

RUSTLEWOOD ID75027 N WATER SYSTEM CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT 2005



June 2006

WATER SYSTEM MANAGER'S STATEMENT

The Consumer Confidence Rule is a federal requirement created by Congress and the Environmental Protection Agency. As a result the Mason County Department of Utilities and Waste Management is required to provide customers of the Rustlewood Water System with this report. Herein we will provide you with information on the results of our compliance and water quality testing, the health effects of any contaminants found during this monitoring, and who to call in case of emergencies, loss of water service, water leaks, and billing questions. We are reporting results from the monitoring performed during 2005 calendar year.

ABOUT THE SYSTEM

The Mason County Department of Utilities and Waste Management employs four full time operators certified by the State of Washington to operate and maintain the water and wastewater systems the County owns, one of which is Rustlewood. There is a certified operator on duty every day of the week to monitor these systems.

The Rustlewood community gets its water from three wells located near the entrance to the community at the corner of Madrona and Sea Vista. There are also two water storage tanks that provide 65,000 gallons of equalizing storage at this location.

CROSS-CONNECTION CONTROL PROGRAM

If you have an automated sprinkler system, a direct method of filling a swimming pool or spa, or any other apparatus, fixture, existing backflow device, or other condition that may cause contaminants to backflow into the water system, you may be affected and need to contact Tom Moore at 360-427-9670 ext. 771.

WHO DO I CALL WITH A PROBLEM?

To report a problem with your water service, billing statement or to report suspected leaks during regular office hours (8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Mon-Fri) call 360-427-9670 ext. 283. After hours emergency please call 911. For technical information or water saving tips call Tom Moore at extension 771

ARE THERE CONTAMINATES IN MY WATER?

Drinking water including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least some small amounts of minerals, organics, or chemicals, called contaminants. **The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk.**

Some people are more vulnerable to contaminants than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons, such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have 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 the advice of their health care provider about drinking water. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk and more information about contaminants and their potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-

800-426-4791.

WATER QUALITY DATA

During 2006, 12 routine bacteriological samples tested taken from various points throughout the system in accordance with our Coliform Monitoring Plan. We also tested all the wells for nitrates. All examinations of water from the wells and from the distribution system taken in 2006 met Department of Health and EPA drinking water standards with the exception of one bacteriological sample taken that failed due to a leak in the system at the corner of Madrona and Rustle Way. In 2004 the disinfection by-product, haloacetic acids (HAA5), were not monitored due to a lab error and not reported. Failure to monitor for these contaminants results in our inability to be sure of the water quality during this period. No action is required at this time. The next sampling of disinfection by-products will occur in July 2007.

While your drinking water meets EPA's standard for arsenic, it does contain low levels of arsenic. EPA's standard balances the current understanding of arsenic's possible health effects against the costs of removing arsenic from drinking water. EPA continues to research the health effects of low levels of arsenic which is a mineral known to cause cancer in humans at high concentrations and is linked to other health effects such as skin damage and circulatory problems



A WORD ON CONSERVATION

We all know how important drinking water is. This is especially evident during interruptions of service that occurs due to maintenance or repair of the system. While these interruptions are only a minor inconvenience remember they are minor only because we know service will resume and most uses of drinking water can be delayed for short periods.

Should service be interrupted for an extensive period having to obtain an alternate source of water could easily become the most important function of your day.

We are fortunate to live in a part of the world where clean water appears plentiful. However this can be a double-edged sword in some cases. People sometimes fail to see the importance of the little things they can do to conserve. Of all the water in the world 97% is salt water. Of the remaining 3%, 2% is frozen leaving only 1% for consumption. Therefore don't be fooled by the apparent abundance of water in our environment. The water we can consume is only a small percentage of what is available and we must conserve and protect this our most precious resource.

SUBSTANCE	EPA'S MCL	HIGHEST LEVEL DETECTED	CONTAMINATE SOURCE
Nitrate	10 mg/L	< 1.0 mg/L	Natural Deposits
Radium 228	N/A	Non-detect	Natural Deposits

Mg/L = parts per million Ug/L = parts per billion

