SUB's 2013 Annual Water Quality Consumer Confidence Report

SUB performs more than 8,000 water quality tests each year. Trained staff collects water samples from wells, storage facilities and various points in the distribution system. Many of these samples are then taken to a state-licensed laboratory for analysis, and results are reported to the State of Oregon.

Below, you will find a chart that lists all the regulated items detected in water sampled as part of SUB's water quality program - even those found in insignificant amounts. These tests are required by the Oregon Health Authority Drinking Water Services and the Environmental Protection Agency. In addition to mandated tests, SUB conducts additional sampling to ensure the highest possible water quality.

Water quality results

Water Tests	Unit	Federal Limit	Federal Goal	Year Tested	SUB's System (Range detected)	Year Tested	RWD's System (Range detected)	In Compliance?	Typical Source
Inorganics									
Arsenic	ppb	10	0	2013	(ND - 3.4)	2013	(ND - 4.8)	Yes	Erosion of natural deposits in groundwater
Barium	ppm	2	2	2013	(ND - 0.0066)			Yes	Erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate	ppm	10	10	2013	(ND - 1.7)	2013	(ND - 1.7)	Yes	Natural deposits, runoff from fertilizers, leaching from septic tanks, sewage
Sodium	ppm	N/A	N/A	2013	(3.6 - 12.7)	2012	(5.1 - 21.9)	Yes	Erosion of natural deposits
Disinfectant									
Chlorine	ppm	MRDL = 4	MRDLG = 4	2013	(0.40 - 0.51) RAA = 0.45	2013	(0.25 - 0.74) RAA = 0.51	Yes	Water additive used to control microbes
Disinfection Byproducts									
Haloacetic Acids	ppb	60	N/A	2013	(ND - 13.8) RAA = 7.57	2013	ND	Yes	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
Total Trihalomethanes	ppb	80	N/A	2013	(ND - 23.5) RAA = 16.3	2013	(ND - 1.25)	Yes	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
Microbiological									
Total Coliform	N/A	5% of monthly samples are positive	0%	2013	1.4%	2013	0%	Yes	Naturally present in the environment
E. Coli	N/A		0%	2013	1.4%	2013	0%	Yes	Human or animal fecal waste
Turbidity	NTU	TT= 5 NTU	N/A	2013	(0.04 - 0.80)			Yes	Soil erosion
		TT= percentage of samples below 1.0 NTU		2013	100%				from runoff
Radiological									
Gross Alpha	pCi/L	15	0	2009	(3.0 - 3.3)	2009	(ND - 3.3)	Yes	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium Combined	pCi/L	5	0	2009	(ND - 1)	2012	ND	Yes	Erosion of natural deposits
Lead and Copper Sampling at High Risk Residential Water Taps									
Copper	ppm	AL=1.3 (AL exceeded if 10% or more homes tested above 1.3 ppm)	N/A	2011	1.19 (3 sites over AL)	2012	0.52 (0 sites over AL)	Yes	Corrosion of household and commercial plumbing
Lead	ppb	AL=15 (AL exceeded if 10% or more homes tested above 15 ppb)	N/A	2011	8.1 (0 sites over AL)	2012	3.8 (0 sites over AL)	Yes	Corrosion of household and commercial plumbing
Unregulated Contaminants					Average (Range)				
Chromium	ppb	N/A	N/A	2013	0.02 (ND - 0.21)			N/A	Erosion of natural deposits
Chromium-6	ppb	N/A	N/A	2013	0.14 (ND - 0.36)			N/A	Erosion of natural deposits
Strontium	ppb	N/A	N/A	2013	59 (26 - 150)			N/A	Erosion of natural deposits
Vanadium	ppb	N/A	N/A	2013	2.9 (0.91 - 4.8)			N/A	Erosion of natural deposits

Additional water testing information:

- SUB routinely tests for over 120 inorganic and organic chemical contaminants at each of the utility's five drinking water source facilities and throughout the water distribution system.
- SUB collects over 750 distribution samples annually to test for microbial contaminants. Only two of these tests were considered unsatisfactory, but all follow-up samples were satisfactory. Two unsatisfactory samples is not considered a public health threat.
- SUB monitors Springfield's drinking water quality around-the-clock and also provides over 8000 additional tests throughout the water system to verify that the water is clean and safe.
- Fluoride: There is no detectable fluoride in SUB's source water or drinking water.
- Hardness: SUB's source water supplies are considered soft. The water hardness in the West System is about 30-55 ppm, the East System hardness is about 25-35 ppm, and the North System hardness is about 55-65 ppm.
- pH: The water pH in the West System is about 6.8 – 7.9 and the East System's pH is about 6.8-7.0. The North System has a pH range of about 6.8 - 7.5.

Special Notices

A Source Water Assessment that evaluates risks to groundwater and surface water has been completed as part of Springfield's Drinking Water Protection Plan. The plan was adopted May 17, 1999, and revised October 7, 2002. Copies may be reviewed or purchased for the cost of reproduction at the Springfield Public Library, Springfield Planning Services Division, Rainbow Water District or SUB's Water Service Center.

