

# 2019 WATER QUALITY REPORT FOR WASHINGTON WATER DEPARTMENT

This report contains important information regarding the water quality in our water system. The source of our water is ground water. Our groundwater is drawn from the Cambrian Jordan Sandstone aquifer.

Our water quality testing shows the following results:

CONTAMINANT	MCL – (MCLG)	Compliance		DATE	VIOLATION	SOURCE
		Type	Value & (Range)			
Combined Radium (pCi/L)	5 (0)	SGL	1.7	11/19/2018	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Lead (ppb)	AL = 15 (0)	90 <sup>th</sup>	1.00 (ND – 1)	2017	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Copper (ppm)	AL = 1.3 (1.3)	90 <sup>th</sup>	0.41 (0.03 – 0.52)	2017	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Sodium (ppm)	N/A (N/A)	SGL	52	11/19/2018	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Added to water during treatment process
Chlorine (ppm)	MRDL = 4.0 (MRDLG = 4.0)	RAA	1.66 (.92 - 1.73)	12/31/2018	No	Water additives used to control microbes
Nitrate (ppm)	10 (10)	SGL	<0.50	1/16/2018	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
TTHM (ppb) Total Trihalomethanes	80 (N/A)	LRAA	11.00 (11 –11)	9/30/2018	No	By-products of drinking water disinfection
HAA5 (ppb) Haloacetic Acids	60 (N/A)	LRAA	< 6	7/20/2017	No	By-products of drinking water disinfection
Gross Alpha, inc (pCi/L)	15 (0)	SGL	8	8/18/2016	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Asbestos(MFL)	7	RT	<1.9	6/14/2018	No	Corrosion of system piping; erosion of natural deposits
Ammonia nitrogen as N	N/A	RT	<0.050	9/26/18	No	Erosion of natural deposits

Note: Contaminants with dates indicate results from the most recent testing done in accordance with regulations.

## **DEFINITIONS**

- 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.
- 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.
- ppb -- parts per billion.
- ppm -- parts per million.
- pCi/L – picocuries per liter
- N/A – Not applicable
- ND -- Not detected
- RAA – Running Annual Average
- SGL – Single Sample Result
- RTCR – Revised Total Coliform Rule
- NTU – Nephelometric Turbidity Units
- Action Level (AL) – The concentration of a contaminant, which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements, which a water system must follow.
- Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG)-The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk of health.

- Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL)-The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water.
- MFL-Millions of fibers per liter.
- RT-Routine

### **GENERAL INFORMATION**

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 posed a health risk. More information about contaminants or potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (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 microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primary from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. The Washington Water Department 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 30 seconds 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 steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

### **SOURCE WATER ASSESSMENT INFORMATION**

The City of Washington water supply obtains its water from the Cambrian Jordan Sandstone aquifer. The Cambrian Jordan Sandstone aquifer was determined to be not susceptible to contamination because the characteristics of the aquifer and overlying materials prevent easy access of contaminants to the aquifer. The Cambrian Jordan Sandstone wells will have low susceptibility to surface contaminants such as leaking underground storage tanks, contaminant spills, and excess fertilizer application. A detailed evaluation of your source water was completed by the IDNR, and is available from the City of Washington Water Department at (319) 653-1531.

### **OTHER INFORMATION**

The City of Washington uses a Reverse Osmosis (RO) Treatment process to treat the drinking water. Reverse Osmosis is a water filtering process in which a source water is forced to pass through a semi-permeable membrane that blocks most dissolved or suspended solids.

Our water utility is making every effort to protect the water system from potential security threats. You, as customers, can also help. If you see any suspicious activity near the water tower, treatment plant, wells or fire hydrants, please contact the local police/sheriff department or us at (319) 653-1531. We appreciate your assistance in protecting the water system.

### **CONTACT INFORMATION**

For questions regarding this information, please contact Kyle Wellington or Will Brock at (319) 653-1531 during the following hours:  
7 am - 3:30 pm, M-F

Decisions regarding the water system are made at the City Council meetings held on the first and third Tuesdays at 6 p.m. at the Public Library, 115 West Washington Street, and are open to the public. This report will not be mailed to each individual user.