

2023 Water Quality Report

Is my water safe?

Last year, as in years past, your tap water met all U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and state drinking water health standards. Lincoln City vigilantly safeguards its water supplies and once again we are proud to report that our system has not violated a maximum contaminant level or any other water quality standard.

Do I need to take special precautions?

Drinking water, including bottled, 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 (1-800-426-4791).

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised 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/Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Water Drinking Hotline (800-426-4791).

Where does my water come from?

Lincoln City's source of drinking water is Schooner Creek, located southeast of the city. The U.S. Forest Service owns Seventy-seven percent of the approximately 20-square-mile watershed. The remainder is owned by the U.S. BLM or held privately.

Source water assessment and its availability

Water quality from Schooner Creek is excellent. It is soft with a neutral pH. Like any surface water source Schooner Creek is subject to bacteriological contamination. This is primarily related to wildlife such as beavers and birds. The existing treatment facility removes these contaminants. Flows in Schooner Creek vary with the season. Low flow in the summer is about 4.5 million gallons per day to a high of over 600 million gallons a day in the winter. A source water assessment is on file and available for customer review. The most likely contaminate being turbidity caused by landslides in the watershed.

Why are there contaminants in my drinking water?

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 Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791). 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:

Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, that may come from sewage 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, 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; and radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities. In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health.

How can I get involved?

There are many ways to get involved in water issues. An easy way is to pick up a **FREE** water saver kit at city hall. A more active approach might be to get involved with a local watershed group. The Midcoast Watersheds Council at 541-265-9195 may provide some direction.

Conservation Tips

Did you know that the average U.S. household uses approximately 350 gallons of water per day? Luckily, there are many low-cost or no-cost ways to conserve water. Water your lawn at the least sunny times of the day. Fix toilet and faucet leaks. Take short showers - a 5 minute shower uses 4 to 5 gallons of water compared to up to 50 gallons for a bath. Turn the faucet off while brushing your teeth and shaving; 3-5 gallons go down the drain per minute. Teach your kids about water conservation to ensure a future generation that uses water wisely. Make it a family effort to reduce next month's water bill! FREE conservation kits are available at city hall.

Monitoring and reporting of compliance data violations

No Violations.

Results of Unregulated Contaminate monitoring

Lincoln City Water District has sampled for a series of unregulated contaminants. Unregulated contaminants are those that don't yet have a drinking water standard set by USEPA. The purpose of monitoring for these contaminants is to help EPA decide whether the contaminants should have a standard. As our customers, you have a right to know that this data is available. If you are interested in examining the results, please contact [Charlie Lunstedt at 541-996-2987](mailto:Charlie.Lunstedt@lincitywa.gov). Contaminates found are listed in the data table. Lincoln City began the last round of unregulated contaminate sampling in the 1st quarter of 2023.

Additional Information for Lead

If present, elevated levels of 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 home plumbing. Lincoln City Water District is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in household plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791) or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

Water Quality Data Table

The table below lists all of the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the calendar year of this report. The presence of contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table is from testing done in the calendar year of the report. The EPA or the State requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently.

	MCLG or MRDL	MCL, TT, or MRDL	Your Water	Range Low	High	Sample Date	Violation	
(There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.)								
Chlorine (as Cl ₂) (ppm)	4	4	1.6	0.3	1.8	2023	No	Water additive used to control microbes
Total Organic Carbon	NA	TT	0.0	0	0	2023	No	Naturally present in the environment
Stage 2 Disinfection By Products Locational Running Annual Average								
	Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)(ppb)			Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) (ppb)				
	MCL 60(ppb)			MCL 80(ppb)				
6650 NE Hwy 101	24.5			33.0			No	2023
2150 NE Oar Pl	26.3			18.0			No	2023

Microbiological Contaminants							
	MCLG	MCL	Your Water		Date	Violation	
Total Coliform (positive samples/month)	0	1	0		2023	No	Naturally present in the environment
Turbidity (NTU) 99% of the samples was below the TT value of 0.3. A value less than 95% constitutes a TT violation.					2023	No	Soil runoff
The highest single measurement was 0.19. Any measurement in excess of 1.0 is a violation unless otherwise approved by the state.							
Inorganic Contaminants							
	MCLG	AL	Your Water	Sample Date	# Samples Exceeding AL	Exceeds AL	Typical Source
Copper - action level at consumer taps (ppm)	1.3	1.3	0.25	2023	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Lead - action level at consumer taps (ppb)	0	15	1.4	2023	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Sodium (optional) (ppm)			8.27	2022		No	Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching
Unregulated Contaminants						UCMR5	
Contaminants	Entry Point Average	Range					
Pfas	Not Detected						
Lithium	Not Detected						

Unregulated contaminants are those that don't yet have a drinking water standard set by USEPA. The purpose of monitoring for these contaminants is to help EPA decide whether the contaminants should have a standard. Testing for the last group of unregulated contaminants began in February 2023. Testing for the next set of Unregulated Contaminants (UCMR 5) will be a 12 month period between 2023 and 2025. The sampling will be for 29 per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) and lithium.

Unit Descriptions	
Term	
ppm	ppm: parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/L)
ppb	ppb: parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (µg/L)
pCi/L	pCi/L: Pico curies per liter (a measure of radioactivity)
NTU	NTU: Nephelometric Turbidity Units. Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filtration system.
positive samples/month	Positive samples/month: Number of samples taken monthly that were found to be positive
NA	NA: not applicable
ND	ND: Not detected
NR	NR: Monitoring not required, but recommended.
Important Drinking Water Definitions	
Term	Definition
MCLG	MCLG: Maximum Contaminant Level Goal: 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.
MCL	MCL: Maximum Contaminant Level: 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.
TT	TT: Treatment Technique: A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
AL	AL: Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
Variances and Exemptions	Variances and Exemptions: State or EPA permission not to meet an MCL or a treatment technique under certain
MRDLG	MRDLG: Maximum residual disinfection 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.
MRDL	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.
MNR	MNR: Monitored Not Regulated
MPL	MPL: State Assigned Maximum Permissible Level
For more information or to request a paper copy be mailed to you please contact:	

Lani Hankins
P.O. Box 50
Lincoln City, OR 97367

541-996-2987
lhankins@lincolncity.org
www.lincolncity.org