



City of Nampa Waterworks Division  
24 1st St S  
Nampa, ID 83651

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre la calidad de su agua beber. Trádsalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

# 2012 City of Nampa Water Quality Report

## Water Information

### Where does NAMPA's water come from?

The City of Nampa's drinking water supply is provided by 14 ground water sources (wells) which draw from the Snake River Plains Aquifer to serve our more than 81,000 customers.

### Source Water Assessment

In 1996, Congress amended the Safe Drinking Water Act to emphasize the protection of surface and ground water sources used for public drinking water. The amendments require that each state possessing primacy over its drinking water develop a source water assessment plan for public drinking water sources, conduct assessments on all public water systems, and make the assessments available to the public.

The City of Nampa's Source Water Assessment can be requested through ID DEQ at 373.0500.

The City of Nampa Waterworks Division delivers over 6.8 million gallons of drinking water each day.

The City of Nampa vigilantly safeguards its water supplies and we are proud to report that our system has not violated a maximum contaminant level or any other water quality standard.

Last year, we conducted more than 1,300 tests for 80 contaminants and your tap water met all U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and state drinking water health standards.

## Tap Water or

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

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:

- ◆ 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, which 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, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses

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 Water Drinking Hotline 800.426.4791.

### LEAD

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 Nampa 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 and 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 the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 800.462.4791 or [www.epa.gov/safewater/lead](http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead).

## Bottled Water



- ◆ Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems
- ◆ Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities

## Health Notes



### ARSENIC

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.

### NITRATE

Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 10 parts per million (ppm) is a health risk for infants of less than six months of age. High nitrate levels in drinking water can cause blue baby syndrome. Nitrate levels may rise quickly for short periods of time because of rainfall or agricultural activity. If you are caring for an infant, you should ask advice from your health care provider.

# 2012

## Drinking Water Quality Table

The water quality table compares how your drinking water compared in 2012 to the EPA and ID DEQ standards. The presence of a substance in the water does not necessarily indicate a health risk. Unless otherwise noted the data presented in this table is from the testing done in the calendar year of the reports. The EPA or the State requires us to monitor for certain

contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these do not change frequently. The EPA and State require each of the regulated contaminants compare to a Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) and a Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG). Abbreviation definitions have been included to help with the technical nature of the table information.

**Primary Standards** are related to the safety of the drinking water.

Contaminants	MCLG or MRDLG	MCL, TT, or MRDL	Your Water	Range Low	Range High	Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
<b>Disinfectants &amp; Disinfection By-Products</b> (There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.)								
Chlorine (as Cl <sub>2</sub> ) (ppm)	4	4	.27	ND	.36	2012	No	Water additive used to control microbes
TTHMs [Total Trihalomethanes] (ppb)	NA	80	3.9	0.7	9.3	2012	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (ppb)	NA	60	12.36	0.99	132	2012	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
<b>Inorganic Contaminants</b>								
Arsenic (ppb)	0	10	4.11	2	7	2010	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
Barium (ppm)	2	2	.11	0.03	0.11	2010	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Chromium (ppb)	100	100	6	ND	6	2010	No	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; Erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	1.54	0.27	1.54	2010	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Nitrate [measured as Nitrogen] (ppm)	10	10	1.95	ND	6.88	2012	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
<b>Microbiological Contaminants</b>								
Total Coliform (% positive samples/month)	0	5	0	NA		2012	No	Naturally present in the environment
<b>Radioactive Contaminants</b>								
Alpha emitters (pCi/L)	0	15	11	ND	11	2010	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium (combined 226/228) (pCi/L)	0	5	2.1	ND	2.1	2010	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Uranium (ug/L)	0	30	22	2.3	22	2010	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Contaminants	MCLG	AL	Your Water	Sample Date	# Samples Exceeding AL	Exceeds AL	Typical Source	
<b>Inorganic Contaminants</b>								
Copper - action level at consumer taps (ppm)	1.3	1.3	0.118	2010	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits	
Lead - action level at consumer taps (ppb)	0	15	2	2010	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits	

**FACT:**

The City of Nampa serves over 81,000 people with over 475 miles of pipe.

Secondary Standards are related to the aesthetics of the drinking water.

2012 City of Nampa Secondary and Other Contaminants		
ANALYSIS	MAX CONTAMINANT LEVELS (MG/Ls)	YOUR WATER RESULTS (MG/Ls)
ACIDITY	NONE	-129.10
ALKALINITY	NONE	149.33
BARIUM	2.0	0.06
CALCIUM	NONE	87.03
CADMIUM	0.005	0.0005
CHROMIUM	0.1	0.0003
CORROSIVITY	NONE	-.50
FLUORIDE	4.0	.73
HARDNESS	NONE	7.08 GRAINS
MERCURY	0.002	0.002
SELENIUM	0.05	0.0005
PH	10.0	7.56

Drinking water is one of our most important and valuable natural resources. We urge you to conserve water, and also your money, by using it wisely. Source: AWWA

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

**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.

**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 Disinfection 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.

**NA:** Not applicable

**ND:** Not detected

**ppb:** Parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (mg/L)

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

**pCi/L:** Picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)

**% positive samples/month:** Percent of samples taken monthly that were positive

**Primary Standards:** Federal drinking water regulations for substances that are health related. Water suppliers must meet all primary drinking water standards.

**Secondary Standards:** Federal drinking water measurements for substances that do not have an impact on health. These reflect aesthetic qualities such as taste, odor and appearance. Secondary standards are recommendations, not mandates.

We continually update our website with news regarding your water. It's a wonderful resource to check first. Go to [www.nampawaterdivision.org](http://www.nampawaterdivision.org) or email [water@cityofnampa.us](mailto:water@cityofnampa.us). Call our office at 208.468.5860. The City of Nampa's Council usually meets the first and third Monday of the month.