

2025 CITY OF FOREST GROVE WATER QUALITY REPORT



SAFE, DEPENDABLE DRINKING WATER

The City of Forest Grove strives to provide customers with high quality water that meets or exceeds all federal and state drinking water standards. The City has two reliable sources to meet demands now and into the future. The City owns 4,225 protected acres in the Clear Creek Watershed that provides water to our Watercrest Road Water Treatment Plant, where it is treated and filtered. Additionally, our partnership in the Joint Water Commission Water (JWC) supplies treated water from the upper Tualatin River, with summertime releases from Hagg Lake and Barney Reservoir.

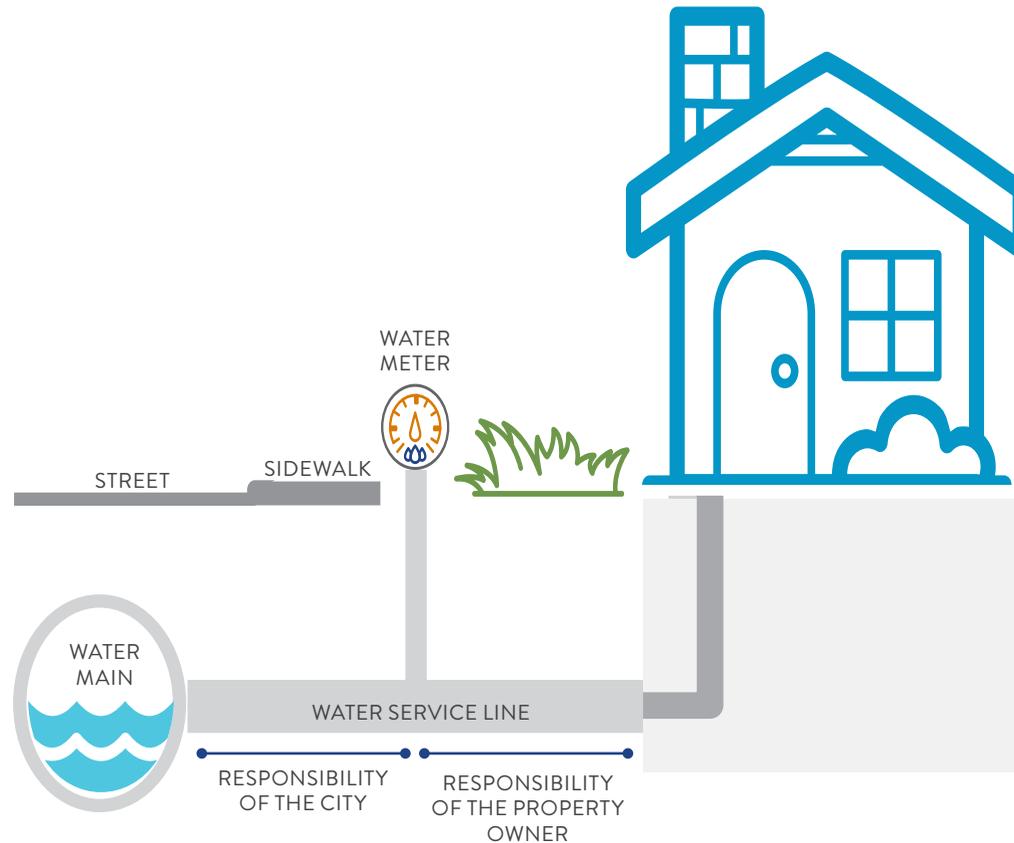
Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk.

More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline 1-800-426-4791 or epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water.

REGULATED SUBSTANCES				FOREST GROVE WATER			JWC WATER				
Substance	Units	MCLG [MRDLG]	MCL [MRDL]	Amount Detected	Range Low-High		Amount Detected	Range Low-High	Violation?	Typical Source	
Barium	ppm	2	2	0.0017 ^a			0.005	0.0046-0.005	No	Erosion of natural deposits	
Chlorine	ppm	[4]	[4]	1.22	0.60-1.22		1.53	1.00-1.53	No	Additive-controls microbes	
Chromium	ppb	100	100	2 ^a			N/A	N/A	No	Erosion of natural deposits	
Fluoride	ppm	4.0	4.0	0.95	0.30-0.95		1.04	0.10-1.04	No	Additive-promotes strong teeth	
Nitrate	ppm	10	10	0.13			0.40	0.29-0.40	No	Agricultural runoff	
MICROBIOLOGICAL				FOREST GROVE WATER			JWC WATER				
Total Organic Carbon	% removal	N/A	TT	31.7%	5.9-59.8%		40.1%	29.5-75.7%	No	Naturally present in the environment	
Turbidity	NTU	N/A	TT ^b	0.18	0.01-0.18		0.15	0.02-0.15	No	Soil Runoff	
Turbidity (Lowest monthly % meeting limit of 0.3)	NTU	N/A	TT ^b	100%	100%		100%	100%	No	Soil Runoff	
DISINFECTION BYPRODUCTS				FOREST GROVE WATER			JWC WATER				
Haloacetic Acids	ppb	N/A	60	29 ^c	15-41		N/A		No	By-product of water chlorination	
Total Trihalomethane	ppb	N/A	80	31 ^c	10-38		N/A		No	By-product of water chlorination	
LEAD AND COPPER TESTING				FOREST GROVE WATER			JWC WATER				
Substance	Units	MCLG [MRDLG]	MCL [MRDL]	Amount Detected	Range Low-High	Sites Above AL	Amount Detected	Range Low-High	Sites Above AL	Violation?	Typical Source
Copper	ppm	1.3	TT,AL = 1.3	0.184 ^{d,e}	0.014-0.333	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	No	Corrosion of household plumbing
Lead	ppb	0	TT, AL = 15	3 ^{d,e}	ND-49	1	N/A	N/A	N/A	No	Corrosion of household plumbing
UNREGULATED/OTHER				FOREST GROVE WATER			JWC WATER				
Substance	Units	MCLG [MRDLG]	MCL [MRDL]	Amount Detected	Range Low-High		Amount Detected	Range Low-High	Violation?	Typical Source	
Sodium	ppm	N/A	N/A	8.1			11.3	9.1-11.3	No	Naturally present in the environment	

