

CITY OF POCATELLO

WATER DEPARTMENT



2021 Water Quality Report

Water Sampling Data Results From 2020
PWS# ID6030043



Safe Drinking Water

Our commitment to you!

Drinking water is our most precious resource and we are committed to provide a safe and adequate supply of water for our residential, commercial and industrial customers at the lowest practical cost, which is a bargain at two cents for ten gallons considering all that water provides—public health protection, fire protection, support for the economy, and quality of life.

Our customers play a significant role in maintaining the highest quality drinking water for the entire community and we appreciate the time you take to read this report, recognize your role and promote responsible action by everyone in the watershed.

Where does your water come from and where does it go?



SNOW MELT / AQUIFER

Snow melt from the Mink Creek and Gibson Jack Watershed areas contribute the majority of the water that recharges the Lower Portneuf Valley Aquifer. Because the water from this aquifer is so pure, we do not have to treat the water. We do add a small amount of chlorine to ensure purity throughout our distribution system.



WELL STATIONS

The City of Pocatello uses twenty-one well stations throughout the City to extract water from the Lower Portneuf Valley and Eastern Snake River Plain Aquifers. These wells are capable of producing more than 45-million gallons of water per day.



PUMPS

In order to serve the customers who live on the foothills surrounding Pocatello, water is pumped from the valley floor to sixteen water storage facilities located throughout the higher elevations of Pocatello. These storage facilities have a combined storage capacity of approximately 23 million gallons.



STORAGE

Because the water storage facilities are located at higher elevations, gravity provides water pressure to the homes below. To regulate the water pressures for customers in lower elevation area, pressure regulating valves are installed and maintained by highly trained operators.

Lead health effects and ways to reduce exposure:

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 City of Pocatello 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 drinking 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>.

Important Health Information

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 (Centers for Disease Control) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791) or <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/hotline>.



Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 10 ppm is a health risk for infants of less than six months of age. High nitrate levels in drinking water can cause blue baby syndrome. Nitrate levels may rise quickly for short periods of time because of rainfall or agricultural activity. If you are caring for an infant, you should ask advice from your health care provider.

The City of Pocatello provides its customers with drinking water that surpasses all State of Idaho and EPA drinking water health standards. 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 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 radioactive material and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The U.S. Food & Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

POTENTIAL CONTAMINANTS		
Contaminant	Type	Sources
Microbiological	Viruses & Bacteria	Sewage treatment plants, septic waste, agricultural, and livestock runoff
Inorganic Chemical	Salts & Metals	Naturally-occurring; urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming
Organic Chemical	Pesticides & Herbicides	Residential and agricultural use, urban storm water runoff
	Synthetic & Volatile	Byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production, gas stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems
Radioactive	Natural & Man Made Deposits	Mining, gas, and oil production, naturally occurring

GET INVOLVED

The City of Pocatello Water Department encourages public interest and participation in our community's decisions affecting drinking water. Regular Pocatello City Council Meetings occur on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month beginning at 6:00 p.m., at 911 North 7th Avenue in the City Council Chambers. The agendas for these meetings are posted on the bulletin boards at City Hall, and on the internet at <http://www.pocatello.us/>.

2020 Sampling Results							
Substance	Year Sampled	EPA's Standards		Pocatello's Results		Possible Sources	Violation
		MCL	MCLG	Minimum	Maximum		
Inorganic Contaminants							
Arsenic (ppb)	2019	10	0	1.00	2.00	Erosion of natural deposits.	No
Barium (ppm)	2019	2	2	0.08	0.18	Discharge from drilling wastes; erosion of natural deposits.	No
Chromium (ppb)	2019	100	100	ND	8.00	Erosion of natural deposits.	No
Nitrate (ppm)	2020	10	10	ND	6.65	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic	No
	(Running Annual Average = 3.9)						
Selenium (ppb)	2019	50	50	ND	5.00	Erosion of natural deposits; discharge from mines.	No
Radionuclides							
Alpha Emitters (pCi/l)	2019	15	N/A	ND	1.67	Erosion of natural deposits.	No
Radium 226 and 228 Combined (pCi/l)	2019	5	N/A	0.31	3.74	Erosion of natural deposits.	No
Uranium (ppb)	2019	30	0	1.51	3.07	Erosion of natural deposits.	No
Volatile Organic Contaminants							
Tetrachloroethylene (ppb)	2020	5	0	ND	0.81	Discharge from factories & dry cleaners.	No
Trichloroethylene (ppb)	2020	5	0	ND	0.82	Discharge from metal degreasing sites and other factories.	No
Lead & Copper Sampling at Residential Water Taps							
Lead (ppb)	2019	AL = 15	0			Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits.	No
90 th percentile for lead = 5.0 ppb AND number of sites above the AL = 0							
Copper (ppm)	2019	AL = 1.3	1.3			Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits.	No
90 th percentile for copper = 0.435 ppm AND number of sites above the AL = 0							
Disinfection By Products							
TTHM's [Total Trihalomethanes] (ppb)	2020	80	N/A	2.32	25.8	By-product of drinking water disinfection.	No
	(Running Annual Average = 10.4 ppb)						
Total Haloacetic Acids (ppb)	2020	60	N/A	1.14	3.94	By-product of drinking water disinfection.	No
	(Running Annual Average = 2.65 ppb)						
Maximum Residual Disinfection Level							
Chlorine (ppm)	2020	MRDL = 4	MRDLG = 4	0.03	0.88	Water additive used to control microbes.	No
	(Annual average = 0.390)						

TERMS & ABBREVIATIONS

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

Maximum Contamination Level (MCL): 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.

