



YOUR DRINKING WATER IS SAFE!

**CITY OF GOLD BAR
2012
CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT**

We are pleased to present to you this year's Annual Quality Water Report for the reporting period ending December 31, 2012. This report is designed to inform you about the quality of the drinking water we deliver to you every day. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking (potable) water. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and what we do to protect our water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your drinking water. Our water source is four wells that draw water from two aquifers. Wells 1, 2 and 3 are located in the vicinity of First Avenue West and Smeltzer Road. Wells 1 and 2 are de-commissioned and were not utilized during this reporting period. Wells 1,2 and 3 are located within a shallow aquifer field. Well 4 is located in the vicinity of US-2 just East of Thirteenth Street. Well 4 is located within a deep aquifer field.

This report shows our water quality and what it means.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

If you have any questions in regards to this report or concerns about the quality of your drinking water please contact Mr. Richard Baker or John Light at (360) 793-1101. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water department. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled City Council Meetings.

Meeting Location: City Hall at 107-5th Street Gold Bar, WA

Meeting Time: First and Third Tuesday of every month starting at 7:00PM.

The City of Gold Bar routinely monitors for constituents in your drinking water according to Federal and State Laws. This report shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1, 2012 to December 31, 2012. As water travels over the land or underground, it can pick up substances or contaminants such as microbes, inorganic and organic chemicals, and radioactive substances. All drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some constituents. It is important to remember that the presence of these constituents does not necessarily pose a health risk.

In addition to the following reports the City collects three (3) samples per month for the presence of coliform. The City collected a total of 36 water samples for the presence of coliform during the year 2012 with no coliform detected.

DEFINITION:

In this table you will find many terms and abbreviations you might not be familiar with. To help you better understand these terms we have provided the following definitions:

Non-Detects (ND) – laboratory analysis indicates that the constituent is not detectable.

Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/l) – one part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in \$10,000.

Parts per billion (ppb) (ug/L) or Micrograms per liter – one part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000.

Parts per trillion (ppt) or Nanograms per liter (nanograms/L) – one part per trillion corresponds to one minute in 2,000,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000,000.

Parts per quadrillion (ppq) or Picograms per liter (picograms/L) – one part per quadrillion corresponds to one minute in 2,000,000,000 years, or one penny in \$10,000,000,000,000.

Picocuries per liter (pCi/L) – picocuries per liter is a measure of the radioactivity in water.

Millirems per year (mrem/yr) – measure of radiation absorbed by the body.

Million Fibers per Liter (MFL) – million fibers per liter is a measure of the presence of asbestos fibers that are longer than 10 micrometers.

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.

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) – (mandatory language) 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 (MCLG) – (mandatory language) 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.

Variances & Exemptions (V&E) – State or EPA permission to not meet an MCL or a treatment technique under certain conditions. (Only systems with a variance or exemption are REQUIRED to include this definition. In addition, it is REQUIRED to provide an explanation of the reasons for the variance or exemption, date issued status or remediation.)

Action Level – the concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

Treatment Technique (TT) – (mandatory language) A treatment technique is a required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL) – (mandatory language) 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.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG) – (mandatory language) 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 contaminants.

Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC) – various organic chemicals such as Naphthalene.

State Reporting Level (SRL) – indicates the minimum level required by the Washington Department of Health (DOH)

Trigger Level – DOH Drinking Water response level. Systems with compounds detected at concentrations in excess of this level are required to take additional samples.

