

HOW TO CONTACT US:

Water Department

817-1567

Operations Center

817-1563

Billing (Finance) Dept.

834-2462

Finance Dept. Location:

616 NE Fourth Avenue

Camas, WA 98607

Emergency After Hours/

Holidays: 737-0592

City of Camas Website:

www.ci.camass.wa.us

City Council Meetings:

Two Workshops/Council meetings every 1st and 3rd Monday.

Workshops start at 4:30 p.m., followed by a Council meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Note: If Monday is a holiday, the workshop and council meeting are on the following business day.

**The City of Camas
Water Department is
Ensuring the Quality of
Your Water is Safe**

**Attention Non-English
Speaking Customers**

This report contains important information about your drinking water. Translate it or speak with someone who can translate it for you.

Russian

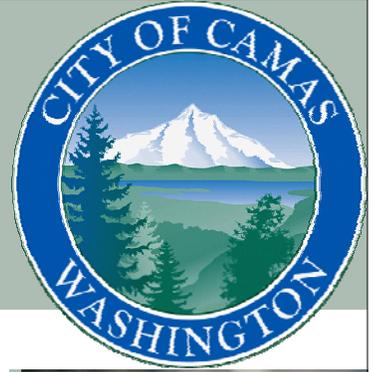
Это сообщение содержит важную информацию о вашей питьевой воде. Переведите это или говорите с кем - то, кто может перевести это для Вас.

Spanish

Este informe contiene información importante acerca de su agua potable. Haga que alguien lo traduzca para usted, o hable con alguien que lo entienda.

2008 Water Quality Report

City of Camas Consumer Confidence Report



2008 Water Quality Report

***We are pleased to report that our drinking water is safe,
and meets Federal and State requirements.***

At the City of Camas we understand how important it is to ensure the quality of the water we provide. The health of our consumers and their families is paramount. Our goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We work diligently to provide top quality water to more than 16,700 consumers (this equates to 6,801 utility customers which include residential, industrial and commercial users) each day. We are therefore pleased to report that our drinking water is safe, and surpasses all State and Federal health standards.

We ask that all of our customers help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community, our way of life, and our children's future. This report provides a summary of the tests and processes performed to ensure the safety of your drinking water. For more information or questions about this report, please contact Mike Stevens at 817-1563, extension 4283. This report can also be found on our website at www.ci.camass.wa.us.



**Conserve and Protect
Our Water Resources**

2009 Rate Increase

Financial Consulting Solutions Group conducted a water, sewer, sanitation, and stormwater rate study that was presented to the City Council on February 2, 2009. Subsequently, an increase in the water rates was approved and became effective in April, 2009. For a typical customer using approximately 800 cubic feet of water per month, the water portion of their bill will increase 82 cents per month. In the coming months, City staff will be briefing the City Council about necessary system improvements and future rate implications. The rate study presentation can be viewed at the City of Camas website at www.ci.camass.wa.us.

