



PO Box 896  
 North Bend, WA 98045  
[www.northbendwa.gov](http://www.northbendwa.gov)

## 2019 Water Quality Report

*The City of North Bend is pleased to provide you with its annual water quality report. This report is a requirement of the United States Environmental Protection Agency and the Washington State Department of Health*

The City strives to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We work diligently to provide top quality water to more than 5,000 consumers (about 2,800 connections) each day. We are pleased to report that our drinking water is safe and in compliance with all State & Federal Health Standards.

### Monitoring Results for Year 2018

Water quality results at the Mt. Si Spring and Centennial Well have always been satisfactory. Water treatment is achieved by disinfection with chlorine gas and liquid chlorine. To ensure that detectable disinfectant concentration is active in all parts of the distribution system, samples are taken and tested daily at ten strategic locations within the North Bend water service area. Water in the distribution system must maintain a total free chlorine of at least 0.2 ppm. Typically, disinfectant residuals are found in the 0.4-0.5 ppm range. The city is currently required to test six bacteriological samples per month for the presence of E.Coli and fecal coliform. To date, all samples have tested satisfactorily. The city monitors on a three-year cycle for volatile organic, inorganic and synthetic organic chemicals.

**What are IOC's?** Inorganic Chemicals are elements or compounds that may be natural in geology or caused by activities of humans through mining, industry or agriculture. In July and December 2018, the City submitted samples for inorganic chemical analysis. Arsenic and Iron will be tested again in May 2019.

#### List of Abbreviations

- **(MCL)** Maximum Contaminant Level
- **(MCLG)** Maximum Contaminant Level Goal
- **(AL)** Action Level (triggers treatment or other)
- **(ND)** NonDetectable
- **(NA)** Not applicable
- **(SRL)** State Reporting Level
- **(NTU)** A measure of the clarity of water
- **(PPB)** parts per Billion
- **(PPM)** Parts per million



#### EPA/State Regulated (Primary) – IOC's

Analytes	Results	Units	MCL	Compliance
Nitrate + Nitrite	ND	ppm	10	Yes
Arsenic	0.0084	Mg/l	.01	Yes

#### EPA Regulated (Secondary) – IOC's

Analytes	Results	Units	MCL	Compliance
Iron	ND	ppm	.03	Yes

#### State Regulated – IOC's

Analytes	Results	Units	MCL	Compliance
Sodium	ND	ppm	No MCL	Yes
Hardness	35	ppm	No MCL	Yes
Turbidity	.15	NTU	1.0	Yes

#### What are VOC's?

Volatile Organic Chemicals (VOC's) are contaminants that may be found in drinking water supplies across the nation. VOC's are those organic chemicals (pesticides, herbicides and other chemicals) that are "readily vaporizable at a relatively low temperature. Some VOC's are products of industrialization and can enter the water supply through various means, such as leakage of storage tanks, spills, or illegal dumping of toxic wastes.

Analytes	Results	Units	MCL	Compliance
TTHM's	3.1	ppb	80	Yes
HAA5'S	<1	ppb	60	Yes

Another concern is Disinfection By-Products like Trihalomethanes (TTHM's). These by-products can enter the water supply as a result of the disinfection process (usually chlorination). In August 2018, the city submitted samples for volatile organic chemical analysis.

#### What are SOC's?

Synthetic Organic Compounds are chemicals synthesized from carbon and other elements such as hydrogen, nitrogen, or chlorine. These chemicals are manufactured to meet hundreds of needs in our daily lives, ranging from mothballs to hair sprays, solvents and pesticides. The use of these synthetic organic compounds has greatly increased within the past 40 years and some can enter the groundwater. Clearly, it is of primary importance to keep such chemicals from entering our water supply. In September 2017, the City submitted samples for (SOC) testing and results showed that no compounds were detected. This test will be repeated in 2019 and 2022.