2012 CITY OF GOLD BAR TEST RESULTS

BLENDING WATER SAMPLING – June 6, 2012

<u>Analytes</u>	<u>Results</u>	<u>Units</u>	<u>SRL</u>	<u>Trigger</u>	<u>MCL</u>	<u>Exceeds MCL</u>
Nitrite	ND	ppm	0.1	0.5	1	NO
Nitrate	ND	ppm	0.5	5	10	NO
Nitrate+Nitrite	ND	ppm	0.5	5	10	NO

BLENDING WATER SAMPLING – September 5, 2012

<u>Analytes</u>	<u>Results</u>	<u>Units</u>	<u>SRL</u>	<u>Trigger</u>	<u>MCL</u>	<u>Exceeds MCL</u>
Nitrite	ND	ppm	0.5	0.5	1	NO
Nitrate	ND	ppm	0.5	5	10	NO
Nitrate+Nitrite	ND	ppm	0.5	5	10	NO

BLENDING WATER SAMPLING – September 5, 2012

<u>Analytes</u>	<u>Results</u>	<u>Units</u>	<u>SRL</u>	<u>Trigger</u>	<u>MCL</u>	<u>Exceeds MCL</u>
Arsenic	5.88	ppb	1.4	5	10	NO

BLENDING WATER SAMPLING – December 5, 2012

<u>Analytes</u>	<u>Results</u>	<u>Units</u>	<u>SRL</u>	<u>Trigger</u>	<u>MCL</u>	<u>Exceeds MCL</u>
Arsenic	6.88	ppb	1.4	5	10	NO

BLENDING SAMPLING

(BLENDING REFERS TO THE MIXING OF WELL#3 & WELL #4 WATER. THIS IS THE WATER THAT IS DELIVERED TO CUSTOMERS, YOUR DRINKING WATER.)

Because blended water is the water delivered to your tap, the Health Department instructed the City of Gold Bar to collect blended water for sampling of Arsenic, Nitrates and Nitrites.

The City of Gold Bar Water Department meets all State and Federal requirements for drinking water quality standards.

EXPLANATIONS:

As you can see by the testing results, the City water system had no violations for the water delivered to your residence.

Your drinking water currently meets EPA's revised drinking water standard for arsenic. However, it does contain low levels of arsenic. There is a small chance that some people who drink water containing low levels of arsenic for many years could develop circulatory disease, cancer, or other health problems. Most types of cancer and circulatory diseases are due to factors other than exposure to arsenic. EPA's standard balances the current understanding of arsenic's health effects against the costs of removing arsenic from drinking water.

We are proud that your drinking water meets all Federal and State requirements. We have learned through our monitoring and testing that some constituents have been detected. The EPA has determined that your water IS SAFE at these levels.

All sources of drinking water are subject to potential contamination by substances that are naturally occurring or manmade. These substances can be microbes, inorganic or organic chemicals and radioactive substances. All 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 the 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 at 1-800-426-4791.

MCL's are set at very stringent levels. The MCL,s are set such that out of every 10,000 or 1,000,000 people (depending upon how the MCL was developed) drinking 2 liters of water every day for a lifetime, only 1 of those people may experience the described health effect.

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 Gold Bar is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in home 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>.

In our continuing efforts to maintain a safe and dependable water supply it may be necessary to make improvements in the City water system. The costs of these improvements may be reflected in the rate structure. Rate adjustments may be necessary in order to address these improvements. In order to maintain a safe and dependable drinking water supply we sometimes need to make improvements that will benefit all of our customers. These improvements are sometimes reflected as rate structure adjustments. Thank you for understanding that each dollar spent on system improvements helps to ensure safe drinking water is delivered to your community. The City just completed the construction of a 300,000 gallon water tank and new booster pump station. The City also just completed the installation of approximately 1,500 LF. of 12" watermain. This improvement increases fire flow and storage to the residential and commercial district of the City.

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 (1-800-426-4791).

If at any time you wish to contact the Department of Health with any concerns or questions they may be contacted at:

WA Department of Health
Northwest Drinking Water Operations
20435 72nd Ave. S, Suite 200, K17-12
Kent, WA 98031-2358
Main phone number (253) 395-6750 Fax: (253) 395-6760

Please feel free to call our office, at (360) 793-1101, if you have any questions or concerns pertaining to your drinking water. We at City of Gold Bar work around the clock to provide top quality water to every tap. We ask that all our customers help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community, our way of life and our children's future.