

Idaho City Consumer Confidence Report 2017



The Idaho City Water Department routinely monitors for contaminants in your drinking water in accordance with federal and state regulations. The EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems, ensuring its safety to public health. **Please review the table to learn about the detection of the following constituents in your drinking water for the period of January 1, 2017 through December 31, 2017.**

Contaminants that may be present in source water can include:

- Inorganic contaminants:** salts and metals that can be naturally-occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or agriculture.
- Pesticides and herbicides:** may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses.
- Microbial contaminants:** viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife
- Organic chemical contaminants:** 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.
- Radioactive contaminants:** naturally-occurring or the result of oil and gas production and mining activities

These regulations are the health and safety standards to which your drinking water is held.

- AL (Action Level):** The concentration of a contaminant which, when exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements
- MCL (Maximum Contaminant Level):** The highest level of a contaminant 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. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.
- MRDL (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level):** The highest level of 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):** The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health.
- Treatment Technique (TT):** A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

Where does my drinking water come from?
 The Idaho City Water Department distributes drinking water from Elk Creek to supply our citizens.

CONSTITUENT TABLE							
Constituent	Violation (Y/N)	MCL	MCLG	Lowest Level Detected	Highest Level Detected	Year Tested	Typical Sources of Contamination
INORGANIC CONTAMINANTS							
Copper (ppm)	N	1.3 (AL)	1.3	N/A	0.365	2017	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Lead (ppb)	N	15 (AL)	15	N/A	4	2017	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
DISINFECTANTS & DISINFECTANT BY-PRODUCTS							
Chlorine (ppm)	N	4	4	0	1.3	2017	Water additive to control microbes
Halocetic Acids (ppm)	N	60	N/A	0.032	10.5	2017	By-product of drinking water chlorination
THMs (ppb)	N	80	N/A	0.005	3.4	2017	By-product of drinking water chlorination
RADIOACTIVE CONTAMINANTS							
Alpha Emitters (pCi/L)	N	15	0	N/A	1.5	2016	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium [226/228] (pCi/L)	N	0	5	1	1.8	2016	Erosion of natural deposits
MICROBIOLOGICAL CONTAMINANTS							
Turbidity	Y	0.3	N/A	0	8.263	Highest Detect 3/18/17	Soil Runoff

Picocuries per Liter (pCi/L): a measurement of radioactive substance per Liter
 Parts per billion (ppb): One part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years
 Parts per million (ppm): One part per million corresponds to one penny in \$10,000

For additional information, please contact the Idaho City Water Department.
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Water Quality 2017

In compliance with regulatory agencies, it is our duty to inform you of violations that occurred within the drinking water system during the year 2017. We did not report our sampling results for Total Haloacetic Acids between April and September. Between March 1st and May 31st, we did not meet treatment technique requirements for exceeded turbidity levels within the treatment plant. Additionally, we failed to notify the public regarding this violation within the required time frame during the month of May. We did not report our sampling findings for turbidity and chlorine levels in the Elk Creek Treatment Plant during the months of June, July, and September. We did not monitor for chlorine residual levels in the distribution system during the months of July and August.

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.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population.

These individuals can include:

- Immuno-compromised persons such as persons undergoing chemotherapy
- persons who have undergone organ transplants
- people with HIV / AIDS or other immune system disorders
- Elderly individuals
- infants and young children

More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791 or the website, www.epa.gov/safewater/hotline/



Additional information for Lead

Elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily associated with service lines and home plumbing. The Idaho City Water Department is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. 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.

What Can I Do to Help Protect My Drinking Water?

Preserving Quality at the Source

You can help protect your community's drinking water source in several ways:

- Eliminate excess use of lawn and garden fertilizers and pesticides - they contain hazardous chemicals that can reach your drinking water source.
- Pick up after your pets. Animal waste can easily be carried into our streams, rivers, and lakes after one good rainstorm.
- If you have your own septic system, properly maintain your system to reduce leaching to water sources or consider connecting to a public water system.
- Dispose of chemicals properly; fertilizers, pesticides, motor oil, and other chemicals have a significant impact on your drinking water quality
- Dispose of pharmaceuticals properly; for more information, please refer to www.deq.idaho.gov/pharmaceuticals-disposal
- Find a watershed or wellhead protection organization in your community and volunteer to help. If there are no active groups, consider starting one.



Conserving Quantity in your Home

Small changes can make a big difference .

- Take short showers - a 5 minute shower uses 4 to 5 gallons of water versus 50 gallons for a bath.
- Shut off water while brushing your teeth and shaving and save up to 500 gallons a month.
- Use a water-efficient showerhead to save you up to 750 gallons a month.
- Run your clothes washer and dishwasher only when they are full to save up to 1,000 gallons a month.
- Fixing or replacing leaky toilets and faucets can save up to 1,000 gallons a month.
- Adjust sprinklers so only your lawn is watered. Apply water during the cooler parts of the day to reduce evaporation.
- Teach your kids about water conservation.. Make it a family effort to reduce next month's water bill!



Photograph of Idaho City sign provided by Idaho City Chamber of Commerce
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