Maximum Contamination Level Goal (MCLG): 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.

Maximum Residual Disinfection Level (MRDL): The highest level of disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contamination.

Maximum Residual Disinfection Level Goal (MRDLG): 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 contamination.

ND: Not detected in the water at the testing limits.

Parts per billion (ppb) or micrograms per liter (µg/l): Indicates the amount of a contaminant found in a billion parts of water.

Parts per million (ppm) or milligrams per liter (mg/l): Indicates the amount of a contaminant found in a million parts of water. This is equivalent to finding one penny in \$10,000.

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

Source Water Assessment

The 1996 Safe Drinking Water Act amendments created a new program of source water assessments. The source water assessment report for the City of Pocatello was completed in November 2000. The report describes the City of Pocatello's drinking water system, the boundaries of the zones of water contribution, and the associated potential contaminant sources located within these boundaries. The ultimate goal of the assessment is to provide data to the City of Pocatello to develop a protection strategy for our drinking water supply system.

Water Testing

The Federal Safe Drinking Water Act requires water agencies to meet health-based water quality standards. Last year the City of Pocatello Water Department conducted over 2,500 tests for more than 100 different constituents in your drinking water, in accordance with Federal and State regulations.

Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in the water quality data table is from testing performed in 2020. The State allows us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentration of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year. Only those substances on the EPA's primary (regulated) contaminant list that are detected in the drinking water are listed on the table.

CITY AT WORK...

Water Department Capital Improvements Projects

What's happening...

Current Projects

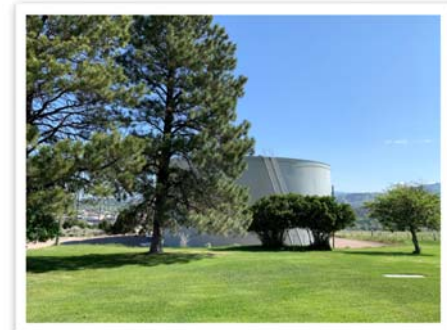
- ◆ Well 12 Transmission Line
- ◆ Hartford Pressure Reducing Valve
- ◆ Fire Hydrant Flushing
- ◆ Pocatello Creek Booster & Transmission Line
- ◆ West Bench 5MG Tank Interior Recoating
- ◆ Bullock St. Water Line Extension
- ◆ Mainline Replacement
 - ◆ N. Lincoln Ave, Custer St, N. Buchanan Ave
 - ◆ Jefferson Ave from Poplar St to Alameda Rd
 - ◆ Grant Ave from Day St to Center St
 - ◆ Opal St.



What's Coming...

Future Projects

- ◆ West Bench 5MG Tank Interior Recoating
- ◆ Pressure Management - PRV Station
- ◆ Highland Tank Drain Modifications
- ◆ New 2,000 gpm Well
- ◆ Barton Booster Surge Tank
- ◆ Well 12 & 13 Pump Replacement & Reconfiguration
- ◆ Satterfield Well - Highland Golf Course
- ◆ High Country Tank Replacement
- ◆ Well 2 Replacement
- ◆ Mainline Replacement
 - ◆ Hayes Ave, Benton to North
 - ◆ Gould St, Main St to Garrett Way
 - ◆ Gould St, Hayes Ave to Arthur Ave
 - ◆ W. Wyeth St, Grant to Main St.
 - ◆ S. Arthur Ave, Whitman to Terry St





There When You Need It

Drinking Water Week

May 2-8, 2021

For more than 40 years the American Water Works Association and its members have used Drinking Water Week as a unique opportunity for both water professionals and the communities they serve to recognize the vital role water plays in our daily lives. During this year's Drinking Water Week consumers were reminded that high-quality tap is "There When You Need it."

During the week we encourage consumers to learn more about the importance of water, water infrastructure and water conservation. In commemoration of Water Week, the Water Department gave away three Rachio 3 Smart Sprinkler Controllers. The 12-zone controller "accurately predicts weather changes and automatically adjusts your watering schedule for the right amount of water."

Customers were entered into the drawing by signing up for WaterSmart. The WaterSmart platform allows City of Pocatello utility customers to see information about their water usage, such as average gallons used per day, historical use over a two-year period, and more. Customers are able to see estimated use from household water fixtures and appliances as well as access money-saving tips that will help residents conserve water and their cash. Customers can also input information about their home and WaterSmart will provide customized advice depending on possible sources of water usage.

Congratulations Chuck Francis, Mitchell Johnson, and Paul MacAuley!



View your water usage, check for leaks, and set up alerts

To register for WaterSmart visit, <http://pocatello.watersmart.com>. All you'll need is your utility account number and your zip code.



KIDS FUN

I spy these water items

There are so many water-related items we see every day. Can you spot the items at the bottom of the page in the picture? The numbers indicate how many times each item appears.



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For more information about this report or if you have questions relating to your drinking water, please visit our web site at www.pocatello.us/water or contact us at:

The City of Pocatello Water Department
1889 N. Arthur Avenue
P.O. Box 4169
Pocatello, ID 83205-4169
208-234-6174

I SPY ANSWERS



Share This Information

Please provide this Water Quality Report to any person who receives water from you, such as tenants, residents and employees. This and chemical analysis reports are available on our website or through the Water Superintendent's Office by calling 208-234-6174.

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua beber. Tradúzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.