WHOSE RESPONSIBILITY IS IT?

A water service line is the smaller line that transmits water from the larger water main in the street to your home. When they leak or rupture, it can be manifest by a noise or by water seeping up through the ground. As leaks are noticed, the typical question asked is, "Who's responsible for repairing the leak?" If a leak is noticed, the Water Department can help determine the answer to this question.

Ownership and maintenance responsibility of service lines is separated at a valve known as a curb stop, which is located at or near the property line. When shut off, the curb stop will terminate any leak on the homeowner's side. However, if the leak persists when the curb stop is off, it is the City's responsibility to repair the leak. If a leak is found on the homeowner's side of the service line, it becomes their responsibility to contact a plumber or contractor to have it repaired.

Check Out Our Website

HOW WATER WORKS

Have you ever wondered how a water system works? Now you can by taking a virtual tour of a water system on our webpage with "*How Water Works*." This interactive tour will take you on a 3-D virtual trip of a water system.

The tour allows you to view integral parts of a water system from wells to household fixtures. Simply enter the following link into your web browser:

http://www.idahofallsidaho.gov/city/city-departments/public-works/water.html

Now select the "How Water Works" link on the Water Department home page to begin the tour. Enjoy!

THE STORY OF WATER

For the kids, there's an interactive and instructional site with facts, games, and trivia for them to learn about water. Enter the same link into your browser and select "The Story of Water."

DEAR WATER CUSTOMER,

The 1996 Safe Drinking Water Act requires that water utilities provide information to their customers with respect to the quality of their water. The City of Idaho Falls is proud of its water quality and views this requirement as an opportunity to share that pride with its water customers. To insure water quality and safety, the water is routinely sampled and tested. This test data is supplied to and monitored on a regular basis by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the State of Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ). Idaho Falls water consistently meets or exceeds water quality standards and the results of these tests are maintained on file at the City's Water Department, the DEQ and the EPA.

Idaho Falls receives its water from nineteen (19) deep wells located throughout the City. Water supplied by these wells comes from the East Snake River Plain Aquifer and is of high quality. A small amount of chlorine is added to the water as a precautionary measure to protect against microbial contaminants that might enter the water system.

The source of any drinking water (either tap water or bottled water) includes 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 before we treat it include:

Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural and 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 and farming.

Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture and residential uses.

Radioactive contaminants, which are naturally occurring.

Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production. They can also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems.

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

Drinking water (including bottled water) may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. The **EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791)** contains more information about contaminants and potential health effects

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/DEQ guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the **EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791)**.

WE ARE HERE TO ASSIST YOU

If you have any questions or comments regarding the content of this report, please contact:

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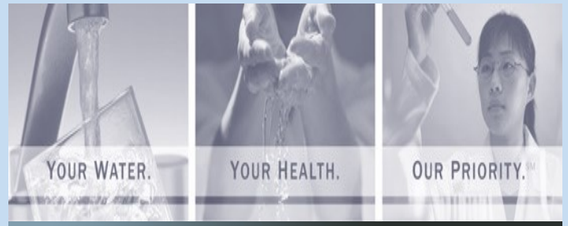

Water Quality Report

for water testing during the

2014 Calendar Year

Este informe contiene información muy imporante sobre el agua que usted bebe. Tradúzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

Prepared by:

The City of Idaho Falls

Water Division

2014 Water Quality Data

(ALL RESULTS ARE IN PPM UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED)

REGULATED SUBSTANCES DETECTED BY SAMPLING CITY WELL SITES

Contaminant Sampled	MCL or AL	MCLG	Well Site Average	Range Detected	# Well Sites Sampled	When Sampled	Is there a Violation?	Typical Sources of Contaminant
Nitrate	10	10	1.9	1.5-2.4	14	July 2014	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Arsenic	0.01	0	0.001	0.0-0.002	14	July 2010	No	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards, runoff from glass & electronics production wastes
Barium	2	2	0.0	0.0-0.1	14	July 2010	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride	4	4	0.3	0.2-0.3	14	July 2010	No	Erosion of natural deposits; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Alpha Particles *(measured in pCi/L)*	15 pCi/L	0 pCi/L	3.5 pCi/L	0-6 pCi/L	5	July 2014	No	Erosion of natural deposits of certain minerals that are radioactive and may emit a form of radiation known as alpha radiation
Uranium *(measured in PPB)*	30 pCi/L	0 pCi/L	0.94 pCi/L	0-1.2 pCi/L	13	July 2014	No	Erosion of natural deposits

