

Water

Quality Report

2005

The **Port of Vancouver, USA** is happy to provide its water consumers with a report of the drinking water quality for calendar year 2005. The Port maintains a Group A Non-Transient/Non-Community (NTNC) potable water system which is regulated under WAC Chapter 290 by the Washington State Department of Health (WDOH), Division of Drinking Water.

The Port's water supply system consists of three wells located within the eastern portion of Port property, referred to as the Old Industrial Area. These wells are about 100' deep and draw ground water from the Troutdale aquifer. As a precautionary measure, all Port groundwater is treated with chlorine.

The Port of Vancouver's water system provides potable water for industrial tenants, water for ships, wash down, irrigation and fire protection. Water for the remainder of Port operations is provided by the City of Vancouver.

The Port's drinking water system meets or exceeds Federal and Washington State requirements and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has determined that the Port's water is **SAFE TO DRINK**.

PROACTIVE APPROACH

The wellhead's proximity to an active industrial area has influenced the Port's decision to take a proactive approach in protecting our wellhead area.

Tenant environmental audits are conducted annually to help tenants identify proper chemical management and disposal practices that protect our ground water.

The Port has recently implemented an Environmental Management System within the wellhead area to further ensure that potential risks to the wellhead are prevented and properly managed.



BACKFLOWS PREVENTION

Backflow devices are one of the most important elements used to ensure clean potable water. All new connections installed since 1984, have had backflows installed. In 2001, Port management made resources available to retrofit all existing domestic and fire protection connections with appropriate backflow devices.

The Port has installed the highest level backflows for all vessel connections at the shipping berths to prevent any water from re-entering the water system from a vessel.

The Port staff managing and operating the water system are licensed to test backflow devices and operate the water system.



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WATER QUALITY SUMMARY: 2005

The Port collects samples for more than 100 individual contaminants each year, the table below summarizes the levels of regulated and non-regulated substances detected. All detections are below levels allowed by Federal and state agencies.

Contaminant	Units	Range of Levels Detected	Highest Allowable (MCL)	MCLG	Likely Source of Contaminant
EPA REGULATED					
Copper	ppm	0.0405 - 1.14	1.3	1.3 (AL)	Plumbing
Lead	ppm	<0.005 - 0.0056	0.015	0.015	Plumbing
Zinc	ppm	3.6	5	5	Plumbing
Nitrate	ppm	<0.5-3.34	10.0	10	Fertilizers, septic systems, animal waste products
Coliform Bacteria	Colony	ND	Less than 5% of monthly samples	0%	Naturally occurring bacteria used as an indicator of water quality
EPA UNREGULATED					
Chloroform	ppb	0.73-1	NA	NA	
Bromodichloromethane	ppb	0.7-1.2	NA	NA	
Chlorodibromomethane	ppb	1.1-1.47	NA	NA	
Bromoform	ppb	<0.5-0.99	NA	NA	

WATER TERMS AND DEFINITIONS

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG) – The level of contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected health risk

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) – The highest level of a contaminant allowed in drinking water.

Action Level (AL) – The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements a water system must follow.

ppb – Parts per billion

ppm – Parts per million

ND – No contaminants detected

NA – Not applicable

EPA – Environmental Protection Agency

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AND CONTACTS

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. Some people may be more vulnerable than the general population to contaminants in drinking water. Immuno-compromised people, such as those undergoing chemotherapy, organ transplants, HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, elderly and infants may be particularly at risk from infection. These people should seek advice from their health care provider about drinking water. Guidelines from the EPA and Centers for Disease Control, on appropriate means for lessening risks of infection by bacterial contaminants, are available from the **Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791**.

If you have any questions regarding drinking water or these results, please call Patty Boyden, Port of Vancouver Director of Environmental Services at **360-693-3611**. If you wish to participate in a public meeting, the Port of Vancouver holds commission meetings on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month, starting at 9:30 a.m., located in the Commission Room at the Port Administrative offices, 3103 NW Lower River Road, Vancouver, WA 98660.