Unless otherwise noted, data is from 2024: a- Data from 2020, b- At no time can turbidity (cloudiness of water) go higher than 1 Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU), c- Locational Running Annual Average (LRAA), d- 90th percentile samples taken, e- Data from 2023

SERVICE LINE RESPONSIBILITY



VULNERABLE POPULATIONS

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised 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/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 or epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water.

DRINKING WATER AND LEAD

Exposure to lead in drinking water can cause serious health effects in all age groups, but especially pregnant women and young children. Infants and children can have decreases in IQ and attention span. Lead exposure can lead to new learning and behavior problems. The children of woman who are exposed to lead before or during pregnancy can have increased risk of these adverse health effects. Adults can have increased risk of heart disease, high blood pressure, kidney, or nervous system problems. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. Forest Grove is responsible for providing high quality drinking water and removing lead pipes but cannot control the variety of materials used in

LEAD FREE WATER SYSTEM

The City of Forest Grove has completed the initial lead service line inventory required by the U.S. EPA's Lead and Copper Rule Revisions. The deadline for the initial inventory was October 16, 2024. Forest Grove retained the professional services of 120Water to develop its initial service line inventory. With the assistance of 120Water's expertise and technology, Forest Grove performed an extensive historical records review, data analysis and field investigations. Forest Grove has determined it has no lead or galvanized requiring replacement service lines in its distribution system. This includes any privately-owned or customer-owned service lines.

Forest Grove reviewed all applicable sources of information, including:

- All construction and plumbing codes, permits, and existing records or other documentation which indicates the service line materials;
- All water system records, including distribution system maps and drawings, historical records on each service connection, meter installation records, historical capital improvement or master plans, and standard operating procedures;
- All inspections and records of the distribution system that indicate service line material, including inspections conducted during the course of normal operations (e.g., checking service line materials when reading water meters or performing maintenance activities); and
- All previous service line or meter replacements were conducted.

Finally, Forest Grove used a statistical approach to obtain a 95% confidence level in the remaining unknown services. A randomly generated list of 351 unknown services was compiled. These randomly selected locations were then physically inspected using vacuum or mechanical excavation, along with visual inspection at the meter.

All service lines inspected were verified non-lead. No lead or galvanized requiring replacement service lines were identified. To access the inventory or for more information, contact Forest Grove Water Treatment at 503-992.3259.

plumbing components in your home. You share in the responsibility for protecting yourself and family from the lead in your plumbing. You can take responsibility by identifying and removing lead materials within your home plumbing and taking steps to reduce your family's risk. Before drinking tap water, flush your pipes for several minutes by running your tap, taking a shower, doing laundry or a load of dishes. You can also use a filter certified by an American National Standards Institute accredited certifier to reduce lead in drinking water. If you are concerned about lead in your water and wish to have your water tested, contact Forest Grove Water Treatment at 503-992-3259. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at epa.gov/SafeWater/lead.



PFAS

PFAS (per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances) are long-lasting human made chemicals that have been found in water, air, and soil in the United States and around the world. Scientific studies have shown that exposure to some PFAS in the environment may be linked to harmful health effects in humans and animals. Exposure to these chemicals occurs by consuming PFAS-contaminated food or water, breathing air containing PFAS, or using products with PFAS. Beginning in April 2023, Forest Grove Water has tested its drinking water for 29 PFAS compounds every quarter as required by the EPA's Fifth Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR5). **PFAS were not detected in your drinking water system during this monitoring period.**



SOURCE WATER ASSESSMENT

In 2019, the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) and Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) conducted an Updated Source Water Assessment of the Clear Creek Watershed, as well as the Upper-Tualatin River Watershed. Source water assessments identify potential contaminant sources that may affect the water supply. The main concern identified was increased erosion from harvesting operations could cause runoff and increase the likelihood of landslides. The Watershed Stewardship Management Plan focuses on how we are addressing our source water vulnerabilities. To review the documents, contact Forest Grove Water Treatment at 503-992-3259.



DEFINITIONS

AL/Action Level – concentration of a contaminant, which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

MCL/Maximum Contaminant Level – highest level of contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

MCLG/Maximum Contaminant Level Goal – 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.

MRDL/Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level – The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

MRDLG/Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal – 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.

N/A Not Applicable / **ND** Not Detected

NTU Nephelometric Turbidity Units

TT/Treatment Technique – a required process intended to reduce a contaminant level in drinking water.

MESSAGE FROM THE EPA

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 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 activity.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the U.S.EPA prescribes regulations, which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that must provide the same protection for public health.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include:



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



Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining or farming.



Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses.



Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems.



Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.



PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

City Council, the policymaking body of the City, meets the 2nd and 4th Monday each month at 7:00pm in the Community Auditorium, 1915 Main St., Forest Grove. Additional City Council information can be found at forestgrove-or.gov/citycouncil.



Forest Grove City Hall



forestgrove_oregon



City of Forest Grove



forestgrove-or.gov



Contact Andy Sewall, Treatment Plant Superintendent, with any questions or concerns at (503) 992-3259, or email asewall@forestgrove-or.gov