For more information on water issues

Learn more about water issues by attending SUB Board meetings, volunteering to help with pollution prevention projects, or by serving on a Customer Advisory Committee. If you have questions or need more information, contact:

SUB Water Quality Program Manager
(541) 726-2396

Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline
(800) 426-4791

Oregon Health Authority (OHA) Drinking Water Program
(971) 673-0405

Este reporte contiene información que usted quizas desee tenerlo traducido.

Springfield water and you!

When it comes to drinking water, most of what we pour from our taps comes from water that ran past our feet not long before. That's because nearly 90 percent of Springfield's water is drawn from water-laden gravel and sand that lie directly beneath the city. As water is extracted from the ground by wells, it is replenished, or "recharged," primarily by rain and snowmelt that soaks into the ground – but not before it has absorbed some of what it touches along the way. And that means what we dump on the ground – whether it is fertilizer, pesticides, motor oil or chemicals – will ultimately affect the quality of what we pump out.

Given our up-close and personal relationship with our water supply, it goes without saying that one of Springfield Utility Board's most important jobs is protecting Springfield's water supply at the source. Despite SUB's excellent record of quality, a community that lives and works in such close proximity to its drinking water source cannot afford to act with indifference. On the contrary, the actions each person and each business take and make each day will determine the future quality of the water you drink.

Things you can do to help keep our water safe:

- Never put motor oil or other debris down storm drains. They drain right to the river!
- Think about the amount of fertilizer you use on your home or business landscape. Those chemicals add up and can strain natural filtration systems, which could result in more expensive water treatment.
- For pest control, find organic alternatives to synthetic chemical pesticides, or try inter-planting, which can help reduce pests without using chemicals.
- If your home or business is located in a wellhead protection area, take extra precautions to make sure potentially hazardous materials have secondary containment. And remember, in most cases, that's as easy as storing them in a bucket!

A key to abbreviations and terminology used in the tables

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AL or ACTION LEVELS: Concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements a water system must follow.

FEDERAL LIMIT or MAXIMUM CONTAMINANT LEVEL: The highest level of a contaminant allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set by the Environmental Protection Agency to be as close to the MCLG as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

FEDERAL GOAL or MAXIMUM CONTAMINANT LEVEL GOAL: The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health, as set by the Environmental Protection Agency (MCLGs allow for a margin of safety).

MRDL or Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level: The highest level of disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

MRDLG or Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal: 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.

N/A: Not applicable.

ND: Not detected.

NTU or NEPHELOMETRIC TURBIDITY UNITS: Units of measure for turbidity.

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

PPB or PARTS PER BILLION: One pound of contaminant per billion pounds of water.

PPM or PARTS PER MILLION: One pound of contaminant per million pounds of water.

RAA or RUNNING ANNUAL AVERAGE: Computed using monthly or quarterly results and is a value used for compliance.

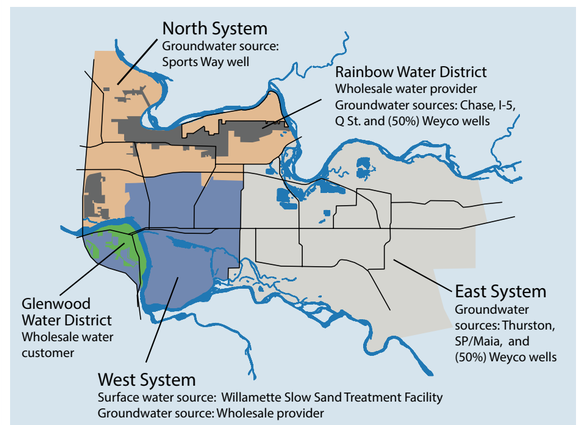
RWD: Rainbow Water District, a wholesale Groundwater provider.

TT or TREATMENT TECHNIQUE: A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

TURBIDITY: A measure of the cloudiness of water caused by suspended particles.

UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS: Contaminants that don't yet have a drinking water standard set by Environmental Protection Agency. The purpose of monitoring these is to help EPA decide whether the contaminants should have a standard.

Springfield Utility Board Water Systems and Sources



Health Information for SUB Customers

Drinking water (even bottled water) may contain small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. For more information about contaminants and the potential health effects, call the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

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. About three quarters of Springfield's drinking water is provided by groundwater wells and the other one quarter is provided by a blend of river and well water that is filtered.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

- Inorganics, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.
- Microbial, such as viruses, and bacteria which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.
- Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum productions, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems.
- Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses.
- Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

SPECIAL NOTICES:
To ensure safe drinking water, EPA regulates the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The Food and Drug Administration establishes limits for contaminants in bottled water to provide the same protection for public health.

Some people may be more vulnerable than others to contaminants in drinking water. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons having undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, infants and some elderly people 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 at the number listed in this report.

CONCERNING LEAD IN YOUR HOME'S WATER:
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 Springfield Utility Board 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 two 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 the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.