

Facts About Immune-Compromised

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immune 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 infant can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care provider.

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

Source Water Assessment

The City of Orting relies on multiple groundwater sources to meet its water supply needs. To protect groundwater supplies, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Department of Health (DOH) require public water utilities to develop a wellhead protection program as a component of their comprehensive water plan. The purpose of a wellhead protection program is to provide local utilities with a proactive program for preventing groundwater contamination. One of the major components of a successful plan is a susceptibility rating. Wells #1 & #2 rate as moderate, Well #3 & #4 have a low susceptibility rating, while the three City spring sources rate high. You can learn more about the City of Orting Water Assessment by accessing the Office of Drinking Water SWAP website and typing in City of Orting's system ID # 645003 at: <http://fortress.wa.gov/doh/eh/maps/SWAP/index.html>

Water System Security Vulnerability Assessment

The City of Orting Water Department completed a vulnerability assessment and put together an emergency response plan in 2004. The primary objective for this information document was to provide a framework for utility managers and staff to identify and evaluate vulnerabilities, earthquakes, windstorms, flooding, drought, vandalism, terrorist activity, etc., that could place the operation of the water utility, staff, and / or customers in harm's way. We continually upgrade safety and security measures throughout the system. We encourage residents to report any possible acts of vandalism to our water department as soon as possible. Public Works main office number is (360) 893-2219, x139 or the after hour's number at (253) 377-0262.

CONTACT US & GET INVOLVED

To Report a problem

Public Works Dept., 360-893-2219 x139
Emergency After-Hours, 253-377-0262

To get involved, attend City Council meetings. Here you can learn and speak with your Councilmembers. Scheduled meetings and agendas are posted online at www.cityoforting.org. You may also watch meetings on Pierce County TV, or Comcast On Demand.



Public Water System ID:
645003

City of Orting

2016 Water Quality Report
Published June 2017



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 (1-800-426-4791).

Orting Water Sources

The City of Orting currently obtains drinking water from three natural springs and four wells. The three springs are located outside the City limits. Water from the springs, Upper Harman, Lower Harman and Wingate is chlorinated for disinfection at each source, serving customers South of City Limits. The water from these springs eventually mixes with the well water to serve customers within City Limits. Water at Wells #1, #3 and #4 is chlorinated for protection against microbial contaminants and filtered to remove iron and manganese before entering the water main. The water at Well #2 is chlorinated for disinfection then treated with Calciquest to sequester (isolate) the manganese. Currently, Well #2 does not have a filtration system and is used primarily for fire flow.

2016 Water Capital Improvement Projects

- ◇ *Orville Rd E Water main Re-location*—planning for the water main relocation was complete in 2016.
- ◇ *SCADA System Upgrade*—To help synchronization of the Wells.
- ◇ *Water Meter Upgrades*

Brown Water

Manganese is naturally occurring in Orting's drinking water and is the culprit to the occasional 'brown water' you may have experienced. Fire hydrant use or sudden change in the direction of water flow can stir up sediment. This is not a health hazard. We recommend customers wait until it clears before drinking it. The water should clear on its own. Try running the cold water for a several minutes, if this doesn't work, please call Public Works for assistance.

Cross-connections that could contaminate drinking water distribution lines are a major concern. A cross-connection is formed at any point where a drinking water line connects to equipment, systems containing chemicals (air conditioning systems, fire sprinkler systems, farms, factory's and irrigation systems) or near auxiliary water supplies & water sources of questionable quality.

Community water supplies are continually jeopardized by cross-connections unless appropriate valves, known as backflow prevention assemblies, are installed and maintained. The City of Orting encourages all land owners with farms & wells, in addition, homeowners with irrigation sprinkler systems to call the Orting Public Works office for more information. (360) 893-2219 x139.

Please read about Washington State law requirements in the Washington Administrative Code (WAC) 246-290-490 and Orting Municipal Code (OMC) 9-1E-6.

This table shows water quality from the most recent round of testing done in accordance with the regulations

ARSENIC

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has set drinking water standards for arsenic to reduce the risk of health effects from long-term exposure to low levels of arsenic in drinking water.

