide top quality water to every tap. We ask that all our customers help us protect our water sources, the heart of the community.

**For security reasons** the locations of your water supply will not be discussed in this document. Your water supply is supported by both surface and ground water sources which are located in restricted access zones. Water quality parameters are monitored closely, 365 days a year. Water quality and security are top priority.

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**In this table you will find many terms and abbreviations you might not be familiar with. To help you better understand these terms we've provided the following definitions:**

**Non-Detects (ND)** - laboratory analysis indicates that the constituent is not present.

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

**Parts per billion (ppb) or Micrograms per liter** - one part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000.

**Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU)** - nephelometric turbidity unit is a measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.

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

**Treatment Technique (TT)** - A treatment technique is a required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

**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.

**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.

**Nitrates:** As a precaution we always notify the Health Department in this area if there is ever a higher than normal level of nitrates in the water supply.

**Lead:** Lead in drinking water is rarely the sole cause of lead poisoning, but it can add to a person's total lead exposure. All potential sources of lead in the household should be identified and removed, replaced or reduced.

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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).

## TEST RESULTS

### Radioactive Contaminants

	<u>DETECTED</u>	<u>MCLG</u>	<u>MCL</u>	
Beta/photon emitters	N.A.	mrem/yr 0	4	Decay of natural and man-made deposits
Alpha emitters	< 1	pCi/1 0	15	Erosion of natural deposits
Combined radium	2.58	pCi/1 0	5	Erosion of natural deposits

### Disinfection Byproducts, Byproduct Precursors, and Disinfection Residuals

	<u>DETECTED</u>	<u>MCLG</u>	<u>MCL</u>	
Total Trihalomethanes	ppb	100/80	N/A	Some people who drink water containing trihalomethanes in excess of the MCL over many years may experience problems with their liver, kidneys, or central nervous system, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.
City Hall Site	38.7			
101 N. Site	23.9			
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	ppb	N/A	60	Some people who drink water containing haloacetic acids in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.
City Hall Site	15.9			
101 N. Site	10.7			

## TEST RESULTS

	Inorganic Contaminants				
	DETECTED		MCLG	MCL	
Copper,90th. Percentile	0.029	ppm	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Lead 90th Percentile	0	ppb	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate (as Nitrogen)		ppm	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage, erosion of natural deposits.
Well 2	2.3	ppm			
Well 3	1.0	ppm			
Raw Water	1.6	ppm	10	10	
Nitrite (as Nitrogen)	< 0.01	ppm	1	1	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Sodium (Surface Water)	4.4	ppm	n/a	n/a	Raw water sample.
Sodium (Well 2)	9.7	ppm	n/a	n/a	Raw water sample.
Sodium (Well 3)	9.0	ppm	n/a	n/a	Raw water sample.
Sodium (City Shop)	7.9	ppm	n/a	n/a	Composite sample of treated water in system.

**NOTE:** <0.5 ppb would equal about 1 half cent in \$10 million dollars or 30 seconds in 2000 years.

## WATER CONSERVATION IS A GREAT IDEA!

### Tips for Conserving Water

- **Check for leaks:** Read your water meter, write down the number and don't use the water for a couple of hours. Read the meter again. Compare the reads if they are different you have a leak.
- **Check for toilet tank leaks:** Pour some beet juice or die into the tank. If the toilet is leaking color will appear in the toilet bowl in about 15 to 20 minutes. If leaking have repairs done.
- **Take shorter showers:** Long showers use lots of water.
- **Repair dripping faucets:** If your faucet is dripping at a rate of one drop per second, you can expect to waste 2,700 gallons per year. This adds to the cost of water and sewer utilities, or can strain your septic system.
- **Refrigerate drinking water:** This will help prevent running the tap for long periods waiting for cold water.
- **Lawn and Garden watering:** Water in the cool of the day only using the amount recommended by your gardener or garden supply center.

## IRRIGATION SYSTEMS

- **If you have an irrigation system** for lawn and gardening purposes you must have an approved backflow preventing device installed. The purpose of such a device is to prevent the water system from being contaminated by any chemical or fertilizer backflow accident. If you have any questions about backflow prevention please contact your water supplier.

**Microbiological Contaminants**

Note: *We tested for Total Coliform Bacteria and Fecal Coliform with No Detections*

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**Synthetic Organic Contaminants Including Pesticides and Herbicides**

Note: We tested for these contaminants with *no* detections.

