2021 Consumer Confidence Report

CITY OF POST FALLS

Water Division
2002 W. Seltice Way
Post Falls, ID 83854
(208) 777-9857

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## Introduction

The City of Post Falls Water Division is providing the data in this report to assist you, the consumer, in becoming more knowledgeable about your drinking water.

This report period is for 2021. However, according to regulations, since some contaminants are scheduled to be monitored less frequently than annually, the most recent sample results will be presented. An updated report will be sent to you each year to keep you informed about the water quality.

You can also review the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality's Source Water Assessment Report in regard to the City of Post Falls water system, at City Hall; 408 N Spokane St., between the hours of 8 am and 5 pm Monday thru Friday.

## About the City of Post Falls Water Division

The City Water Division serves around twenty thousand residential and commercial customers and the water meters are read on a monthly basis with a vehicle radio read system. The City system has ten (10) wells and five (5) reservoirs, and has over one hundred-twenty (120) miles of water lines. The Average operating system water pressure is sixty-five to seventy-five (65-75) psi; customers farther north in the system will have lower water pressure while customers farther south will have higher pressures. Nothing else is added to our water. Chlorine is not used full time, but is added once per year, in October or November, to help maintain a clean distribution system. Locally we are very fortunate to have an abundant supply of clean, healthy drinking water from the Rathdrum Prairie Aquifer.

There are two (2) other water districts in Post Falls that provides water to some customers.

We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. If you need additional information, please contact the **Water Division at 208-777-9857, between the hours of 7 am and 4 pm, Monday through Friday.** And we will do our best to be of service to you.

Visit the City website for more information. **www.postfallsidaho.org.**

Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.

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.** U.S.E.P.A. has established limits which have been determined to be safe and acceptable. Any contaminant at or above the established "Maximum Contaminant Level" or MCL will be noted. MCL's are set at very stringent levels. To understand the possible health effects described for many regulated contaminants, a person would have to drink 2 liters of water every day at the MCL for a lifetime to have a one–in-a-million chance of having the described health effects.

Should you need additional information about contaminants and potential health effects, you may call the TOLL FREE **SAFE DRINKING WATER HOTLINE at 1-800-424-4372**.

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 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 (1-800-424-4372)**. **Cryptosporidium is not currently known to be found in groundwater supplies**.

**Important information about lead in your drinking water.**

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. City of Post Falls is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in 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 **(1-800-424-4372)** or at www.epa.gov/safewater/lead .

## DEFINITIONS

**Action Level (AL):** The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
**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 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.
**Milligrams Per Liter (mg/L) or Parts Per Million (ppm):** Indicates the amount of a contaminant measured in parts per million, which is the same as 1 penny in $10,000.
**Parts Per Billion (ppb):** Indicates the amount of a contaminant measured in parts per billion, which is the same as 1 penny in $10,000,000.
**Picocuries per liter (pCi/L):** The measure of radioactivity in the water.
**Millirems per year (mrem/yr):** The measure of radiation absorbed by the body.
**Inorganic contaminants**, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or result from storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining and farming.
**Method Detection Level (MDL):** The minimum concentration of a substance that can be measured and reported.
**Microbial contaminants**, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural live stock operations, and wildlife.
**Pesticides and herbicides**, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses.
**Organic chemical contaminants**, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems.
**Radiological contaminants**, can be naturally occurring or be the result of gas and oil production and mining activities.

## MICROBIOLOGICAL CONTAMINANTS

The City takes routine samples every month throughout the system. In 2021, there were two hundred seventy-nine samples collected during the required monitoring period to determine the presence of Total Coliform (naturally present in the environment), Fecal Coliform, and E.coli (human and animal fecal waste). In 2021, we had nine samples that tested positive for Total Coliform bacteria. Samples that indicate the presence of Total Coliform bacteria requires follow up sampling to identify possible causes. Field investigations determined the positive samples were related to irrigation season blow-outs and stagnant water conditions during low consumption times. After appropriate flushing, all follow up samples were negative for Total Coliform, Fecal and E.coli bacteria.