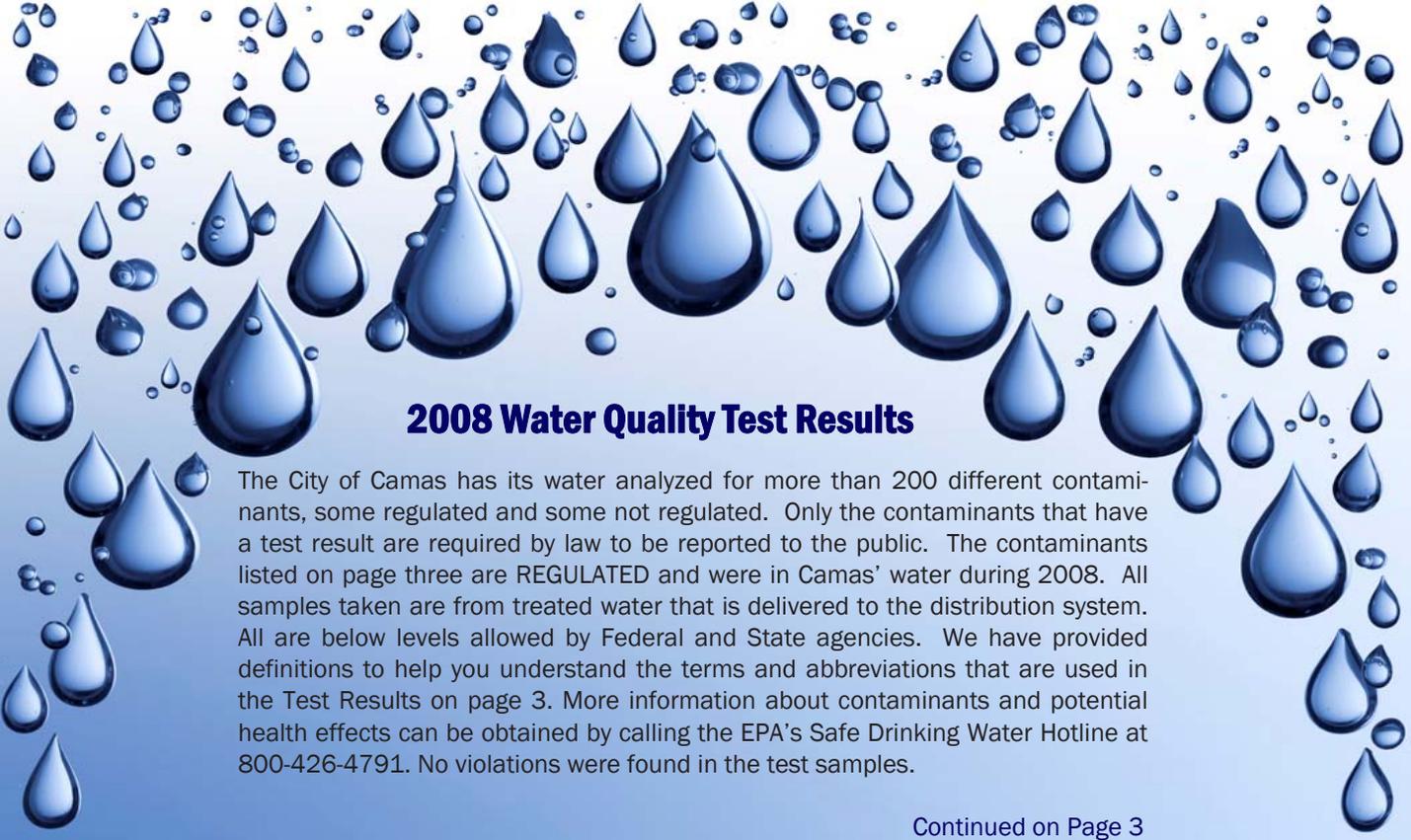
What's Ahead

Water is a precious resource. Let's use it wisely!



Our water system continues to change and expand to keep pace with the demand for reliable clean water for industrial, commercial, and residential use. In 2008 the Department of Ecology granted Camas new water rights that will meet the projected demand for the next 20 years. As part of the water right's grant, the City will forgo use of our surface source from May 15th through October 31st of 2009. To replace the surface source during the summer months, the City will start construction on Well 14 in 2009.

This year the City will complete an update of the Water Facility Plan that is required every six years. The plan analyzes our water system operations, capacity, infrastructure, regulatory compliance, and outlines improvements needed for deficiencies that are found.



2008 Water Quality Test Results

The City of Camas has its water analyzed for more than 200 different contaminants, some regulated and some not regulated. Only the contaminants that have a test result are required by law to be reported to the public. The contaminants listed on page three are REGULATED and were in Camas' water during 2008. All samples taken are from treated water that is delivered to the distribution system. All are below levels allowed by Federal and State agencies. We have provided definitions to help you understand the terms and abbreviations that are used in the Test Results on page 3. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 800-426-4791. No violations were found in the test samples.

Continued on Page 3

Important Health Information

Please report possible water pollution (illicit discharge) to the City of Camas at 360-817-1561, or the Department of Ecology Southwest Regional Office at 360-407-6300

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 EPA's 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, radio-active 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 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 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, and 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 EPA's regulations. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

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/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 at 800-426-4791.