Your drinking water currently meets EPA’s revised drinking water standards for low levels of arsenic. The EPA’s standards balance the current understanding of arsenic’s possible health risks against the costs of removing arsenic from drinking water. The EPA continues to research the health effects for low levels of arsenic. This mineral is known to cause cancer in humans at high concentrations, and linked to other health risks such as skin damage and circulatory problems.

LEAD

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 Orting is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of material used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential 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 for lead in drinking water, test methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotlines (800) 426-4791 or at: <http://www.epa/gpv/safewater/lead>.

COPPER

Copper is an essential nutrient, but some people who drink water-containing copper in excess of the action level over a relative 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 physician.

Contaminant	Violation	Level Detected	Unit Measure	MCL/g	MCL	Potential Source
Inorganics						
Arsenic (12/20/16)	No	5	PPB/Range <0.001-6	0	10	Erosion of natural deposits: runoff from orchards, runoff from glass and electronics production waste.
Asbestos (11/5/2009)	No	0	MFL	7	7	Decay of asbestos cement Water mains, erosion of natural deposits
Copper (9/21/15)	No	90th Percentile (0.44)	PPM / Range <0.02-0.63	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits, leachate from wood preservatives.
Lead (9/21/15)	No	90th Percentile (3)	PPB/Range <0.001-6	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits.
Nitrate (8/16/16)	No	1.2	PPM/Range <0.2-1.2	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use, leaching from septic tanks, sewage, erosion of natural deposits
Disinfection By-Products						
Total Trihalomethanes (9/15/16) (TT)	No	0.5	PPB/Range 0.0-0.5	0	80	By Product of Disinfection
Haloacetic Acid (9/15/16) (TT)	No	0	PPB/Range 0-0	0	60	By Product of Disinfection
Chlorine Residual 1/6/16–12/21/16 (TT)	No	0.7	PPM/Range 0.4-1.0	4/MRDLG	4.0 MRDL	Added Disinfectant
Other Test Results			Monitoring Waivers —The Washington State Department of Health (DOH) has reduced the monitoring requirements for Synthetic Organic Chemicals (SOC’s) for all City of Orting water sources because the sources are not at risk of contamination. The last sample collected for these contaminants were reported on September 18, 2015 and was found to meet all applicable EPA and DOH standards. SOC and VOC samples were taken for Well #4 in 2015 because Well #4 was recently added to the system and needed testing. All of the test results were non-detect meeting DOH standards .			
Radioactive Contaminants - None Detected : 12/20/16						
Synthetic Organic Chemicals - None Detected : 9/18/15						
Volatile Organic Chemicals - None Detected : 8/16/16						

Definitions: **PPM=Parts Per Million:** One part contaminant per million parts water / **PPB=Parts Per Billion:** One parts per billion, one part contaminant per billion parts water / **AL=Action Level:** The concentrations of a contaminant / **MCL=Maximum Contaminant Level:** The highest level of contaminant that is allowed in drinking water / **MCLG=Maximum Contaminant Level Goal:** The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health / **MFL=Million Fibers per Liter:** Samples with values higher than (7) MFL are above the EPA MCL and must be reported / **Trigger Level:** Department of Health drinking water response level / **MRDL=Maximum Residual Disinfectant:** There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants / **MRDLG=Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal:** The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. **TT=Treatment Technique:** A required process intended to reduce the level of contaminant in drinking water.

MORE INFORMATION: Lead & Copper—All thirty samples taken were below the Action Level. Total Trihalomethanes, Haloacetic Acids and Chlorine Residual are within the DOH required limits as per the range in parentheses above. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in the table is from testing completed between November 5, 2009 and December 31, 2016. The state requires monitoring 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 repre-

Regulated Test Levels

The sources of Drinking Water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or thorough 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 human activity.

Contaminants that may be present in source water before we treat it include:

- **Microbial contaminants**, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.
- **Inorganic contaminants**, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial or domestic discharges, oil and gas production, mining or farming.
- **Pesticides and herbicides**, may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture and residential uses.
- **Organic chemical contaminants**, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, can also come from stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems.