

Indian Paintbrush Water District Annual Drinking Water Quality Report 2016

Is my water safe?

We are pleased to present this year's Annual Water Quality Report (Consumer Confidence Report) as required by the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). This report is designed to provide details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to standards set by regulatory agencies. This report is a snapshot of last year's water quality. We are committed to providing you with information because informed customers are our best allies. Last year, we conducted tests for over 80 contaminants. We only detected 10 of those contaminants, and found only 1 at a level higher than the EPA allows. As we informed you at the time, our water temporarily exceeded drinking water standards. (For more information see the section labeled Violations at the end of the report.)

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/Centers for Disease Control (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).

Where does my water come from?

Indian Paintbrush Water District's water comes from a ground water source, and is one of the purest in the country. Indian Paintbrush Water District operates 2 wells in the Snake River Alluvial Aquifer.

Source water assessment and its availability

There is no source water assessment for Indian Paintbrush Water District.

Why are there contaminants in my drinking water?

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. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the

Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Safe Drinking Water Hotline (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:

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 stormwater 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 stormwater 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 stormwater runoff, and septic systems; and radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities. 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.

How can I get involved?

You may contact Mike Calabrese with questions about getting involved with the water board.

Water Conservation Tips

Did you know that the average U.S. household uses approximately 400 gallons of water per day or 100 gallons per person per day? Luckily, there are many low-cost and no-cost ways to conserve water. Small changes can make a big difference - try one today and soon it will become second nature.

- Take short showers - a 5 minute shower uses 4 to 5 gallons of water compared to up to 50 gallons for a bath.
- Shut off water while brushing your teeth, washing your hair and shaving and save up to 500 gallons a month.
- Use a water-efficient showerhead. They're inexpensive, easy to install, and can save you up to 750 gallons a month.
- Run your clothes washer and dishwasher only when they are full. You can save up to 1,000 gallons a month.
- Water plants only when necessary.
- Fix leaky toilets and faucets. Faucet washers are inexpensive and take only a few minutes to replace. To check your toilet for a leak, place a few drops of food coloring in the tank and wait. If it seeps into the toilet bowl without flushing, you have a leak. Fixing it or replacing it with a new, more efficient model can save up to 1,000 gallons a month.
- Adjust sprinklers so only your lawn is watered. Apply water only as fast as the soil can absorb it and during the cooler parts of the day to reduce evaporation.

- Teach your kids about water conservation to ensure a future generation that uses water wisely. Make it a family effort to reduce next month's water bill!
- Visit www.epa.gov/watersense for more information.

Significant Deficiencies

In the 2016 report, Indian Paintbrush Water District received twelve significant deficiencies pertaining to our ground water system from the EPA's 2015 Sanitary Survey of the system. Some of the deficiencies were corrected and the others are to be corrected with the renovation of the water system. The water district has received an extension from the EPA on the completion time for correction of these significant deficiencies by November 30, 2017. The water district ensures you that we have worked and will continue to work closely with Clearwater Operations and the EPA to correct all significant deficiencies.

1. Well #1 (WL01) - Lack of sanitary seal on the well casing: loose bolts, missing nut, and lack of gasket were noted - reported on July 25, 2016. Correction deadline extended until November 30, 2017.

2. Well #2 (WL02) - Holes or openings observed in the well or its appurtenances: the electrical wire conduit does not make a watertight seal with the pitless adapter cap. There is about a 2-3 inch separation - reported on July 25, 2016. The separation has #24 mesh screen to protect against insects entering the casing. Correction deadline extended until November 30, 2017.

3. Main Tank (ST01) - Storage tank not structurally sound or maintained - reported on July 25, 2016. Correction deadline extended until November 30, 2017.

4. Main Tank (ST01) - Storage tank not cleaned and inspected within the last 10 years - reported on July 25, 2016. Correction deadline extended until November 30, 2017.

5. Main Tank (ST01) - Overflow on finished water storage tank discharges to improper height: overflow must be piped to an elevation between 12 and 24 inches above the ground surface and discharge over a drainage inlet structure, splash plate, or engineered rip-rap - reported on July 25, 2016. Correction deadline extended until November 30, 2017.

6. North Tank (ST02) - Storage tank not sealed: the electrical conduit for the pressure transducer was not properly connected - reported on July 25, 2016. Correction deadline extended until November 30, 2017.

7. North Tank (ST02) - Storage tank not cleaned and inspected within the last 10 years - reported on July 25, 2016. Correction deadline extended until November 30, 2017.

8. North Tank (ST02) - Overflow on finished water storage tank discharges at improper height: overflow must be piped to an elevation to between 12 and 24 inches above the ground surface and discharge over a drainage inlet structure, splash plate, or engineered rip-rap - reported on July 25, 2016.

Correction: Cut pipe to be 21 inches off of the ground and added more rock to extend splash plate area - completed on November 20, 2016.

9. North Tank (ST02) - Hatch on finished water storage tank improperly constructed: the hatch must have a rubber gasket to seal the hatch lid to the frame tightly to prevent contamination from entering the water system - reported on July 25, 2016.

Correction: Added gasket around tank opening to create a seal on the tank hatch - completed on November 20, 2016.

