

CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT  
A WATER QUALITY REPORT FOR THE WATER USERS OF  
FLATHEAD COUNTY WATER DISTRICT #1 - EVERGREEN  
PWSID #01744

COMPLETION DATE OF REPORT: January 18, 2018

In compliance with the Safe Water Drinking Act and as a service to our water users, the board and management of Flathead County Water District #1-Evergreen present this report which summarizes our efforts to provide our users with safe drinking water. This report covers the period from January 1, 2017 through December 31, 2017

**THE SOURCE OF YOUR WATER:**

The District's water system is considered to be a ground water system. The District has eleven wells. Seven wells are located in the lower zone. Two of the lower zone wells are at the office site at 130 Nicholson Drive and five wells are located on West Evergreen Drive near Village Greens. The upper zone has four wells located in the Buffalo Stage Development. The lower zone wells pump into the new 1.6 million gallon storage tank located in Mission Village. We currently are not using the old 1 million gallon tank in Mission Village since we have adequate storage with the construction of the new tank. At a future point, should it be needed, repairs will be made to the old tank and it could be put back on line. The new tank provides pressure and serves the lower zone of the service area. The wells in Buffalo Stage pressurize and serve the District's upper zone. In 2011 the new booster pump station building was completed at the tank site. This replaces the old booster pump station that was used to pressurize the bluff before the Buffalo Stage wells were drilled. In 2016 we installed and began using 7 new pumps in the booster pump station. These pumps provide a backup system for the upper zone, and also help supply during times of high demand by allowing water from the storage tank to be used for the upper zone as well as the lower zone. The installation of the new pumps will be followed by telemetry controls at some point. The District has back up power generators at all well sites and at the booster pump station. Currently we are not required to treat our water.

**SOURCE WATER ASSESSMENT:** A Source Water Assessment was performed by the State to determine our water system's susceptibility to contaminants. This assessment is online from the Montana DEQ at [http://mslapps.mt.gov/Geographic\\_Information/Data/SourceWaterProtectionProgram/](http://mslapps.mt.gov/Geographic_Information/Data/SourceWaterProtectionProgram/). The report states that the deep aquifer utilized by the District has a low susceptibility to surface contamination. Sources that could contaminate the aquifer are septic tanks/sewer lines, vehicles and gas powered equipment, abandoned oil refinery hazardous waste sites, service stations, lawn care, diesel fuel storage tanks, and an abandoned pole treatment hazardous waste site. The report states susceptibility of contamination for our wells ranges from very low to moderate depending on the well location, contaminant, and hazard.

**DID YOU KNOW:** The sources of drinking water (both tap and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells? As water travels over the surface of land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive materials can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

1. Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.
2. Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metal, which can be naturally occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.
3. Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses.
4. Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production and can also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems.
5. 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 which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same 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. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drink Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

**BACTERIOLOGICAL MONITORING:** Bacteriological monitoring is performed monthly to test for the presence of coliform bacteria, fecal coliform, and E coli. Our system is required to collect 6 samples monthly. During the 2017 calendar year the District did not have any positive bacteriological samples.

**LEAD & COPPER MONITORING:** See Table A for lead and copper levels detected in our system. We are currently required to sample for lead and copper every 3 years. The next compliance period runs from 2017 through 2019. Samples were taken in the summer of 2015 and will be taken again in the summer of 2018.

**CHEMICAL MONITORING:** The state requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less often because the concentrations of these contaminants is not expected to vary significantly from year to year.

**VOLATILE ORGANIC CHEMICALS (VOCs) 19 Regulated, 7 Unregulated:** See Table A Detected Contaminants. We are currently required to sample for VOCs every 3 years. The next compliance period runs from 2017 through 2019. Samples were taken in the summer of 2015 and will be taken again in 2018. The two newest wells were sampled for VOCs annually until 2014 when DEQ gave their approval, based upon sampling results, to go to every 3 years. They will be sampled again in 2018 along with the rest of the wells.