2008 Water Quality Test Results

Terms and Abbreviations:

Color Units - Color may be indicative of dissolved organic material, inadequate treatment, high disinfectant demand and the potential for the production of excess amounts of disinfectant by-products. Inorganic contaminants such as metals are also common causes of color. In general, the point of consumer complaint is variable over a range from 5 to 30 color units, though most people find color objectionable over 15 color units.

Maximum Contaminant Level - The "Maximum Allowed" (MCL) is 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 - The "Goal" (MCLG) is 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.

Milligrams Per Liter (MG/L) - a unit used in reporting the concentration of matter in water as determined by water analyses.

Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU) - Nephelometric turbidity unit is a measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.

Ug/L - Units of measurement in micrograms/liter. A unit of concentration for dissolved substances based on their weights.

uMhos/cm (Micromhos Per Centimeter) - Used to measure conductivity. Conductivity is the numerical expression of the ability of water to carry an electrical current. It is determined by the number of ionic particles present.

Contaminant (Unit Measurement)	Violation	Range of Level Detected	Ideal Goal (MCLG)	Maximum Allowed (MCL)	Description & Origin of Substance
Health Related (Primary) Standards: Inorganic					
Fluoride (MG/L)	No	1.06	2.0	4.0	sodium fluoride added to Camas water to maintain good dental hygiene
Chloride (MG/L)	No	3.90	250	250	chlorides in groundwater can be naturally occurring in deep aquifers or caused by pollution from brine, or industrial or domestic wastes
Copper (MG/L)	No	.034	0.0	1.3	corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural products
Iron (MG/L)	No	.25	.30	.30	erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate (MG/L) (As Nitrogen)	No	1.46	5.0	10.0	runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural products
Nitrite (MG/L) (As Nitrogen)	No	.10	1.0	1.0	runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural products
Sodium (MG/L)	No	18.6*	N/A	N/A	erosion of natural deposits and ph adjustment
Aesthetic (Secondary) Standards and Other Characteristics (Physical)					
Turbidity (NTU)	No	.29 to 2.45**	1.0	1.0	naturally occurring; soil runoff
Color (color units)	No	<5	15	15	naturally occurring
Conductivity (uMhos/cm)	No	241	700	700	naturally occurring
Sulfate (MG/L)	No	10.97	250	250	naturally occurring
Disinfection By-Products and Residuals within the Distribution System					
Haloacetic acids	No	.90-12.3	48	60	by-product of drinking water disinfection
Total *** Trihalomethanes (Ug/L)	No	1.1-11.8	60	80	chlorination by-product caused by the reaction of chlorine with organic matter

Table Notes

*A recommended level of concern for those on diets with daily sodium intake restrictions. This "Level Detected" was the highest level detected in one of many samples taken throughout the water system in 2008.

** Number 9 Well exceeded MCL in May, 2008.

*** The sum of the concentration in milligrams per liter of the trihalomethane compounds (trichloromethane (chloroform), dibromochloromethane, bromodichloromethane and tribromomethane (bromoform)), rounded in two significant figures.

Water Quality Monitoring

The City of Camas routinely monitors for constituents in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. Field and laboratory analyses include tests for bacteria, as well as chemical and physical indicators. Reports are submitted monthly to the Department of Health to report that your water meets all drinking water standards. Should there ever be a public health concern, you would be notified immediately.

Water Conservation & Protection

The average daily consumption of water for Camas in 2008 was 3.71 millions of gallons per day (mgd). During our peak day on June 28th, the temperature in Camas was 97° F, and we consumed 7.8 mgd. Most of this increase in the summer months is due to irrigation demand.

We are once again asking for your help to reduce the amount of water wasted this year by implementing a voluntary odd/even lawn watering program for residential customers. Water on odd days if your house number ends in an odd number, and even days if it ends in an even number.