#### Asbestos

A portion of the Cities distribution system contains asbestos cement (AC) water mains. Asbestos monitoring is required for utilities with asbestos pipe in the distribution system. In August of 2017 the City submitted samples for asbestos analysis. This test will be repeated in 2026.

Test	Results	Units	MCL	Compliance
Asbestos	<0.111	MFL	7.0	Yes

## Monitoring Lead and Copper

The City of North Bend is required to perform lead and copper testing within the system every three years. Sampling and testing was performed in July 2017. Test results indicate that the samples did not exceed the action limits set by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Twenty-four samples were submitted for testing. No samples exceeded the Federal Action level (AL) for either lead or copper. Next testing will occur in 2020. Homes built with copper plumbing and lead solder before 1985 are considered "high risk." Tap water monitoring allows the water system to determine lead and copper concentrations in your drinking water. The city does not add fluoride to the drinking water.

Test	Federal Action Level	Highest Reported Levels in North Bend	Violation
Lead	0.015 ppm	0.0036 ppm	No
Copper	1.3 ppm	0.17 ppm	No

***We ask that all consumers help us protect our water quality and to conserve water, one of our most valuable resources. Keep reading this report for Water Saving Tips!***

***"We forget that the water cycle and the life cycle are one"***  
~ Jacques Cousteau

### ***Required information from the U.S. Environmental Agency on the Potential for Health Concerns relating to 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 land surface or through the ground it dissolves naturally-occurring minerals and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or human activity.

All 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 the water poses a health risk. A contaminant is defined as any substance in water. Not all substances are harmful. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791 or from the EPA's Office of Ground Water website at [www.epa.gov/OGWDW/](http://www.epa.gov/OGWDW/)



### ***Steps we take to prevent contamination***

- CrossConnection Program/Backflow Prevention
- Flushing—all dead end water lines are flushed twice a year
- Well Head Protection Plan in accordance with Comp Plan
- North Bends Reservoirs are cleaned on an alternating annual basis as needed

### ***Who Watches Your Water?***

- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency sets national standards for over 100 potential drinking water contaminants under the Safe Drinking Water Act.
- The Washington State Department of Health enforces the USEPA standards.
- The City of North Bend has water samples tested in compliance with all state and federal regulations.
- State Certified laboratories are used to test your water according to standards.

### ***The City of North Bend asks residents to reduce their water usage by 5 gallons per day to meet Department of Health goals.***

#### **Here's ways to save outdoors:**

- Reduce lawn size (lawns use 40-50% of our summer water).
- Reduce outdoor usage as much as possible.
- Enrich soils with 3-4 inches of compost worked into the top foot of soil prior to planting.
- Dethatch and aerate lawns for better water absorption.
- Clip lawns no shorter than 2 inches.
- Leave the grass clippings on the lawn. They're 90% water and provide nitrogen.
- Water only after 7:00 p.m. or before 10:00 a.m. to avoid excessive loss to evaporation.
- Use soaker hoses or drip systems.
- Adjust sprinklers so you're watering only what grows, not the street or the sidewalk.
- Check hoses and sprinkler systems for leaks and fix them promptly.
- Include a rain sensor and a soil moisture sensor in your automatic sprinkler system.

- Catch rainwater in barrels for thirsty plants.
- Use a broom to clean the driveway or patio, instead
- Wash your car using a bucket of soapy water and use the hose with a shut off nozzle just to rinse.

#### **Ways to Save Indoors:**

- Fix leaks promptly - little drips can waste lots of water.
- Install "water displacement devices" in your toilet tank if you have an older model toilet.
- Replace older toilets; newer toilets use only 1.5 gal to flush.
- Replace your showerhead with a low flow model.
- Capture shower warm-up water; use it to water plants, wash the floor or the car.
- Turn off the faucet while brushing teeth or shaving.
- Keep a bottle of drinking water in your refrigerator; running tap water until it's cold enough wastes water.
- Wash only full loads in the dishwasher and washing machine.