**SYNTHETIC ORGANIC CHEMICALS (SOCs) 27 Regulated, 10 Unregulated:** See Table A Detected Contaminants. We are currently required to sample for SOCs every 3 years. The next compliance period runs from 2017 through 2019. Samples were taken in the summer of 2015 and will be taken again in 2018.

**INORGANIC CHEMICALS (IOCs):** We are currently required to sample for IOCs every 3 years. The next compliance period runs from 2017 through 2019. Samples were taken in the summer of 2015 and will be taken again in 2018

**NITRATE/NITRITE:** We currently sample for Nitrates/Nitrites annually. Samples were submitted in the summer of 2017 and samples will again be submitted in the summer of 2018.

**ASBESTOS:** We currently sample for asbestos every 9 years. We sampled for asbestos in 2012 will sample again in 2021,

**RADIONUCLIDES (Alpha Emitters):** We are currently required to sample for Radionuclides every 9 years. Samples were taken in 2009. We will take samples again in 2018.

#### TABLE A TERMS & DEFINITIONS

AL	Action Level - The concentration of a contaminant which triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
MCL	Maximum Contaminant Level - The highest allowable amount 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.
MCLG	Maximum Contaminant Level Goal - The level of a contaminate in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

**TABLE A DETECTED CONTAMINATES**

Detected Contaminate	Sample Date	Lowest Detected Level	Highest Detected Level	90th %	Unit	MCL	MCGL	AL	Violation
Copper	08/25/15			.09	ppm			1.3	No
Lead	08/25/15			ND	ppb			15	No
Nitrate/Nitrite	06/12/17	0.18	0.52		ppm	10.00	10.00		No
Barium	07/15/15	0.10	0.17		ppm	2.00	2.00		No
Fluoride	07/15/15	0.04	0.09		ppm	4.00	4.00		No
Alpha Emitters	06/11/09	5.0	6.9		pCi/l	15.00	0.00		No

Note: The unit of measure ppm stands for parts per million.

Note: The unit of measure ppb stands for parts per billion.

Note: AL stands for action level.

**MAJOR SOURCES OF THE ABOVE CONTAMINANTS:**

- Copper Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits, leaching from wood preservatives.
- Nitrate/Nitrite Runoff from fertilizer use, leaching from septic tanks, sewage, and erosion of natural deposits.
- Lead Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits.
- Fluoride Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
- Alpha Emitters Erosion of natural deposits.

**HEALTH EFFECTS OF THE ABOVE DETECTED CONTAMINANTS:**

Copper at the above detected levels generally poses no health risks. Copper is an essential nutrient, but some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over a relatively short amount of time could experience gastrointestinal distress. People drinking water containing copper in excess of the action level over many years could suffer liver or kidney damage. People with Wilson's Disease should consult their personal doctor.

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. Flathead County Water & Sewer District #1 - Evergreen 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>.

Nitrates/Nitrites at the above detected levels generally pose no health risks. Infants below the age of 6 months who drink water containing nitrates/nitrites in excess of the MCL could become seriously ill and, if untreated, could die.

Barium at the above detected levels generally poses no health risks. Some people who drink water containing barium in excess of the MCL over many years could experience an increase in their blood pressure.

Fluoride at the above detected levels generally poses no health risks. Some people who drink water containing fluoride in excess of the MCL over many years could get bone disease, including pain, and tenderness of the bones. Children may get mottled teeth.

Alpha Emitters at the above detected levels generally pose no health risks. Certain minerals are radioactive and may emit a form of radiation known as alpha radiation. Some people who drink water containing alpha emitters in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

**YOU SHOULD KNOW:** Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immune-Compromised persons such as persons with cancer, undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune disorders, and 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 risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:** If you would like additional information regarding the District's water system, please contact:

Flathead County Water & Sewer District #1 - Evergreen  
Roberta Struck, General Manager  
Phone (406)257-5861  
130 Nicholson Dr.  
Kalispell, MT 59901

Copies of this report will be published and may be obtained by request.