



YOUR DRINKING WATER CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2023

General Water System Information

Questions regarding the City's water supply, treatment and quality control may be directed to: Ryan Wood, Public Works Superintendent at 503-489-0928, rwood@ci.sandy.or.us. The City actively seeks public participation in decisions affecting your drinking water. City Council meetings are held at 7:00 PM on the first and third Mondays of each month at Sandy City Hall, 39250 Pioneer Blvd. Sandy, OR 97055. Agendas for upcoming City Council meetings and minutes of past Council meetings may be found on our website: www.ci.sandy.or.us.

Sandy is a member of the Regional Water Providers Consortium. The Consortium provides leadership in the planning, management, stewardship, and resiliency of drinking water in the greater Portland, OR metropolitan region. Learn more at regionalH2O.org. Check out our how-to videos and other resources that show how to store, access, and treat drinking water in an emergency at regionalH2O.org/emergency-preparedness. Resources are available in: English, Arabic, Chinese, Farsi, Hindi, Japanese, Karen, Khmer, Korean, Lao, Nepali, Somali, Spanish, Romanian, Russian, Thai, Ukrainian, and Vietnamese.

Water Source Information

The City of Sandy has three water sources. During the spring, fall and winter approximately 20% of the City's supply is purchased from the Portland Water Bureau. The remainder of our supply comes from Brownell Springs and Alder Creek. During the summer when demand increases each source provides approximately one-third of the total supply.

The City completed an updated Source water Assessment in June of 2019, more information can be found on the City's website. <https://www.ci.sandy.or.us/publicworks/page/water>

Definitions Useful in Interpreting This Report

Disinfection By-products (DBP)- compounds formed by a reaction between the chlorine used to disinfect water and any organic material remaining in the water or the piping system.

None-Detected (ND) - laboratory analysis indicates that the constituent is not present at or above the detection limit of the equipment and analysis method.

Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/l) - one part per million

Parts per billion (ppb) - one part per billion

PicoCuries per liter (pCi/l) - one trillionth of a Curie (a measure of the decay of Radium)

Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU) - nephelometric turbidity unit is a measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.

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

Maximum Contaminant Level - The "Maximum Allowed" (MCL) is 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. MCL's are set at very stringent levels. **To understand the possible health effects described for many regulated constituents, a person would have to drink 2 liters of water every day at the MCL level for 70 years to have a one-in-a-million chance of having the described health effect.**

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal - The "Goal" (MCLG) is 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.

Turbidity - is the measure of "cloudiness" or suspended particles in water. Particles that create turbidity can provide a growth medium for bacteria and hinder the effectiveness of treatment methods and disinfection processes.

TT: treatment technique. A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

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. 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.

What the EPA says can be found in drinking water

Across the United States, 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 Environmental Protection Agency (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.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include: **microbial contaminants**, such as viruses, bacteria, and protozoa from wildlife; **inorganic contaminants**, such as naturally-occurring salts and metals; **pesticides and herbicides**, which may come from farming, urban stormwater runoff, or home and business use; **organic chemical contaminants**, such as byproducts from industrial processes or the result of chlorine combining with naturally occurring organic matter; and **radioactive contaminants**, such as naturally occurring radon.

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 at **800-426-4791** or at epa.gov/safewater.

Monitoring for *Cryptosporidium*

The Portland Water Bureau does not currently treat for *Cryptosporidium*, but is required to do so under drinking water regulations. Portland is working to install filtration by September 30, 2027 under a compliance schedule with the OHA. In the meantime, Portland Water Bureau is implementing interim measures such as watershed protection and additional monitoring to protect public health. Consultation with public health officials continues to conclude that the general public does not need to take any additional precautions.

Exposure to *Cryptosporidium* can cause cryptosporidiosis, a serious illness. Symptoms can include diarrhea, vomiting, fever, and stomach pain. People with healthy immune systems recover without medical treatment. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), people with severely weakened immune systems are at risk for more serious disease. Symptoms may be more severe and could lead to serious life-threatening illness. Examples of people with weakened immune systems include those with AIDS, those with inherited diseases that affect the immune system, and cancer and transplant patients who are taking certain immunosuppressive drugs.

The Environmental Protection Agency advises that customers who are immunocompromised and receive their drinking water from the Bull Run Watershed consult with their health care professional about the safety of drinking the tap water.

Special Notice for Immunocompromised Persons

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 people, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)/ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (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 **800-426-4791**.

Lead

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. Sandy is responsible for providing high quality drinking water and removing lead pipes, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components in your home. You share the responsibility for protecting yourself and your family from the lead in your home 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 Sandy Public Works at 503-668-5310. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

It is important to point out that we monitor for many contaminants other than those listed in this table, (over 60 from all sources in 2023). Only contaminants that are detected are listed in this table. In addition to these analyses, the City collects a minimum of fifteen samples every month from the distribution system, (the pipes that deliver water to your home) to test for coliform contamination.

