

**2009  
Town of Twisp  
Annual Drinking Water Quality Report**

***The Water We Drink***

We're very pleased to provide you with this year's Annual Water Quality Report. We want to keep you informed about the excellent water and services we have delivered to you over the past year. Our goal is and always has been, to provide to you a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. Our water comes from wells drilled about 100 feet into the underground aquifer. We currently have two wells in service. The Town was given a susceptibility and monitoring waiver for the two wells we currently have in service. Due to the lower possibilities of contamination the wells are rated as moderate. We are fortunate in being one of the few communities in Washington State that does not have to treat its drinking water, because of the high quality of the water source that we draw upon.

We're pleased to report that our drinking water is safe and meets federal and state requirements. We are classified as Green on our Dept. of Health Operating permit.

In 2008, the Town re-constructed from SR 20 up 2nd Ave. to Town limits. This project required upgrading and installation of new water services.

In November of this past year, construction of a new Booster station and installation of new water lines at Painters Addition was completed. This has solved the low pressure problem and increased fire flow for those residents on the Hilltop.

The Town also completed a rebuild of our main pump at our #2 Well House, and we installed new Flow Meters to both wells in service, thus giving a more accurate read of the water we consume.

This year, we have applied for funding for additional work to:

- Replace inadequate lines along Massey-Wills Lane
- Add telemetry equipment to allow better monitoring and control of the wells and reservoirs. We are currently using 1940s technology and it takes more than one person to effectively control the system.

We will continue to pursue upgrades so as to improve and maintain a high level of service to all of our customers.

The Town of Twisp routinely monitors for contaminations in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. Tests results are either satisfactory or unsatisfactory. During our monitoring period of January 1<sup>st</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup> 2009 all of our test results were satisfactory. We had no violations. Copies of these test results are available upon request.

During 2009, the Town of Twisp tested Well #2 and #3 as required by State guidelines, for Inorganic Compounds, Total Nitrates, and Nitrite. The Town started their new Coliform monitoring plan on May 5, 2008. We now have targeted testing sites throughout town for compliance to Washington State Department of Health Regulations.

Terms and abbreviations used on the test results on file are as follows:

Maximum Containment 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

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. Action

Level (AL): the concentration of a contaminant which, when exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

n/a: not applicable \* nd: not detectable at testing limit \* ppb: parts per billion or micrograms per liter \* ppm: parts per million or milligrams per liter \* pCi/l: picocuries per liter (a measurement of radiation).

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs and wells. As water moves over the surfaces of the land or through the ground it dissolves naturally-occurring minerals and in some cases, radio-active material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or human activity.

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. Their presence do not necessarily indicate that the water poses any health risks. More information about contaminants and potential health risks can be obtained by calling EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

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, 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 (1-800-426-4791).

**Nitrate.** Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 10 ppm is a health risk for infants of less than six months of age. High nitrate levels in drinking water can cause blue baby syndrome. Nitrate levels may rise quickly for short periods of time because of rainfall or agricultural activity. If you are caring for an infant, you should ask for advice from your health care provider.

**Lead.** Infants and young children are typically more vulnerable to lead in drinking water than the general population. It is possible that lead levels at your home may be higher than at other homes in the community as a result of materials used in your home's plumbing. If you are concerned about elevated lead levels in your home's water, you may wish to have your water tested. Flush your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using tap water to reduce lead content. Additional information is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline, 800-426-4791. Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

~ Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from wastewater 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 and residential uses.

~ Radioactive contaminants, which are naturally occurring.

~ Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production and can also, be from gas stations, urban storm water runoff and septic systems.

In order to ensure tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems, and our water meets those regulations. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide

the same protection for public health.

Should any of you have questions about our water or water system, please contact Randy Johnson or David Hunter at 997-1311; voice mail is available and we return all calls or call Town Hall at 997-4081. Public Works hours are from 7:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Monday through Friday or you may contact Mike Wilson with Washington State Dept. of Health at 509-329-2117.

Your Mayor is William Boosman and your council members are Clint Estes (Mayor Pro-tem) Soo Ing-Moody, Tom Gehring, Hans Smith and Tom Mulgrew, they meet the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at Town Hall. You are welcome to attend these meetings.

Respectfully,

David Hunter  
Water Distribution Manager \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Randy Johnson,  
P.W. Superintendent \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_