10. South Tank (ST03) - Storage tank not cleaned and inspected with the last 10 years - reported on July 25, 2016. Correction deadline extended until November 30, 2017.

11. South Tank (ST03) - Overflow on finished water storage tank discharges at improper height: overflow must be piped to an elevation to between 12 and 24 inches above the ground surface and discharge over a drainage inlet structure, splash plate, or engineered rip-rap - reported on July 25, 2016. Correction deadline extended until November 30, 2017.

12. South Tank (ST03) - Hatch on finished water storage tank improperly constructed: the hatch must have a rubber gasket to seal the hatch lid to the frame tightly to prevent contamination from entering the water system - reported on July 25, 2016. Correction deadline extended until November 30, 2017.

Additional Information for 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. Indian Paintbrush Water District 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 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>.

Water Quality Data Table

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The table below lists all of the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the calendar year of this report. Although many more contaminants were tested, only those substances listed below were found in your water. All sources of drinking water contain some naturally occurring contaminants. At low levels, these substances are generally not harmful in our drinking water. Removing all contaminants would be extremely expensive, and in most cases, would not provide increased protection of public health. A few naturally occurring minerals may actually improve the taste of drinking water and have nutritional value at low levels. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table is from testing done in the calendar year of the report. The EPA or the State requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not vary significantly from year to year, or the system is not considered vulnerable to this type of contamination. As such, some of our data, though representative, may be more than one year old. In this table you will find terms and abbreviations that might not be

familiar to you. To help you better understand these terms, we have provided the definitions below the table.

Contaminants	MCLG or MRDLG	MCL, TT, or MRDL	Detect In Your Water	Range		Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
				Low	High			
Inorganic Contaminants								
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	.2	NA	NA	2016	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Nitrate [measured as Nitrogen] (ppm)	10	10	.1	NA	NA	2016	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Sodium (optional) (ppm)	NA		2	NA	NA	2016	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching
Microbiological Contaminants								
E. coli (RTCR) - in the distribution system (positive samples)	0	Routine and repeat samples are total coliform positive and either is E. coli - positive or system fails to take repeat samples following E. coli positive routine sample or system fails to analyze total coliform positive repeat sample for E. coli.	1	NA	NA	2016	No	Naturally present in the environment. A routine sample result was E.coli positive in October 2016 from a home that was sitting vacant. All repeat samples came back negative therefore there was no violation.
Although we have detected E. coli, we are not in violation of the E. coli MCL.								
Total Coliform (RTCR) (% positive samples/month)	NA	TT	NA	NA	NA	2016	No	Naturally present in the environment
Total Coliform (TCR) (positive samples/month)	0	1	2	NA	NA	2016	Yes	Naturally present in the environment

Contaminants	MCLG or MRDLG	MCL, TT, or MRDL	Detect In Your Water	Range		Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
				Low	High			
Radioactive Contaminants								
Alpha emitters (pCi/L)	0	15	4	NA	NA	2013	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Uranium (ug/L)	0	30	8.9	NA	NA	2013	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Contaminants	MCLG	AL	Your Water	Sample Date	# Samples Exceeding AL	Exceeds AL	Typical Source	
Inorganic Contaminants								
Copper - action level at consumer taps (ppm)	1.3	1.3	.115	2016	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits	
Inorganic Contaminants								
Lead - action level at consumer taps (ppb)	0	15	2	2016	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits	

Violations and Exceedances

Total Coliform (TCR)

Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially-harmful, bacteria may be present. Coliforms were found in more samples than allowed and this was a warning of potential problems. Total Coliform positive occurred in June 2016 starting on June 15, 2016. The following month test results were negative. Turned off Spring as a source of water from the system.

Level 1 Assessment and Sanitary Defects

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 coliform indicating the need to look for potential problems in water treatment or distribution. When this occurs, we are required to conduct assessment(s) to identify problems and to correct any problems that were found during these assessments.

During the past year we were required to conduct one Level 1 Assessment(s). One Level 1 Assessment(s) were completed. In addition, we were required to take one corrective action(s) and we completed one assessment(s).

Unit Descriptions

Term	Definition
ug/L	ug/L : Number of micrograms of substance in one liter of water
ppm	ppm: parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/L)
ppb	ppb: parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (_g/L)
pCi/L	pCi/L: picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)
positive samples/month	positive samples/month: Number of samples taken monthly that were found to be

Unit Descriptions	
	positive
% positive samples/month	% positive samples/month: Percent of samples taken monthly that were positive
NA	NA: not applicable
ND	ND: Not detected
NR	NR: Monitoring not required, but recommended.
positive samples	positive samples/yr: The number of positive samples taken that year

Important Drinking Water Definitions	
Term	Definition
MCLG	MCLG: Maximum Contaminant Level Goal: 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.
MCL	MCL: Maximum Contaminant Level: 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.
TT	TT: Treatment Technique: A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
AL	AL: Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
Variances and Exemptions	Variances and Exemptions: State or EPA permission not to meet an MCL or a treatment technique under certain conditions.
MRDLG	MRDLG: Maximum residual disinfection 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.
MRDL	MRDL: Maximum residual disinfectant level. 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.
MNR	MNR: Monitored Not Regulated
MPL	MPL: State Assigned Maximum Permissible Level

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