

# Pete's Mountain Water Company Annual Drinking Water Report 2018

We are pleased to present our annual drinking water report covering all testing between January 1 and December 31, 2018. As in years past, we are committed to delivering the best-quality drinking water possible.

This report is designed to provide details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to standards set by regulatory agencies. Knowing more about the water you drink will help you make more informed choices. Thank you for allowing us to continue providing you and your family with the highest quality drinking water possible.

We ask all our customers to help protect your water source which is the heart of our community, our way of life, and our children's future.

## **Update Your Contact Information**

Pete's Mountain Water must have an up-to-date email address and phone number to contact you in the event of an emergency within the community, should one occur. This would be used in situations where it is important to reach all members, such as: a boil water notice, line breaks, flooding, or other emergencies. Our notifications will only be successful with current info, so it is important for us to have contact info for those living within the water system, including owners and renters. Please update Tabor Accounting when any of your contact information changes.

## **Our Source of Water:**

Pete's Mountain Water is supplied by two deep (1000ft and 1052ft) groundwater wells. The source of this water has been identified as the Columbia River Basalt Group of Aquifers.



**Our Reservoir** has a 140,000 gallon capacity.

## **Cross Connection Information**

Hot tubs or outside water features/ponds: All homes with direct plumbing to a hot tub, water feature, or pond are required to install a backflow assembly at the water meter.

In-ground sprinklers or in-home fire suppression systems: All homes with in-ground sprinkler systems or home fire sprinklers with non-potable piping must install and maintain an approved backflow protection assembly.

Backflow assemblies protect our drinking water against contamination from backflow and back-siphonage. If your home is not protected against cross connections, the first home to be contaminated will be your own!

Homeowners are responsible for protecting their home from cross connections. Please make sure your home meets the current plumbing codes.

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## **What the EPA says about Drinking Water Contaminants**

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 effect can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 800-426-4791 or visiting [www.epa.gov/safewater](http://www.epa.gov/safewater).

## **Sources of Drinking Water:**

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.

## **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 storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming;

**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;

**Pesticides & Herbicides**, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses; and

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

**In order to ensure tap water is safe to drink:** The 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 which must provide the same protection for public health.

## **Lead and Copper Testing**

With the news of elevated levels of lead in schools in Portland and Beaverton, many people have become aware of the potential for lead being in your drinking water. We test for lead and copper every 3 years as required by the Oregon Health Authority. We last tested in 2018. We are required to test from 5 different locations throughout the system. Lead was present in 0 of the 5 samples.

## **Statement for Consumer Confidence Report:**

### **Lead Specific Information**

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. Pete's Mountain Water 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

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lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If 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 are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

## **Important Health Information for immuno-compromised persons:**

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 transplantation, 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 at 1-800-426-4791.**

## **Pete's Mountain Water**

The water company routinely monitors for contaminants in our drinking water according to Federal and State laws. The following chart shows the results of our monitoring for the period of 01-01-2018 to 12-31-2018. **The results of testing done are not shown if no contaminants were present in the water sample.**

The results of all water testing can be found at the Oregon Health Authority's website: <https://yourwater.oregon.gov/inventory.php?pwsno=00161>.

Water Quality Data Table				2018 Data	
Contaminant	MCL	Water Sample	Date	Violation	Typical Source
Nitrates	10 mg/l	0.01 mg/l	2018-09-24	None	Runoff from fertilizer use: leaching from septic tanks. Sewage: erosion of natural deposits.
Copper 90%	1.30 mg/l	0.077 mg/l	2018-08-22	None	Corrosion of household plumbing, erosion of natural deposits, leaching from wood preservatives.
Lead 90%	0.0155 mg/l	0.00 mg/l	2018-08-22	None	Corrosion of household plumbing.
Total Coliform	1 positive E-Coli	Coliform bacteria in 4/5 samples. No E-Coli.	2018-09-17 2018-09-19	None	Naturally present in the environment.
Total Coliform	1 positive E-Coli	Coliform bacteria in 1 sample. No E-Coli.	2018-08-14	None	Naturally present in the environment.
Nitrates	10 mg/l	0.0 mg/l	2017-03-30	None	Runoff from fertilizer use: leaching from septic tanks. Sewage: erosion of natural deposits.

**Definitions of the Units of Measurement:**

**Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL)** – The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLG’s as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

**Action Level (AL)**- The concentration of a contaminant, which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements, which a water system must follow.

**Milligrams per liter (mg/l)** – the equivalent of a single penny in \$10,000 worth of pennies.

Contacts for more information:

If you have **water** questions, contact:  
**Merrill Water Systems LLC**  
(503) 734-7400  
[info@merrillwater.com](mailto:info@merrillwater.com)

If you have **billing** questions, contact:  
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