

Do I need to take special precautions?

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 and Central District Health guidelines on appropriate means to lessen risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Water Drinking Hotline at 1.800.426.4791.

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.

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.

Frequently Asked Questions

Is my water hard?

City of Nampa water hardness level ranges from none to 7.08 grains of hardness per gallon. Water hardness is classified by the U.S. Department of Interior and the Water Quality Association as follows:

Classification	grains/gal
Soft	0-1
Slightly hard	1-3.5
Moderately hard	3.5-7.0
Hard	7.0-10.5
Very hard	10.5+

Water becomes hard by picking up mineral as it moves through the soil and rock. Water is a good solvent, so it retains minerals easily. Hard water can leave residue on glassware and plumbing fixtures, but it does not pose a public health hazard. Vinegar or store-bought mineral removal products can prevent and remove mineral buildup on dishes or other glass surfaces.

Is there fluoride in my water?

Some fluoride compounds dissolve easily into groundwater as it moves through gaps and pore spaces between rocks. City of Nampa water supplies contain naturally occurring, low levels of fluoride; therefore our water supplies meet EPA standards for fluoride.

Do I need a backflow assembly?

If you are unsure of your need for a device, please contact Nampa City Waterworks to schedule a determination survey. Our Backflow Inspector can provide you with details on the approved device type, premise isolation location, and information for ongoing test requirements. If you have any questions about your need for a backflow assembly, call the City of Nampa Waterworks to speak with our Backflow inspector.

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 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, 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.
- 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.

CITY OF NAMPA 2016

water QUALITY REPORT



NAMPA Proud

Dear Customers,

We are pleased to share with you the City of Nampa 2016 Consumer Confidence Report (CCR). We vigilantly safeguard the water supply and are proud to report that our system has met or exceeded all drinking water quality standards.

While meeting requirements set for by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to ensure that the water provided by the City is safe to consume, we also welcome this opportunity to share water system improvements and programs management updates made in 2016. Reinvesting in water infrastructure is critical when striving to deliver the highest quality water possible to our customers - we have managed these improvements while maintaining affordable and sustainable rates.

A few improvements made to the water system in 2016 include the following:

- Well 20 was completed and brought on-line for additional water supply. The well will provide 2500 gpm for domestic and fire protection in the northern expansion of the City service area near Ridgevue High School.
- Preventative maintenance was performed on one domestic water pumping facility. The preventative maintenance program helps ensure reliability of the City well system.
- Completed rehabilitation and upgrade of the Well 5 well house.
- Demolition of pump house and cistern on Wells 1 and 2.
- A test well was constructed at Midway Park to verify the presence of high-quality ground water for a future municipal drinking water well.

If you have any questions about this report, please go to www.nampawaterdivision.org, email us at water@cityofnampa.us, or call our office at 208.468.5860.

Sincerely,

Keith Begay
Nampa Water Department Superintendent

Where Does Your Water Come From?

The City of Nampa's drinking water supply is fully sourced by groundwater wells, 14 in total, which draw from the western Snake River Plain Aquifer. These wells serve over 88,221 customers. Water is delivered to individual homes and businesses through over 488 miles of pipe.

Source Water Assessment

In this water quality report you will find an overview of the water testing programs in place to protect your drinking water system. 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 drinking water sources, conduct assessments on all public water systems, and make the assessments available to the consumer. The City of Nampa's Source Water Assessment can be requested through Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (IDEQ) by calling 208.373.0500.

Protect your family Get your backflow assembly tested

If you have a sprinkler system connected to the public water supply or own a commercial property, you are required by state law to have an approved backflow assembly installed and tested annually. Backflow assemblies are mechanical devices that safeguard public health by preventing contaminants from entering the public water supply.

Definitions

Action Level (AL): The concentration of a contaminate 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 contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

Not detected (ND): Substance not detectable using current monitoring methods.

ppb: Parts per billion, also known as micrograms per liter (µg/L) which is equal to the number of micrograms of a substance in one liter of water.

ppm: Parts per million, also known as milligrams per liter (mg/L) which is equal to the number of milligrams of a substance in one liter of water. One part per million is equal to 1,000 parts per billion.

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

2016 Drinking Water Quality

In 2016 the City of Nampa Waterworks Division took approximately 550 water samples and monitored for over 75 contaminants as required by the EPA and IDEQ, including disinfectant byproducts; organic, inorganic, microbiological, and radioactive contaminants. All results are for 2016, unless otherwise noted. Only contaminants that fell within detectable levels were included in this report. The results continue to meet or surpass all State and Federal drinking water standards.

Tips for Reading Results

Each of the regulated contaminants compares to a Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) and a Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG) as established by the EPA and IDEQ. Definitions for technical terms is included on the bottom of this page.

Contaminants	MCLG	MCL	Highest Result	Range of Results	Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
Disinfectants & Disinfectant By-Products (There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.)							
Chlorine (as Cl ₂) (ppm)	4	4	1.22	Annual Ave. 0.29	2016	No	Water additive used to control microbes
TTHMs [Total trihalomethanes] (ppb)	NA	80	5.5	ND - 5.5	2016	No	Disinfection by-product
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (ppb)	NA	60	3.1	ND - 3.1	2016	No	Disinfection by-product
Inorganic Contaminants							
Arsenic (ppb)	0	10	7.1	4.7 - 7.1	2016	No	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Barium (ppm)	2	2	0.07	ND - 0.07	2016	No	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Chromium (ppb)	100	100	4.0	ND - 4.0	2016	No	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	1.5	0.5 - 1.5	2016	No	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Nitrate [measured as Nitrogen] (ppm)	10	10	6.4	ND - 6.4	2016	No	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Microbiological Contaminants							
Total Coliforms (% positive in monthly samples)	0	5	0	0	2016	No	Naturally Present in Environment
Radioactive Contaminants							
Alpha emitters (pCi/L)	0	15	18.4	Annual Ave. 3.7	2016	No	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Radium (pCi/L) (combined 226/228)	0	5	1.5	ND - 1.5	2016	No	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Combined Uranium (ug/L)	0	30	15	3 - 15	2016	No	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Contaminants	MCLG	AL	Highest Result	# Samples Exceeding AL	Sample Date	Exceeds AL	Typical Source
Inorganic Contaminants							
Copper - action level at consumer taps (ppm)	1.3	1.3	0.07	0	2016	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Lead - action level at consumer taps (ppb)	0	15	0	0	2016	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits

Este informe contiene informacion muy importante sobre la calidad de su agua potable. Por favor lea este informe o comuniquese con alguien que pueda traducir la informacion.