

The Oregon Water Utilities-Ridgewater water system draws its drinking water from groundwater at an on-site well.



In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and the Oregon Health Authority prescribe regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. U.S. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

Your drinking water is routinely monitored for these contaminants according to federal and state laws. This year's water quality table shows the results of drinking water tests for the period of January 1st to December 31st, 2024. Some contaminants are tested less than once per year; therefore, the most recent results are displayed in the table. As you can see from our most recent test results, OWU-Ridgewater drinking water meets all state and federal standards.

The sources of drinking water, both tap and bottled water, include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs and wells. As water travels over the land or underground, it can pick up substances, or contaminants such as microbes, inorganic and organic chemicals, and radioactive substances.

Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock, 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 comes from agricultural, urban storm-water runoff, and residential uses.

Organic Chemical Contaminants, synthetic and volatile organic chemicals are byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum productions, and also from gas stations, urban storm-water runoff, and septic tanks.

Radioactive Contaminants, naturally occurring or the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

All drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least some small amounts of some contaminants. It is important to remember that the presence of these contaminants does not necessarily pose a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the USEPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

If you have any questions about this report concerning your drinking water quality, please contact:

Mr. Mackay Burcher at 541-850-5566



**Oregon
Water Utilities**

RIDGEWATER 2024

Water Quality / Consumer Confidence Report



We are pleased to present to you this year's Annual Water Quality / Consumer Confidence Report. This report is designed to inform you about the quality of water and services we deliver to you every day. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water.

We are committed to complying with the Oregon Health Authority requirements to supply the Oregon Water Utilities-Ridgewater users with safe drinking water. We work around the clock to provide top quality water to every tap. We ask that all our customers help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community.

In this table you will find many terms you might not be familiar with. To help you better understand these terms, we have provided the following definitions:

MCL: Maximum Contaminant Level. The “Maximum Allowed” (MCL) is the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCL’s are set as close to the MCLG’s as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

MCLG: Maximum Contaminant Level Goal. The “Goal” is the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLG’s allow for a margin of safety.

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

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/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline: (800) 426-4791.

Lead is tested at five residential taps every three years in the OWU-Ridgewater system. The most recent lead testing took place in 2024. Lead was not detected above the Oregon Action Level of 15 parts-per-billion. Another round of lead testing will be conducted in 2027. 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. Oregon Water Utilities-Ridgewater is responsible for providing high quality drinking water and removing lead pipes but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components in your home. You share the responsibility for protecting

yourself and your family from the lead in your home plumbing. You can take responsibility by identifying and removing lead materials within your home plumbing and taking steps to reduce your family’s risk. Before drinking tap water, flush your pipes for several minutes by running your tap, taking a shower, doing laundry or a load of dishes. You can also use a filter certified by an American National Standards Institute accredited certifier to reduce lead in drinking water. If you are concerned about lead in your water and wish to have your water tested, contact Oregon Water Utilities-Ridgewater. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>

As part of our commitment, we completed the initial lead service line material inventory required by the United States Environmental Protection Agency’s (U.S. EPA’s) Lead and Copper Rule Revisions (LCRR). The deadline to complete the initial inventories is October 16, 2024.

OWU has completed the inventory of the service lines for our water system and is proud to report that no lead lines were determined. All service lines and house lines

have been classified as non-lead. This determination was made by thoroughly reviewing historical records. OWU will continue to document service line material information obtained after October 2024 and will update the inventory accordingly. If you wish to learn more about the lead inventory initiative or get information on your identified service line material, please email lead.line@nexuswg.com.

Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially harmful, waterborne pathogens may be present or that a potential pathway exists through which contamination may enter the drinking water distribution system. We found coliforms indicating the need to look for potential problems in water treatment or distribution. When this occurs, we are required to conduct investigation(s) to identify problems and to correct any problems that were found during these investigation(s). During the past year, we were required to conduct one level 1 coliform investigation. One level 1 coliform investigation was completed. In addition, we were required to take one corrective action and we completed one of these actions.

| RIDGEWATER DRINKING WATER TESTED IN 2024 | | | | | | |
|--|--|------|---------------------|-----------------|--|--------------------------------|
| Chemical | MCL | MCLG | Result | Meets Standard? | Most Recent Test | Typical Source of Contaminant |
| Arsenic (ppb) | 10 | 0 | 4 | Yes | 2022 | Leaching from Natural Deposits |
| Sodium (ppm) | n/a | n/a | 23 | n/a | 2022 | Leaching from Natural Deposits |
| Combined Radium (pCi/L) | 5 | 0 | 0.2 | Yes | 2021 | Leaching from Natural Deposits |
| ND = Not Detected; ppb = parts-per-billion; ppm = parts-per-million; n/a = not applicable; MCL = Maximum Contaminant Level; (MCLG) = federal MCL Goal; pCi/L = picocuries per liter | | | | | | |
| BACTERIA LEVELS IN THE DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM | | | | | | |
| Bacteria Type | Treatment Technique | | Number of Positives | Meets Standard? | Typical Source Of Contaminant | |
| Total Coliform Bacteria | More than one positive sample in a month requires assessment and corrective action | | 1* | Yes | Coliform bacteria are naturally present in the environment. | |
| | MCL | | Number of Positives | Meets Standard? | Typical Source Of Contaminant | |
| E. coli | Positive in a total coliform or E. coli repeat sample or total coliform repeat positive following E. coli routine positive | | 0 | Yes | E. coli is a specific species of coliform bacteria found in the intestines of warm-blooded animals and humans. | |
| Under the Revised Total Coliform Rule (2016), total coliform occurrence will continue to be investigated as a treatment technique, although it is no longer associated with an MCL. A treatment technique is a required process to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water. Emphasis is now placed on the MCL for E. coli because it is a reliable indicator of fecal contamination. One monthly sample is collected in the distribution system and analyzed for total coliform and E. coli. | | | | | | |
| LEAD AND COPPER ACTION LEVELS AT RESIDENTIAL TAPS | | | | | | |
| Metal | Action Level (2) | MCLG | 90th Percentile | Meets Standard? | Typical Source Of Contaminant | |
| Copper (ppm) | 1.3 | 1.3 | 0.08 | Yes | Corrosion of Household Plumbing | |
| Lead (ppb) | 15 | 0 | 2.3 | Yes | Corrosion of Household Plumbing | |
| The most recent lead and copper at-the-tap samples were collected from five residences in 2024. None of the five samples tested for lead and copper exceeded the respective Action Level (AL). Ridgeview complies with the Lead and Copper Rule. A regulatory Action Level is the concentration of a contaminant which if exceeded triggers treatment or other requirements. The standard is exceeded if the 90th percentile value of all of the five samples exceeds the AL. | | | | | | |