

Paradise Estates Water System

2003 Water Quality Report



The Paradise Estates Water System is committed to provide you with:

The highest quality drinking water possible.

Provide a water quality testing program to insure the drinking water is the highest quality possible.

Maintain the water distribution system to deliver the water to your homes in a reliable manner.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as those with cancer under going chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or immune system disorders, elderly and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice 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 source of supply for your drinking water is groundwater via two wells. Water is pumped from the wells into two (2) storage reservoirs where it is re-pumped by the Booster Pump Station (BPS) on a hydropneumatic basis to serve the higher elevation homes of the community. Gravity flow from the reservoirs is also provided to the lower elevation homes.

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably contain small amounts of contaminants. The present of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk.

The sources of drinking water, both tap water and bottled water, include rivers, lakes reservoirs, springs and wells. As water travels over the land surface or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and in some cases radio-active 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, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations and wildlife.*
- *Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which are naturally occurring or result from stormwater 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 and residential uses.*
- *Radioactive contaminants that are naturally occurring.*
- *Organic chemical contaminants including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial process and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, stormwater runoff and septic systems.*

Terms and abbreviations:

Maximum Contaminant Level

MCL is highest level of a contaminant in drinking water. MCL's are set as close to the MCLG's as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

Action Level

AL is the concentration of a contaminant which, when exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

N/A Not Applicable

ND Not Detectable at testing limits.

ppm parts per million

ppb parts per billion

pCi/l picocuries per liter

Bacteriological Contaminants Coliforms are a group of bacteria that are used as an indicator that other potentially harmful bacteria may be present in the drinking water. A monthly bacteriological analysis is performed to detect the presence of coliform bacteria. The 12 samples taken last year were absent of coliform bacteria.

Volatile Organic Chemicals (VOC) are a group of synthetic compounds from the petroleum industry, herbicides and pesticides. A VOC test sample was taken at the source of supply and all compounds tested were below the detectable testing limits.

Radionuclides gross Alpha and gross Beta particles are formed from the decay of uranium. A radionuclide sample taken in the year 2000 and all elements were below the detection limit.

While your drinking water meets EPA's standard for arsenic, it does contain low levels of arsenic. 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.

Test Compound	MCL	Paradise Estates	Sample Date	Violation
Nitrate	10 ppm	<0.20 ppm	2-18-03	None
Arsenic	10 ppb	<2 ppb	10-21-03	None
Lead	0.015 ppm	<0.002 ppm	10-21-03	None
1,1 Dichloroethylene	7 ppb	ND	9-11-01	None
Trichloroethylene	5 ppb	ND	9-11-01	None
Tetrachloroethylene	5 ppb	ND	9-11-01	None
Chloroform	0.5 ppb	ND	9-11-01	None
Chloride	250 ppm	2.0 ppm	10-21-03	None
Iron	0.30 ppm	<0.03 ppm	10-21-03	None
Manganese	0.05 ppm	0.01 ppm	10-21-03	None
PCB	N/A	ND	10-07-03	None
Gross Alpha	15 pCi/l	ND	3-01-04	None

More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791 or by visiting the EPA web site www.epa.gov/ogwdw.

Addition information may be obtained local health department, Mason County Environmental Health Depart-