City of Fernley
Consumer Confidence Report

18th Annual Report • January–December 2015

This brochure is a snapshot of the quality of water that the City of Fernley provided last year. Included are the details about where the City's water comes from, what it contains and how it compares to Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and State Standards. We are committed to providing customers with information because informed customers are the City's best allies. It is important that customers be aware of the efforts that are continually being made to improve the water system. To learn more, please attend any of the regularly scheduled Fernley City Council Meetings, which are held on the first and third Wednesdays of each month or contact the Public Works Department at (775) 784-9910.

City of Fernley
Public Works Department
Dave Whalen, P.E., CEM
Public Works Director
595 Silver Lace Blvd.
Fernley, NV 89408
(775) 784-9910
www.cityoffernley.org

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A MESSAGE FROM THE EPA

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons, such as those 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 microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

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 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 (800) 426-4791.

The sources of drinking water (both tap 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, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activities. Contaminants that may be present in source water before we treat it includes:

Microbial Contaminants such as viruses and bacteria may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations and wildlife.

Inorganic Contaminants such as salts and metals, can be naturally occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.

Pesticides and Herbicides may come from a variety of sources such as storm water run-off, agriculture and residential users.

Radioactive Contaminants can be naturally occurring or the result of mining activity.

Organic Contaminants including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, may also come from gas stations, urban storm water run-off and septic systems.

…..DID YOU KNOW?

In order to ensure that the tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The City of Fernley treats the 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.

The City of Fernley's water system tested a minimum of 20 samples per month in accordance with the Total Coliform Rule for microbiological contaminants. Coliform bacteria are usually harmless, but their presence in water can be an indication of disease-causing bacteria. When coliform bacteria are found, special follow-up tests are done to determine if harmful bacteria are present in the water supply. If this limit is exceeded, the water supplier must notify the public by newspaper, television or radio.

Water Quality and Treatment

The City of Fernley's public water system provided 1,213,779,000 gallons of safe drinking water to the residents of Fernley in 2015. Your state – certified water treatment and distribution system operators are dedicated to providing residents with a quality service, by consistently ensuring that an ample supply of regulated safe drinking water is provided to the taps.
Please feel free to visit www.cityoffernley.org and select: Government>Public Works and General Services>Water for additional resources regarding the City's drinking water.

The Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) requires states to develop a Source Water Assessment (SWA) for each public water supply that treats and distributes raw source water in order to identify potential contamination sources. The state has completed an assessment of our source water. For results of the source water assessment, please contact the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection/Bureau of Safe Drinking Water at (775) 687-9520.

Where does my water come from?

The City of Fernley is serviced by six municipal ground water wells. Our ground water is recharged from the Truckee Canal. The water is then sent to the Water Treatment Plant for arsenic removal and disinfection.

Looking for more information regarding water treatment/ testing/compliance monitoring?

Visit our website at : http://www.cityoffernley.org/index.aspx?nid=111.

Reporting Water Leaks

If at any time, you or your family/friends notice water rising up through the blacktop or sidewalks overflowing, please report it to the City of Fernley by contacting the Public Works Department at (775) 784-9910 during normal business hours (8:00 AM - 5:00 PM), Monday through Friday. If there is a leak detected after normal business hours, please contact the Lyon County Sheriff's Department dispatch number at (775) 575-3383. Please do your part in helping conserve our most valuable resource.

Household Treatment Appliances: Point of use treatment/devices are the responsibility of the homeowner. Please consult with your family care provider/physician if you choose to install a household water treatment device. The City of Fernley does not make recommendations for use of any household water treatment device.

Terms and Abbreviations

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.

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

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

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL): The highest level or 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): 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.

Non-Detects (ND): Laboratory analysis indicates that the constituent is not present.

Parts per Million (ppm): or milligrams per liter (mg/l).

Parts per Billion (ppb): or micrograms per liter (ug/l).

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.

Running Annual Average (RAA): Average over the sampling period.

Water Quality Data

The following tables below list all of the drinking water contaminants that were detected during the 2015 calendar year. The presence of these contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. Unless noted, the data presented in this table is from testing done January 1st through December 31st, 2015. The state requires the City of Fernley to test for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year. Some of the data, though representative of the 2015 year water quality, is more than one year old. The City of Fernley supplies water that is regulatory compliant.