Arsenic, barium, fluoride, and manganese

These metals are elements found in the earth's crust. They can dissolve into water that is in contact with natural deposits. At the levels found in Sandy's drinking water, they are unlikely to result in negative health effects.

Giardia

Wildlife in the watershed may be hosts to *Giardia*, a microorganism that can cause gastrointestinal illness. The treatment technique is to remove 99.9 percent of *Giardia* cysts. After testing our untreated water for *Giardia*, Sandy and Portland treats its water with chlorine to control these organisms.

Nitrate (as nitrogen)

Nitrate, measured as nitrogen, can lead to bacterial and algal growth in the water. At levels that exceed the standard, nitrate can contribute to health problems. At the levels found in Sandy's drinking water, nitrate is unlikely to result in negative health effects.

Radon

Radon is a naturally occurring radioactive gas that cannot be seen, tasted, or smelled. Radon can be detected at very low levels in the Bull Run water supply and at varying levels in Portland's groundwater supply. At the levels found in Portland's drinking water, radon in water is unlikely to result in negative health effects. Find more information about radon from the EPA at epa.gov/radon.

Sodium

There is currently no drinking water standard for sodium. At the levels found in Sandy's drinking water, sodium is unlikely to result in negative health effects.

Water Quality Violations

Sandy is required to meet all responsibilities for water suppliers described in OAR 333-061-0025.

Sandy's connection to the Portland Water Bureau must meet Cryptosporidium treatment requirements by 09/30/2027 (Bilateral Compliance Agreement), more information found at the following website.

<https://yourwater.oregon.gov/enforce.php?pwsno=00789>

Sandy had two *Monthly SW Report - Late/Nonreporting* violations in June 2023. These were remedied and Sandy returned to compliance on August 10th, 2023.

More information regarding Sandy's drinking water system can be found at

<https://yourwater.oregon.gov/inventory.php?pwsno=00789>.

The table below summarizes analyses of your drinking water performed in calendar year 2024 (January 1, 2023, through December 31, 2023).

CONTAMINANT	MAX. AMT. DETECTED	(MCL) or TT	(MCLG)	SOURCE OF CONTAMINATION
Disinfection By-Products (Distribution System - All Sources)				
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)	0.0685 mg/l	0.080 mg/l	N/A	Reaction between chlorine and organics in source water
Total Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	0.105 mg/l	0.060 mg/l	N/A	Reaction between chlorine and organic carbon in water
Lead and Copper (Distribution System – All Sources – detected in household plumbing)				
Lead (2022)	0.064 mg/l	0.015 mg/l	0 mg/l	Corrosion in household plumbing
Copper (2022)	0.449 mg/l	1.3 mg/l	1.3 mg/l	Corrosion in household plumbing
Alder Creek Source (Entry Point A)				
Turbidity ¹	0.29 NTU	0.3 NTU in 95% of samples 1.0 NTU at any one time	< 0.3 NTU	Soil erosion and stream sediments
Nitrate	0.153	10.0 mg/l	N/A	Naturally present in the environment
Alkalinity	37.0 mg/l	N/A	N/A	Naturally present in the environment
Total Organic Carbon (TOC)	4.01 mg/l	N/A	N/A	
Fluoride (2022)	ND	4 mg/l	4 mg/l	
Sodium (2022)	4.5 mg/l	N/A	N/A	
Brownell Springs Source (Entry Point B)				
Turbidity ¹	0.728 NTU	0.3 NTU in 95% of samples 1.0 NTU at any one time	< 0.3 NTU	Soil erosion and stream sediments
Nitrate	0.142	10 mg/l	N/A	Naturally present in the environment
Fluoride (2022)	ND	4 mg/l	4 mg/l	
Nickel (2022)	0.0016 mg/l	0.1 mg/l	N/A	
Sodium (2022)	4.4 mg/l	N/A	N/A	
Portland Water Bureau Source (Entry Point C)				
Turbidity ¹	0.23-3.69 NTU	Cannot exceed 5 NTU more than 2 times in 12 months	N/A - Unfiltered Source	Soil erosion and stream sediments
Nitrate	0.021 mg/l	N/A	N/A	Naturally present in the environment
Total Organic Carbon (TOC)	1.7 mg/l	N/A	N/A	
Arsenic (ppb)	ND	10 ppb	0 ppb	
Barium (ppm)	0.00082 mg/l	2 mg/l	2 mg/l	
Copper ² (ppm)	ND	N/A	N/A	
Fluoride (ppm)	ND	4 mg/l	4 mg/l	
Lead (ppb) ²	ND	N/A	0 ppb	
Manganese	33.7	N/A	N/A	Found in mineral deposits
Radon piC/l	167 piC/l	N/A	N/A	Found in mineral deposits
Giardia (#/liter)	0.8	TT	N/A	Animal Waste
<i>Cryptosporidium</i> ³	0.02 oocysts/liter - maximum concentration detected (59 detects in 217 fifty-liter samples)			
Sodium (ppm)	12.0 ppm	N/A	N/A	Found in mineral deposits