Missoula County RSID 901 Lolo Water District 2017 Drinking Water Quality Report

This report summarizes the system's compliance with state and federal drinking water rules and regulations. The report will not be mailed to individual homes/ consumers. Contact the office at (406) 273-2733 or email us at jneese@missoulacounty.us or visit us at www.lolowater.org if you have any questions or would like a copy of this report.

Is my water safe?

We are pleased to report that our drinking water is safe and meets federal and state requirements. This report is a snapshot of last year's water quality. Included are details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to standards set by regulatory agencies. We are committed to providing you with information because informed customers are our best allies.

Do I need to take special precautions?

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 drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Water Drinking Hotline (800-426-4791).

Where does my water come from?

Our water source is groundwater from three wells. Two of the wells are located on Glacier Drive and draw from the Bitterroot Aquifer; the third well is located along Highway 12 and draws from the Lolo Creek Aquifer.

Source water assessment and its availability

We have a source water protection plan available from our office that provides more information such as potential sources of contamination.

Why are there contaminants in my drinking water?

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 Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791). 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: Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, that 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 storm water 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 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; and radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities. In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

Additional Information for 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. Missoula County RSID901 - Lolo Water District 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 or at http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

Radon

Radon 222, or radon for short, is a colorless, odorless gas that occurs naturally in soil, air and water. Radon is formed from the radioactive decay products of natural uranium that is found in many soils. Most radon in indoor air comes from the soils below the foundation of the home, and in some locations can accumulate to dangerous levels in the absence of proper ventilation. In most homes, the health risk from radon in drinking water is very small compared to the health risk from radon in indoor air. For more information call the EPA's Radon Hotline at 1-800-SOS-RADON.
We have detected radon in the finished water supply. There is currently no federal regulation for radon in drinking water. Some people who are exposed to radon in drinking water may have increased risk of getting cancer over the course of their lifetime, especially lung cancer.

How can I get involved?

We at Lolo Water are on duty around the clock to provide top quality water to every tap. We ask that all our customers help us protect our water sources. Please call our office at 406-273-2733 if you have any questions.

Water Quality Data Table

The table below lists all of the drinking water contaminants that we detected from January 1, 2017 through December 31, 2017. The EPA or the State allows us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. For contaminants that are not monitored yearly, we have reviewed our records back five years. The presence of contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk.

Contaminants	MCLG or MRDLG	MCL, TT, or MRDL	Your Water	Range Low - High	Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
Inorganic Contaminants							
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	0.12	0.11 - 0.12	Sep-16	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Barium (ppm)	2	2	0.1	.07- 0.1	Sep-16	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate [measured as Nitrogen] (ppm)	10	10	1.3	0.69 1.3	Dec-17	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Radioactive Contaminants							
Alpha emitters (pCi/L)	0	15	4.7	3.5- 4.7	Sep-16	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Combined Uranium (ppb)	0	30	4	2 - 4	Sep-16	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Radon (pCi/L)	NE	NE	645	349 - 645	Sep-16	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Secondary Standards							
Sulfate (ppm)	500	NS	14.4	11 - 14.4	Sep-16	No	
Chloride (ppm)	250	NS	10.3	5.6- 10.3	Sep-16	No	

Contaminants	MCLG	AL	Highest Level Detected	Sample Date	# Samples Exceeding AL	Exceeds AL	Typical Source
Inorganic Contaminants							
Copper - action level at consumer taps (ppm)	1.3	1.3	0.07	Sep-16	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Lead - action level at consumer taps (ppm)	0	0.015	0.003	Sep-16	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits

Unregulated Additional Parameters	MDL	MCL	Your Water	Range Low - High		Sample Date	Violation
Alkalinity	1	NS	205	174	205	Sep-16	No
Calcium	1	NS	52	41	52	Sep-16	No
Conductivity umhos/cm	0.1	NS	385	317	385	Sep-16	No
Hardness	2	NS	220	180	220	Sep-16	No
Iron	0.03	0.3	0.04	ND	0.04	Sep-16	No
Magnesium	1	500	22	19	22	Sep-16	No
Potassium	1	500	3	3	3	Dec-12	No
Sodium	0.1	20	5.5	4.5	5.5	Sep-16	No
pH (Physical Parameter)	0.1	6.5 - 8.5	7.95	7.76	7.95	Sep-16	No

Unit Descriptions

Term	Definition
ppm	parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/L)
ppb	parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (µg/L)
pCi/L	picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)
positive samples/ month	number of samples taken monthly that were found to be positive
NA	NA: Not applicable
ND	ND: Not detected
NE	NE: Not Established
NS	NS: No Standard

Important Drinking Water Definitions

Term	Definition
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.
MCL	Maximum Contaminant Level: The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.
TT	Treatment Technique: A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
AL	Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
Variances and Exemptions	State or EPA permission not to meet an MCL or a treatment technique under certain conditions.
MRDLG	Maximum residual disinfection level goal. 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.
MRDL	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.
MNR	MNR: Monitored Not Regulated
MPL	MPL: State Assigned Maximum Permissible Level

Violations:

Our system did not receive any violations in 2017.