Contaminant Sampled	MCL or AL	MCLG	Location Average	Range Detected	# Locations Sampled	When Sampled	Is there a Violation?	Typical Sources of Contaminant
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)	80 ppb	N/A	4.1 ppb	3.5-4.7 ppb	2	Twice/yr 2013	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Total Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	60 ppb	N/A	0.54 ppb	0.2-0.76 ppb	2	Twice/yr 2013	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection

REGULATED SUBSTANCES DETECTED BY SAMPLING AT TAPS FROM BUILDINGS IN THE SERVICE AREA

Contaminant Sampled	MCL or AL	MCLG	Annual # or %Positive	Range Detected	# Buildings Sampled	When Sampled	Is there a Violation?	Typical Sources of Contaminant
Total Coliform Bacteria	< 5%	0%	0.3% (2 of 742)	N/A	30	Twice Monthly	No	Naturally present in the environment
Lead (90% Value)	15 ppb	0 ppb	3.0 ppb	0-13 ppb	32	July 2012	No	Erosion of pipes within the water system, erosion of natural mineral deposits
Copper	1.3	1.3	0.148	0-0.214	32	July 2012	No	Erosion of pipes within the water system, erosion of natural mineral deposits

HOW TO UNDERSTAND THE TABLE
Answers to Some Frequently Asked Questions

Are all contaminants sampled at the same locations?

The EPA requires that drinking water be regularly sampled for contaminants. Depending upon the contaminant, samples must be taken either at the well or at appropriate, previously approved sites within the system. For this purpose, rows in the table have been grouped and color coded based on where the samples were taken.

Does the table include all sampled contaminants?

Don't let the small size of the table fool you. The EPA currently requires water systems to sample for 87 different regulated contaminants, and the list continues to grow over time. This report shows contaminants that were detected during the sampling process. To view the EPA's complete list of contaminants, use the internet to access the following document: http://www.epa.gov/safewater/consumer/pdf/mcl.pdf

Are all contaminants sampled every year?

Not all contaminants are required to be sampled each year. If a water system has proven that it consistently meets EPA standards, it can qualify for a waiver. Waivers allow the water system to sample on a less frequent basis for specific contaminants. Thanks to our excellent water quality, the City has qualified for multiple waivers. So enjoy a tall glass of clear water with the knowledge that it ranks among the best!

What do the abbreviations and terms in the table mean?

- **Public Health Goal** (Also known as the "Maximum Contaminant Level Goal" or "MCLG"): The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected health risk. MCLG's allow for a margin of safety.
- **MCL** (Maximum Contaminant Level): The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCL's are set as close to MCLG's as feasible using the best available treatment technology.
- **AL** (Action Level): The concentration of a contaminant, which if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.
- **N/A**: Not applicable. No value has been established.
- **ND**: Contaminant was not detected in the sample at the testing limit
- **PPM**: Parts per million (also milligrams per liter)
- **PPB**: Parts per billion (also micrograms per liter)
- **% Positive**: Total coliform sample results are either positive or negative. The number of positive results are divided by the total number of samples taken during the year. This determines the % Positive value.
- **90% Value**: Lead and copper levels are computed by placing the results of all the lead or copper samples during a monitoring period in ascending order from the sample with the lowest concentration to the sample with the highest concentration. Each sample is then assigned an ascending number starting with number 1 for the sample with the lowest contaminant level. The number assigned to the sample with the highest contaminant level will be equal to the total number of samples taken. The number of samples taken during the monitoring period is multiplied by 0.9 to determine which sample is the 90% value.
- **pCi/L**: picocuries per liter