## SYNTHETIC ORGANIC CONTAMINANTS (SOCs)

The City tested for the following SOCs (including pesticides and herbicides) in 2020.

**None of the below SOC contaminants were detected in any sample.**

PCBs
2,4,5-TP(Silvex)
Alachlor
Atrazine
Benzo(a)pyrene
Carbofuran
Chlordane
Dalapon
Di(2-ethylhexyl)
Di(2-ethylhexylphthalate)
Dinoseb
2,4-D
Endothall
Endrin
Glyphosate
Heptachlor
Heptaclor epoxide
Hexachlorobenzene
Hexachlorocyclopentadiene
Lindane
Methoxychlor
Oxamyl
Diaquat
Pentachlorophenol
Picloram
Simazine
Toxaphene
DBCP
EDB

| VOLATILE ORGANIC CONTAMINANTS | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Year | Units | Level Measured | MCLG | MCL | Meets Drinking Water Standard |
| Total Trihalomethanes | 2021 | ppm | 0 - 0.00065 | None | 0.08 | √ |
| Bromodichloromethane | 2021 | ppm | 0 | 0 | | √ |
| Bromoform | 2021 | ppm | 0 | 0 | | √ |
| Chloroform | 2021 | ppm | 0 | 0.07 | | √ |
| Dibromochloromethane | 2021 | ppm | 0 - 0.00065 | 0.06 | | √ |
| Total Haloacetic Acids | 2021 | ppm | 0 | 0 | 0.06 | √ |
| Dibromoacetic Acid | 2021 | ppm | 0 | None | | √ |
| Dichloroacetic Acid | 2021 | ppm | 0 | 0 | | √ |
| Monobromoacetic Acid | 2021 | ppm | 0 | None | | √ |
| Monochloroacetic Acid | 2021 | ppm | 0 | 0 | | √ |
| Trichloroacetic Acid | 2021 | ppm | 0 | 0.02 | | √ |
| **INORGANIC CONTAMINANTS** | | | | | | |
| Antimony | 2019 | ppm | 0 | 0.006 | 0.006 | √ |
| Arsenic | 2020 | ppm | 0.0029 - 0.00497 | 0 | 0.01 | √ |
| Barium | 2019 | ppm | 0 - 0.021 | 2 | 2 | √ |
| Beryllium | 2019 | ppm | 0 | 0.004 | 0.004 | √ |
| Cadmium | 2019 | ppm | 0 | 0.005 | 0.005 | √ |
| Chromium | 2019 | ppm | 0 | 0.1 | 0.1 | √ |
| Copper | 2019 | ppm | 0.551 | 1.3 | AL= 1.3 | √ |
| Cyanide | 2005 | ppm | 0 | 0.2 | 0.2 | √ |
| Fluoride | 2019 | ppm | 0 | 4 | 4 | √ |
| Lead | 2019 | ppm | 0.002 | 0 | AL= .015 | √ |
| Mercury | 2019 | ppm | 0 | 0.002 | 0.002 | √ |
| Nitrate | 2021 | ppm | 0.486 - 0.939 | 10 | 10 | √ |
| Nitrite | 2019 | ppm | 0 | 1 | 1 | √ |
| Selenium | 2019 | ppm | 0 | 0.05 | 0.05 | √ |
| Sodium | 2021 | ppm | 2.52 - 2.70 | None | 500 | √ |
| Thallium | 2019 | ppm | 0 | 0.001 | 0.002 | √ |
| **RADIOLOGICAL CONTAMINANTS** | | | | | | |
| Alpha Activity | 2019 | pCi/L | <3 +/- 0.991 | 1.2 | 15 | √ |
| Radium 226 | 2016 | pCi/L | Below MDL | 0.8 | 0 | √ |
| Radium 228 | 2016 | pCi/L | 0.928+/- 0.421 | 0.8 | 5 | √ |
| Uranium Natural | 2019 | ug/L | 1.38 | 1 | 30 | √ |