

We are happy to report that our drinking water quality meets or exceeds federal and state requirements. Last year we tested our water for a multitude of contaminants such as nitrates, pesticides, fuels from spills or leaks, microbial contaminants, and disinfection byproducts. This report is designed to inform you about the quality of the water and services we deliver to you every day.

Our constant goal is to provide you with a clean and dependable supply of drinking water. We continuously strive to ensure that your drinking water looks, smells and tastes great. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resource, which is vital to our community, our way of life, and our children's future. Sources of our drinking water are wells. As water travels 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 septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, wastewater treatment plants and wildlife.

Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, 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.

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

The City of Kuna has a Drinking Water Source Protection Plan that is designed to protect the integrity of our drinking water. Our system employs eight ground water wells to provide drinking water from a confined portion of the western Snake River Plain aquifer. Protection of our ground water is vital for the very existence of our community. The protection plan describes the water system's drinking water source protection area, identifies locations of potential contaminant sources that could harm our drinking water, and lists protection strategies designed to protect our wells and drinking water sources. Based upon the system's Source Water Assessment (DEQ,2000), potential contaminant sources in our protection area include agricultural chemicals (pesticides and fertilizers), household hazardous wastes, chemicals and cleaning solvents, fuels from home heating oil systems, and chemicals used for the care and maintenance of private septic systems. One of the city's greatest concerns is for the increasing levels of nitrates from private septic systems and agricultural uses. Our source water protection strategies include distributing additional educational information to residents and businesses served. A complete copy of this report is available for review at the City of Kuna's office. Please contact our office at (208) 922-5546. Community water supplies may be jeopardized by cross-connections unless appropriate valves, known as backflow prevention devices, are installed and maintained. Idaho State Rules for Drinking Water Systems states "There shall be no connection between the distribution system and any pipes, pumps, hydrants, water-loading station, or tanks whereby unsafe water or other contaminating materials may be discharged or drawn into a public water system." (IDAPA 58.01.08) For that reason, all residences using potable water in sprinkler systems for landscape, irrigation are required to have backflow prevention devices installed and inspected every year. Failure to comply will result in your water being turned off. Please contact our office at (208) 922-5546 for additional information.

WATER CONSERVATION

Water conservation measures are an important first step in protecting our water supply and saving money on your water bill. Here are a few suggestions:

Inside your home:

- **Fix leaking faucets, toilets, pipes, etc.** On average, leaks comprise 10% of the average homeowner's indoor water use.
- **Replace old fixtures-install water-saving devices.**
- **Only wash loads of laundry or run dishwasher when full.**
- **Take shorter showers.**
- **Don't use the toilet as a waste basket.**
- **Don't let the water run while shaving or brushing teeth.**

Outside your home:

- **If you are using potable water for irrigation, water the lawn and garden in the early morning or evening, and only when needed.** *To determine if your lawn needs water, walk across it or try to stick a screw driver into the ground; if the lawn stays flat after walking on it, or if the screw driver doesn't go in more than one inch, it is time to water.*

- **Use mulch around shrubs and trees.**
- **Repair leaks in faucets and hoses.**
- **Use water-saving nozzles.**
- **Use water from a bucket to wash your car and save the hose for rinsing.**

Information on other ways that you can help conserve water can be found at; <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/publicoutreach/>

DEFINITIONS

In the Contaminant Table, you will find many terms and abbreviations you might not be familiar with. To help better understand these terms we've provided the following definitions.

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL): 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.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG): 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.

Treatment Technique: A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

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

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level(MRDL): 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.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal(MRDLG): The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk of health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contamination.

Non-Detect (ND): Laboratory analysis indicates that the constituent is not present.

pCi/L = picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)

Part per million (ppm)= 1mg/l (milligram per liter) : One part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or one penny in \$10,000.

Parts per billion (ppb)= 1ug/l (microgram per liter): One part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years or a single penny in \$10,000,000.