



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 first and
third 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 Tuesday.

**"Well-Informed
Customers Are Our
Best Allies"**

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

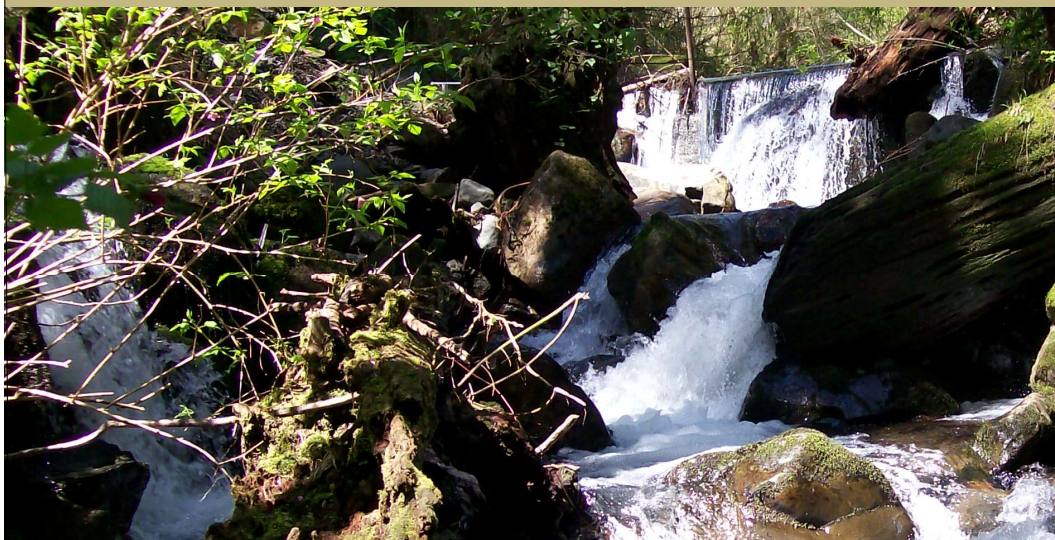
Это сообщение содержит
важную информацию о вашей
питьевой воде. Переведите
это или говорите с кем - то, кто
может перевести это для Вас.

Spanish

Este informe contiene informa-
ción importante acerca de su
agua potable. Haga que al-
guien lo traduzca para usted, o
hable con alguien que lo en-
tienda.

City of Camas

2009 Water Quality Report



2009 Water Quality Report *(Your Consumer Confidence Report)*

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, therefore 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 16,950 consumers (this equates to 7,129 utility customers which include residential, industrial and commercial users) each day. ***We are 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.

Rates and Service Development Charge

In 2009 the City adopted a water rate schedule for the next four years. In 2010 the City will be updating the system Development Charge (SDC) for the Water System. SDS fees are charged to new developments to pay their proportion of the existing infrastructure and future capital improvements.

What's Ahead

Our water system continues to change and expand to keep pace with the demand for reliable clean water for industrial, commercial, and residential use. The City has completed the 2009 Water Facility Plan. The plan analyzes our water system operations, capacity, infrastructure, regulatory compliance, and it outlines improvements needed for the next twenty years. The plan is available on the City website at www.ci.camass.wa.us, and the Public Works Counter at City Hall.

Other notable projects include construction of Well 14 (see page 4, *Newest Water Source-Well 14*), a 12-inch water-line extension on NW 38th Avenue from NW Parker to Bybee Road, and a water main on NW Leadbetter Road.

2009 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 test results are required by law to be reported to the public. The contaminants listed on page three are REGULATED and were in our water during 2009. 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. **No violations were found in the test samples.**

Continued on Page 3

Important Health Information

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain 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 at 1-800-426-4791.

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. It can also 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, and 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 1-800-426-4791.

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. **Please report possible water pollution (illicit discharge) to the City of Camas at 360-817-1567, or the Department of Ecology SW Regional Office at 360-407-6300**

Voluntary Odd/Even Watering Program

The average daily consumption of water for Camas in 2009 was 3.71 millions of gallons per day (mgd). During our peak day on July 31st we consumed 8.6 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.

2009 Water Quality Test Results

Terms and Abbreviations:

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.

Picocuries Per Liter (pCi/L) - Picocuries per liter is a measure of the radioactivity in water.

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

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	.92	4.0	4.0	sodium fluoride added to Camas water to maintain good dental hygiene
Lead(MG/L)*	No	Less Than EPA Action Levels	0.0	.015	corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Copper (MG/L)*	No	Less Than EPA Action Levels	1.3	1.3	corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural products
Nitrates (MG/L) (As Nitrogen)	No	1.46	10.0	10.0	runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural products
Barium	No	.003	2.0	2.0	runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural products
Sodium (MG/L)	No	11.2**	N/A	N/A	erosion of natural deposits and ph adjustment
Aesthetic (Secondary) Standards and Other Characteristics (Physical)					
Di(2- ethylhexyl) phthalate (Ug/L)	No	5.1	0.0	6	discharge from rubber and chemical factories
Disinfection By-Products and Residuals within the Distribution System					
Haloacetic acids	No	1.1-17.2	48	60	by-product of drinking water disinfection
Total *** Trihalomethanes	No	.60-12.8	60	80	chlorination by-product caused by the reaction of chlorine with organic matter
Radionuclides					
Gross Alpha (pCi/L)	No	.05-40		15 pCi/L	runoff into streams from mining; occurs naturally in the environment
Radium 228 (pCi/L)	No	.20-90		5 pCi/L	natural occurring radioactive metal; found in rocks, soil, water, plants and animals

Table Notes:

*Lead and copper are regulated by a Treatment Technique that requires systems to control the corrosiveness of their water. If more than 10% percent of tap water samples exceed the action level, water systems must take additional steps. For copper, the action level is 1.3 mg/L, and for lead it is 0.015 mg/L.

**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 2009.

*** 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.

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, northeast 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.

Water Conservation Tips

- Fix leaks inside and outside, including old leaky faucets, toilets, hoses and sprinkler systems.
- Choose water saving fixtures and appliances and use 30% less water.
- 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 (10:00 pm to 6:00 am).
- Take a short shower instead of a bath.

An inch of water per week is enough to keep lawns green.

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.camas.wa.us/services/forms/Utilities/WaterConservation.pdf, or the State website at ecy.wa.gov/programs/wr/ws/wtrcnsv.html.

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

Water Leaks

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

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



Tap Into Quality

Newest Water Source - Well 14

In 2009 the City received a \$600,000 grant and \$600,000 low interest loan from the Department of Commerce for the construction of Well 14. After Well 14 has been completed, it will provide another reliable water source to meet summertime demand. Construction is underway and it is anticipated to be completed in early summer of 2010. Well 14 is located just west of Goot Park.

"High quality water is more than the dream of the conservationists, more than a political slogan; high quality water, in the right quantity at the right place at the right time, is essential to health, recreation, and economic growth."