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**Volatile Organic Contaminants**

Note: *We tested for these contaminants with No Detections.*

**THERE WERE NO DETECTIONS OF UNREGULATED VOC;s OR SOC;s  
in either the ground water or surface water sources**

**Table of Detections  
Lead and Copper Testing**

Substance	Units	Goal	Action Level	90 <sup>th</sup> . Percentile	Homes Exceeding Action Level	Complies Yes/No
Copper	ppm	1.3	1.3	0.029	0	Yes
Lead	ppb	0	15	0	0	Yes

The decrease in our Lead and Copper is due to an aggressive Corrosion Control program we have initiated in your system. We maintain a pH of 7.2 or above.

## **LEAD IN DRINKING WATER**

Infants and young children are typically more vulnerable to lead in drinking water than the general population. It is possible that lead levels at your home may be higher than at other homes in the community as a result of materials used in your home's plumbing. If you are concerned about elevated lead levels in your home's water, you may wish to have your water tested and flush your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using tap water. More information is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

## **VIOLATIONS**

We had a Surface Water Quality Data and Turbidity Monitoring Reports violation because although they were mailed the Health Department did not receive them, therefore all such reports are being faxed. We have learned through our monitoring and testing that some constituents have been detected. The EPA has determined that your water *IS SAFE* at these levels.

## **CONTAMINANTS IN DRINKING WATER**

All 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.

## **MAXIMUM CONTAMINANT LEVELS**

MCL's are set at very stringent levels. To understand the possible health effects described for many regulated constituents, a person would have to drink 2 liters of water every day at the MCL level for a lifetime to have a one-in-a-million chance of having the described health effect.

### **Turbidity**

**Turbidity is usually** thought of as cloudiness of the water, and is caused by suspended matter. Organic and inorganic material, silt, algae or other tiny organisms can contribute to the turbidity level of water.

**The degree of turbidity** is measured at the Water Treatment Plant by shining a beam of light through water and measuring the angle at which the light is scattered by suspended matter. The reading gives the turbidity of the water measured in Nephelometric Turbidity Units or NTU.

**The Environmental Protection Agency** has established a Maximum Contaminant Level of 0.3 NTU. We are pleased to say that our treatment plant consistently produces water at a level of 0.040 NTU or below. The reducing of NTU levels helps in the removal or inactivation of certain targeted microorganisms, for example Giardia.

**The 1996 Amendments to the Safe Drinking Water Act** require that all states conduct Source Water Assessments for public water systems within their boundaries. The assessments consist of (1) identification of the Drinking Water Protection Area, i.e., the area at the surface that is directly above that part of the aquifer that supplies groundwater to our well(s). (2) identification of potential sources of pollution within the Drinking Water Protection Area, and (3) determining the susceptibility or relative risk to the well water from those sources. The purpose of the assessment is to provide water systems with the information they need to develop a strategy to protect their drinking water resource if they choose. The respective Drinking Water Programs of the Departments of Human Services and Environmental Quality have completed the assessment for our system. A copy of the report is on file at the water system's office.

The City of Tillamook Water Department's water system draws water from the sands and gravels of the Tillamook Valley Alluvial Aquifer. Assessment results indicate the water system is highly susceptible to a contamination event inside the identified Drinking Water Protection Area. The presence of several high – and moderate-risk potential contaminant sources within the protection area was confirmed through a potential contaminant survey inventory. Under a "worse case" scenario, where it is assumed that nothing is being done to protect groundwater quality at the identified potential contaminant sources, the assessment results indicate the water system would be highly susceptible to most of the identified high – and moderate-risk potential contaminant sources. In addition, the assessment results indicate that, at this time, the water system is considered susceptible to viral contamination.

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### **DOES TILLAMOOK ADD FLOURIDE TO THE WATER?**

No! Tillamook does not add flouride to the water. Parents of young children may want to consult their dentist about flouride treatment.

### **WHAT IS THE pH OF OUR WATER?**

Generally the pH is around 6.7 to 7.0. (RAW): pH 7.2-7.5 (FINISHED WATER)

### **IS OUR WATER HARD OR SOFT?**

Tillamook water is soft, averaging around 20 ppm hardness, (Apx. 1 grain/gal.)

### **WHY DOES MY WATER APPEAR MILKY AT TIMES?**

Our surface water is supersaturated with oxygen. When first drawn it can, in some areas of our distribution system appear milky. As the water sets the oxygen dissipates from the bottom of the glass up. It is not a health risk.

### **WHAT CAN I DO ABOUT CHLORINE ODORS?**

- \* Fill a pitcher and let it stand in the refrigerator overnight.
- \* Pour water between containers about 10 times.
- \* Heat the water to about 100 degrees Fahrenheit and let cool. Keep refrigerated.

City of Tillamook Water Department  
210 -A Laurel Avenue  
Tillamook, Oregon 97141

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**Note:** If you are a landlord who pays for the tenants monthly water bill, please provide your tenant with a copy of this report.