



**2010**  
**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. 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 are pleased to report that our drinking water is safe and meets federal and state requirements.**

We are also planning to pursue upgrades to the water system so as to improve and maintain a high level of service to all of our customers.

The Town has submitted a Water Use Efficiency (WUE) Report that compares water produced to water consumed. Improvement in locating and repairing leaks continues to be a high priority.

We also encourage water conservation, and we have included some tips on lawn watering, and other indoor and outdoor consumption.

The Town of Twisp routinely monitors for contaminations in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. Test results are either satisfactory or unsatisfactory. During our monitoring for the period of January 1<sup>st</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup> 2010 all of our test results were **satisfactory**. We had no violations with the exception of one Coliform bacteria sample that was suspected to be a laboratory error and not a fault of the water. Copies of these test results are available upon request.

During 2010 the Town of Twisp tested well #2 and well #3 as required by State guidelines, for Inorganic and Volatile Organic compounds, total Nitrates and Nitrite.

Terms and abbreviations used on test results 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 does 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 infection. 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 10ppm (parts per million) 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 activities. 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 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.

Contaminates 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, 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 you have questions about our water system, please contact Howard Moss 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 Department of Health at 509-329-2117.

Your Mayor is Soo Ing-Moody and your Council Members are (Mayor Pro-tem) Clint Estes, Tom Gehring, Hans Smith, Traci Day and Bob Lloyd. The Town Council meets 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 \_\_\_\_\_

Howard Moss,  
P.W. Superintendent. \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