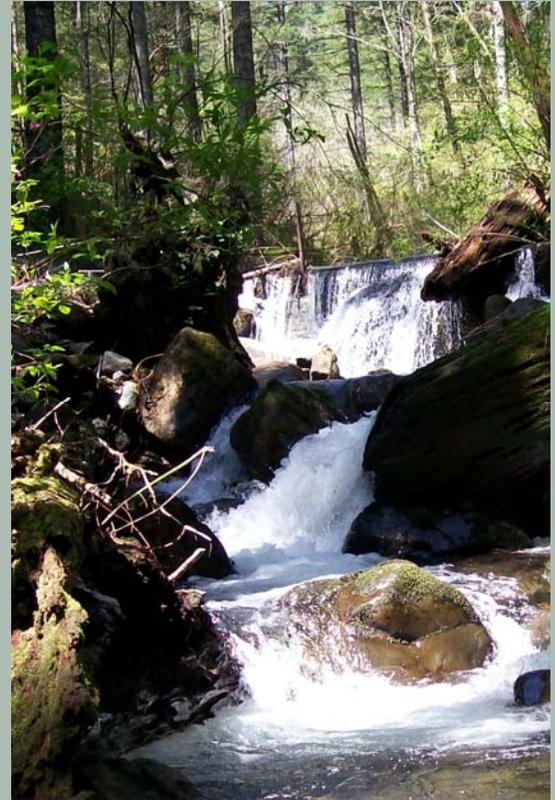
Tips for Conserving and Protecting Water Resources

- Fix leaks inside and outside, including old leaky faucets, toilets, hoses and sprinkler systems.
- Choose water saving fixtures and appliances, such as high-efficiency clothes washers and water-efficient dishwashers, which use 30% less water than traditional machines.
- Sweep porches, driveways, and sidewalks rather than hosing, to not only conserve water, but to avoid runoff.
- Water late at night or early in the morning (10p.m. to 6a.m.). **An inch of water per week is enough to keep lawns green.** Amend your soil, which allows the soil to more easily absorb water.

For more water saving ideas see our newsletters, news releases, printed material available at City Hall and the Operations Center, or visit our website at ci.camras.wa.us/services/forms/Utilities/WaterConservation.pdf, or the State website at ecy.wa.gov/programs/wr/ws/wtrcnsv.html.

Our Water System

The City of Camas has multiple water sources that include surface and ground water. The surface water sources, Boulder and Jones Creeks, are located on the south side of Larch Mountain, north-east of Camas. This surface water is disinfected, and then filtered at the Water Filtration Plant located near Lacamas Lake, before it enters the distribution system. The ground water sources include eight wells near the Washougal river, and one well in Grass Valley. All water sources are treated with chlorine for disinfection, fluoride for good dental health, and sodium hydroxide to reduce the corrosion of copper piping to meet State and EPA standards. Water pressure and fire flows are maintained throughout the service area with six distribution reservoirs, seven pumping stations, and over 137.5 miles of pipeline.



Surface Water Source Boulder Creek

Irrigation Systems

Washington State law requires every irrigation system to have a backflow device installed and inspected annually by a certified backflow tester to ensure it is working properly. Backflow devices are important because they prevent irrigation pipe contaminants from backing up into our community's drinking water supply. A list of certified backflow testers can be obtained from the City of Camas Building Department, or our City website above. For questions regarding backflow device testing, please leave a message on the City of Camas' Backflow Hotline at 817-1569. For more information go to www.ci.camras.wa.us/services/utilities/irrigation.



Newest Water Source

Our newest water source is Well 13. It was built to look like a residence to blend into the existing neighborhood. It produces 1,325 gallons per minute, and will be a great water asset during the hot summer days.

Water Leaks

Check out this helpful website www.epa.gov/watersense/fixaleak

The majority of leaks in residential plumbing systems are found at the toilet tank (fill and flapper valves). Locate your master water supply valve and label it.. The master supply-valve can be turned off easily in case of a major leak or broken pipe.

Other Common Leaks

- Lawn irrigation valves and lines
- Hose in yard turned on or leaking
- Ornamental fountains, fish ponds
- Relief valve or fittings on water heater
- Leaking pipes or fittings in the house
- Line between the meter and the house
- Dripping faucets in bathrooms or sinks
- Outside faucet open or dripping