

ANNUAL WATER REPORT TOLLGATE WATER COMPANY 2022

Federal and state agencies require each community water system to provide an annual Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) to each customer. This is Tollgate Water Company's (TWC) 2022 report.

Where does my water come from?

TWC's water is derived from two wells, which pump from a ground water aquifer. One well is located at the east end of Wagon Wheel in section 5 and is well #2. Well #2 was drilled to a depth of 346 ft. in 1980. Static water level is the level of the water in the well when water is not being pumped. A static water depth of 113 feet 7 inches was recorded in April 2022 and 112 feet 5 inches in April 2023. The other well, well #1, is located just north of the maintenance shop. It was drilled to a depth of 220 ft. in 1972 and in April 2022 had a static water level of 138 feet 1 inch and in April 2023 had a static measurement of 138 feet 11 inches. In 2022 Tollgate pumped 119.5 million gallons of water. In 2021 Tollgate pumped about 102 million gallons of water. One part of that increase is the addition of two new homes and the other much larger impact to that increase is having our flow meters properly calibrated in July of 2022.

Water Rights and Conservation

According to the water rights issued by the State of Oregon to the Tollgate Water Company, TWC is allowed 112 million gallons of water per year. Tollgate exceeded that allotment by 7.5 million gallons in 2022. 112 million gallons would equate to about 700 gallons of water per household per day. In Oregon the average household uses between 100 and 300 gallons of water depending on season and location. If every household used only 300 gallons (the high end of the state average) everyday, Tollgate would use 47.1 million gallons annually. That leaves 72.4 million gallons of excess water, the equivalent of enough water for 660 more homes for the entire year. As of now, Tollgate is still one of very few unmetered Public Water Systems in the State of Oregon. Because of this there is no definitive way for the TWC to know exactly where the water is going.

TPOA and TWC understands that a portion of that water usage is going into common area usage such as public bathrooms, pool facility and maintenance. We also recognize that would reduce that household average usage, but by an unknown percentage.

In an effort to practice conservation and monitor water usage, Tollgate Property Owners Association has installed water meters on all common area water taps. This includes the pool facilities, the office and community bathrooms, the maintenance shop, as well as all the common area irrigation. The Tollgate Water Company and the Tollgate Property Owners Association Board ask that every home do their part to participate in water conservation measures. For more information or questions on how you can practice water conservation please reach out to your Tollgate Water Company maintenance staff or your Water Conservation Committee established by the TPOA and TWC Board of Directors.

Source water assessment and its availability

The 1996 Amendments to the Safe Drinking Water Act require all states to conduct Source Water Assessments for public water systems within their boundaries. The assessments consist of (1) identification of the Drinking Water Protection Area, i.e., the area at the surface that is directly above that part of the aquifer that supplies water to our wells, (2) identification of the potential sources of pollution within the Drinking Water Protection Area, and (3) determination of the susceptibility or relative risk to the well water from those pollution sources. The purpose of the assessment is to provide water systems with the information needed to develop a strategy to protect the drinking water resource. The respective Drinking Water Programs of the Department of Human Services and Environmental Quality have completed the assessment for Tollgate's wells. A copy of the report is on file at the water system's office.

Cross Connection Program and Policies

Your home has a backflow prevention assembly installed on your water service line at or near your property line. This device is tested annually to ensure proper functioning to help prevent potential contaminants from downstream taps from entering the public water system. This device works only to prevent water contamination in the distribution system. Appropriate measures should be taken by each homeowner to help protect their drinking water from contamination within their own property. One way this may happen is by installing a backflow prevention device or assembly on your underground irrigation system as well as on any outside hose bibs that you may have and performing regular maintenance and testing as required by the State. Any backflow prevention assembly installed shall be registered with the TWC and shall be tested within state regulations. You can find more information on requirements for backflow testing on the TWC Cross Connection Policy web page.

Why are there contaminants in drinking water?

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive materials, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity. 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 (EPA) Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

Is my water safe?

Last year, 2022, as in years past, your tap water met all U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and state drinking water health standards. TWC is proud to report that your system has not violated a maximum contamination level or any other water quality standard. Not all contaminants are tested annually. For those which are not tested annually, the most recent sampling results occurring in the last five years must be reported, if the contaminant was detected. TWC tests for more than 90 contaminants. The three contaminants listed in Table I are the only contaminants found in TWC's water in the last test cycle. For a complete list of chemicals and contaminants tested for and results, you can visit the [Oregon Drinking Water](#) web page.

To help you understand terms and abbreviations found in **Table One** the following definitions are provided:

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.

Maximum Contamination Level – the “Maximum Allowed” (MCL) is the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

Maximum Contamination 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.

TABLE ONE

CONTAMINANT	VIOLATION YES / NO	LEVEL DETECTED	UNIT MEASURE MENTS	MCLG	MCL	LIKELY SOURCE OF CONTAMINATION
Lead & Copper Aug. 2021	No	Copper 0.1020	PPM	1.3	AL=1.3	Erosion of household plumbing, erosion of natural deposit.
Nitrate 4/6/2022 Well #1	No	0.67	PPM	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use, leaking septic tanks, sewage, natural deposit erosion
Nitrate 4/6/2022 Well #2	No	0.23	PPM	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use, leaking septic tanks, sewage, natural deposit erosion

MCLs are set at very stringent levels. To understand the possible health effects described for many regulated constituents, a person would have to drink two liters of water every day at the MCL level for a lifetime to have a one-in-a-million chance of having the described health effect.

Health effects

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. Some people who drink 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.

Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 10 ppm is a health risk for infants of less than six months of age. High nitrate levels in drinking water can cause blue baby syndrome. Nitrate levels may rise quickly for short periods of time because of rainfall or agricultural activity. If you are caring for an infant and have concerns, you should ask advice from your health provider. TWC’s greatest nitrate concentration is less than 10.4% of the MCL.

Do I need to take special precautions?

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/Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Water Drinking Hotline (800-426-4791).

How can I get involved?

Your continued cooperation in such programs as the cross-connection program helps ensure the quality of our water. If you have questions about the water system or the quality of your water, call the Tollgate Water Company at 541-815-2375, or attend water board meetings, which are held the fourth Tuesday of January, April, July, and October in the Tollgate Recreation Hall.

Tollgate Water Company