

CITY OF GOLD HILL 2020
CONSUMER CONFIDENCE
REPORT FOR ITS DRINKING
WATER SYSTEM



Consumer Confidence Reports (CCRs) provide information about the quality of the water you receive, and are written in compliance with standards set forth by State & Federal Drinking Water Regulations.

The City of Gold Hill's water source is surface water from the Rogue River. Surface water is subject to seasonal changes in water quality. Storm events increase river turbidity, which in turn increases the complexity involved in delivering a high quality drinking water. Summer months' algal blooms will occasionally cause taste and odor problems, such as a musty smell in the water. It does not present a health hazard; however, it can temporarily affect the aesthetic quality of the water.

The management and staff at the water treatment plant are engaged in activities to deliver the best possible drinking water to its community, and we appreciate the opportunity to serve the citizens. We hope the information in this report is found valuable.

The Water Treatment Plant is located at 14745 Highway 234. The plant was built in 1981 using funds from federal grants and loans. In 2020 water production ranged from a low of 3,260,000 gallons a month in February to a high of 11,510,000 gallons a month in July. The maximum amount of water produced in one day was 598,000 gallons on June 15th, 2020.

Surface water from the Rogue River is pumped through an intake structure and into the treatment plant where both chemical and physical treatment takes place. The finished water pH is modified to reduce the corrosive nature of the water, which can cause lead and copper used in plumbing to leach into the water supply. Chlorine is then added for final disinfection.

A source water assessment study was completed by the Department of Environmental Quality in 2008. The Study is available for your review at City Hall

Water Quality Results

Daily, monthly and weekly testing is completed in our distributions system. The City of Gold Hill has met microbiological testing standards on **100%** of all samples taken during 2020. 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 the water poses a health risk; however, some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons undergoing chemo therapy or those with HIV/AIDS disorder, persons who have undergone organ transplants, or 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 microbial contaminants are available; more information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA's **Safe Drinking Water Hot line (800) 426-4791**.

Important Term Definitions

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG) – The level of contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLG's allow for a margin of safety.

Maximum Contaminant 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.

Treatment Technique – A required process intended to reduce the level of contaminants in drinking water.

Action Level- The concentration of a contaminant which if exceeded triggers other treatment requirements which a water system must follow.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL) - 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.

Parts per Million (ppm)/ Parts per Billion (ppb) - (ppm) means that one part of a particular contaminant is present for every million parts of water. (ppb) indicates the amount of a contaminant per billion parts of water.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG) – The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLG's do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contamination.

Picocuries per liter (pCi/L) - A measurement of radioactivity.

Further information on water testing is available at the following website:

public.health.oregon.gov

Highlight	Health Environments
Select	Drinking Water
Below	More Resources
Select	Drinking Water Data Online
Click	WS Name look Up
Enter	Gold Hill

Contaminant	Result mg/L (ppm)	MCL	MC GL	Likely source of contaminant
Total Coliform Bacteria	ND*	Presence of Coliform in 5% of monthly samples.	0	Naturally present in the environment
Turbidity	Highest NTU's 0.285	≤1.0 NTU's		Soil run off
Turbidity	100%	≤0.3 NTU's less 95%	0	Soil run off
Total Organic Carbon (TOC)	1.51	Non Regulated	NA	Naturally Occurring Element
Haloacetic Acids yearly	0.027	0.06	0.03	Chlorine disinfection byproduct.
Nitrate (as Nitrogen) Sampled annually	0.281	10	10	Run off from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks erosion.
Total Trihalomethanes Sampled annually	0.027	0.08	<0.04	Chlorine disinfection byproduct.
Alkalinity	36-42 mg/L	Non Regulated	NA	Natural Occurring Element

* Non-detectable

ADDITIONAL DETAILS FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION

- * There were NO violations in regards to public health in 2020.
- * The July 2020 and September 2020 Surface Water Quality Report were submitted a day late.
- * A tracer study to determine chlorine contact time has not been performed recently. This will be completed in 2021.
- * Boil orders do not mean your water is unsafe, it is a precautionary procedure done according to the rules of the Oregon Health Authority in the event of loss of pressure or a potential for backflow to enter the drinking water system. This is strictly to protect public health by confirming there are no bacterial contaminants in the water.

LEAD AND COPPER RESULTS

Lead and Copper testing is required every 3 years. It will be done again in 2021. Lead and copper include the 90th percentile value from the most recent sampling and the number of sites that exceed the action level. The most likely source is corrosion of household plumbing and erosion of natural deposits. The maximum contaminant levels from 2018 are below:

Contaminant	Results 2015 in ppm	AL	MCGL
Lead	0.0014	0.015	<0.0155
Copper	0.2000	1.3	<1.35

When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. With the growing public concern over lead in drinking water the City of Gold Hill uses modern corrosion control techniques to dramatically reduce the possibility of high levels of lead in drinking water which is evident by the lead and copper results in the table. These results are the highest results from 10 samples that were taken at the point of consumption in our community.

Water Conservation

If you have a lawn, chances are its responsible for your largest consumption of water. Typically, 50% of household water is used outdoors. Water lawns between 4 and 6 a.m. or between 8 and 10 p.m. when heat and evaporation levels are lower to make the most efficient use of your watering. **It is critical to conserve water** as Southern Oregon is facing severe drought conditions this year and it is one of our most valuable resources. Only with your help can we reduce the amount of water used. Note, that out of all the water on earth only 3% is fresh water and out of that 3% around 2% is tied up in ice leaving only 1% of all the water on earth for our use, so it is so very important to protect and conserve this critical natural resource.

Questions or concerns

The City of Gold Hill continues to upgrade the water system. The staff is dedicated to bringing the highest quality drinking water for the most affordable dollar value. If you have any questions, comments, or concerns please City Hall at 541- 855-1525, Southern Oregon Water Technology 541-499-8041 or the Oregon Health Authority at 971- 673-0405.