Violations

Previous reporting period violation (2014 calendar year) notification:
"On May 1st, 2015, Fernley Public Works was issued a Notice of Alleged Violation for failure to comply with the 2014 monitoring and reporting requirements." The City of Fernley Public Works Department made an error in reporting the below-referenced set of test results in a timely manner during the month of December 2014.

No violation(s) occurred during the 2015 Calendar Year.

Violation Code Type:	Identification Number:	Source Name:	Contaminant:	Monitoring Period:	Number of samples	Number of samples taken
27	DS01	Distribution Syst	DBPR Stage 2	QTR 4 2014 (Dec)	Four	Zero
Disinfection By-products Stage 2 Contaminants: Haloacetic Acids (HAAS) / Trihalomethanes, Total (TTHM)						
Explanation "Based on past readings for Disinfection By-products in our system, sampling for Haloacetic Acids (HAAS) and Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) was required in December. Samples were tested in November instead of December (samples obtained before they were due), however no levels for these contaminants exceeded the MCL. As this was a failure to monitor violation and not an exceedance, no known health effects are believed to have occurred."						

Microbiological	Result	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source
252 tests performed in 2015. No detected results were found in the year 2015.				

Disinfection By-products	Monitoring Period	RAA	Range	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source
Haloacetic Acids (HAAS)	2015	8	2.3-9.0	ppb	60	0	By-product of water disinfection
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)	2015	25	9.3-38.0	ppb	80	0	By-product of drinking water chlorination

Lead and Copper	Date	90th Percentile	Unit	AL	Sites over AL	Typical Source
Copper	6/17/2014	0.17	ppm	1.3	0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Lead	6/17/2014	2	ppb	15	0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits

Regulated Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Value	Range	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source
Antimony, Total	7/13/2015	1	1	ppb	6	6	Discharge from petroleum refineries; fire retardants; ceramics; electronics; solder
Arsenic	10/5/2015	4	2-4	ppb	10	0	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
Barium	7/13/2015	0.033	0.033	ppm	2	2	Discharge from drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride	7/13/2015	0.1	0.1	ppm	2	2	Natural deposits; water additives which promotes strong teeth
Nitrate	7/13/2015	2	2	ppm	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks; sewage; erosion of natural deposits

Radionuclides	Collection Date	Highest Value	Range	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source
Combined Uranium	7/13/2015	3	3	ug/L	30	0	Erosion of natural deposits
Gross Alpha including Radon & Uranium	7/13/2015	2.97	2.97	pCi/L	15	0	Decay of natural and man-made deposits
Gross Beta particle article	7/13/2015	1.46	1.46	pCi/L	50	0	Decay of natural and man-made deposits

Secondary Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Value	Range	Unit	SMCL	MCLG
Alkalinity, Bicarbonate	4/9/2015	140	140	mg/L		
Alkalinity, Total	4/9/2015	140	140	mg/L		
Calcium	4/9/2015	61	61	mg/L		
Chloride	4/9/2015	68	68	mg/L	400	
Color	4/9/2015	7.57	7.57	CU	15	
Conductivity @25 C UMHOS/CM	1/13/2012	960	960	UMHO/CM		
Hardness, Total (As CACO3)	4/9/2015	230	230	mg/L		
Magnesium	4/9/2015	20	20	mg/L	150	
Odor	4/4/2012	1	1	TON	3	
PH	4/9/2015	8.01	8.01	PH	8.5	
Silica	4/9/2015	53	53	mg/L		
Sodium	4/9/2015	87	87	mg/L	200	20
Sulfate	4/9/2015	160	160	mg/L	500	
TDS	4/9/2015	530	530	mg/L	1000	

"We are dedicated to providing our citizens with quality water and quality service. We appreciate your business. Thank you."

Water Treatment Facility Staff: "Efficient and responsible plant operations since 2009."

Water Distribution Staff: "Quality on tap with over 40 years of combined experience."

Public Works Administrative Staff/Utility Billing Staff: "Striving for excellence and ready to assist."