



# CITY OF BENTON CITY DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT – 2015

*important information about the water you drink*

## **Background**

The City of Benton City is dedicated to providing its customers with high quality drinking water. Each year we summarize the water quality testing completed from January through December. We are again pleased to tell you that our compliance with all State and Federal drinking water laws for 2015 remains exemplary.

## **Sources**

The City maintains four water supply wells. Wells 2, 3 and 4 draw water from the Saddle Mountain Basalt. Well 1 draws water from alluvial gravels. Water has been disinfected with chlorine to control microbial contaminants, since February 2000. The City is currently constructing a fifth well.

## **Quality**

As water flows over the land in rivers or through the gravel, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals, and it can become polluted by human or industrial activity. We monitor samples for microbial, inorganic, organic, and radiological contaminants. Materials that can be present include microbes such as viruses or bacteria; radioactive substances such as metals or nitrates; and organic chemicals from industrial discharges, disinfection treatment processes, or agricultural herbicides and pesticides. Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants, but not necessarily indicating a health risk.

## **Special Health Information**

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants 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, elderly, and

infants, can be at risk, and advice about drinking water should be sought from health care providers.

Environmental Protection Agency/ Center for Disease Control guidelines on lessening risks with *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

The City's Budget to provide and treat water is approximately \$715,000 per year. Citizens can help by reducing toxins, herbicides, pesticides, and toilet garbage.

## **En Espanol**

Este informe contiene informacion muy importante sobre su agua de beber. Traduzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

## **Table Definitions:**

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

**MCL (Maximum Contaminant Level):** *The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs (below) as feasible using best available treatment technology.*

**MCLG (Maximum Contaminant Level Goal):** *The level of contaminant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.*

**NTU (Nephelometric Turbidity Units):** *Measurement of the clarity, or turbidity, of water.*

**PPM (Parts Per Million):** *One part substance per million parts water (or milligrams per liter).*

**PPB (Parts Per Billion):** *One part substance per billion parts water (or milligrams per liter).*

**PCI/L:** *Pico Curies per Liter*

Substance	MCL	MCLG	Highest Level Detected	Range of Detections	Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
Total Coliform Bacterial		0	0	0 of 48 Samples	1/1/15 thru 12/31/15	NO	Naturally occurring in the environment.
Turbidity	1NTU	1NTU	0.02	0.90-0.92	4/19/12	NO	Soil Runoff
Barium	2ppm	2ppm	0.03 ppm	0.12ppm	4/19/12	NO	Erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride	4ppm	4ppm	0..26 ppm	0.5- <0.2ppm	4/19/12	NO	Erosion of natural deposits.
Nitrate as Nitrogen	10ppm	10ppm	5.4	.00-10ppm	3/24/16	NO	Run-off from fertilizer use; drainage from septic tanks or erosion of natural deposits.
Copper	1.3ppm	0 out of 20 samples	0.600	<0.008-0.709	10/21/13	NO	Corrosion of household plumbing; erosion of natural deposits.
Lead	15ppb	0 out of 20 samples	.008	<.001-.007	10/21/13	NO	Corrosion of household plumbing; erosion of natural deposits.
(VOC) Volatile Organic Compounds	.5ppm	All 3 Wells Samples	ND	2-10000	3/21/16	NO	Erosion of natural deposits
(SOC) Synthetic Organic Compounds		Well #4	ND		9/10/13	NO	Run off from pesticide use
Herbicide in Drinking Water			ND		9/10/13		