

2017 Water Quality Report

Whitmore Union Elementary School District

Here at Whitmore School we strive to provide our students and staff with a safe and healthy campus, which naturally includes a fresh and dependable drinking water supply. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually monitor our water quality and to protect our water resources.

We regularly test our drinking water quality for many constituents as required by State and Federal Regulations. This report shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1st through December 31st, 2017.

Our drinking water is supplied by **two chlorinated groundwater wells (Wells 01 & 02)**, located in the parking lot and near the bus barn respectively. This supply serves approximately fifty students and staff. In 2016 we purchased a backup chlorinator for the wells.

The wells were evaluated by the county in August 2002, to determine if there were possible contaminating activities that might compromise the quality of the water. At the time, there were no associated contaminants detected in the water supply, however the sources were still considered vulnerable to nearby gas stations and leaking underground storage tanks.

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.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria that may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.

Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals that can be naturally-occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.

Pesticides and herbicides that may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses.

Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals that are byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, agricultural application, and septic systems.

Radioactive contaminants that can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the USEPA and the State Water Resources Control Board prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Board regulations also establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that must provide the same protection for public health.

Please note that 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.**

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. USEPA/Centers for Disease Control (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) or online at:

<http://water.epa.gov/drink/standards/hascience.cfm>

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua potable. Tradúzcalo ó hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

For questions or concerns about your drinking water you may attend the board meeting held the **2nd Tuesday of the month** or you may contact:

Linda Barneby at 530 472-3243

TERMS USED IN THIS REPORT

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL): The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. Primary MCLs are set as close to the PHGs (or MCLGs) as is economically and technologically feasible. Secondary MCLs are set to protect the odor, taste, and appearance of drinking water.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG) or Public Health Goal (PHG): The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs are set by the USEPA. PHGs are set by the California EPA.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL): 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.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG): 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

Primary Drinking Water Standards (PDWS): MCLs and MRDLs for contaminants that affect health along with their monitoring, reporting and water treatment requirements.

Secondary Drinking Water Standards (SDWS): MCLs for contaminants that affect taste, odor or appearance of the drinking water. Contaminants with SDWSs do not affect the health at the MCL.

Treatment Technique (TT): A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

Regulatory Action Level (AL): The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.

Variances and Exemptions: Department permission to exceed an MCL or not comply with a treatment technique under certain conditions.

Level 1 Assessment: A level 1 assessment is a study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system.

Level 2 Assessment: A level 2 assessment is a very detailed study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why an *E. coli* MDL violation has occurred and/or why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system on multiple occasions.

ND: not detectable at testing limit

ppm: parts per million or milligrams per liter (mg/L)

ppb: parts per billion or micrograms per liter (ug/L)

ppt: parts per trillion or nanograms per liter (ng/L)

ppq: parts per quadrillion or pictogram per liter (pg/L)

pCi/L: picocuries per liter (a measure of radiation)

