

Annual Drinking Water Quality Report 2007

Castle Rock Water System

We're pleased to present to you this year's Annual Quality Water Report in accordance with EPA regulations. This report is designed to inform you about the quality water and services we deliver to you every day. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water. Our primary water source is *the Cowlitz River*. **Additionally, there are 4 seasonal and 2 emergency deep water wells, located in the northeast section of the City of Castle Rock.** We have completed a source water assessment that provides more information such as potential sources of contamination, which is available from our office.

I'm pleased to report that our drinking water is safe and meets federal and state requirements.

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact **David Vorse, Public Works Director, at Castle Rock Public Works Department, (360) 274-7478**. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled City Council meetings. They are held on **the second and fourth Monday of each month at 7:30 p.m. in the Castle Rock Senior Center, located at 141 A Street SW in Castle Rock, WA.**

The Castle Rock Water System routinely monitors for constituents in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. The following table shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1st to December 31st, **2007**. All drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some constituents. It's important to remember that the presence of these constituents does not necessarily pose a health risk.

In the table you will find many terms and abbreviations you might not be familiar with. To help you better understand these terms we've provided the following definitions:

Constituent - An essential part; component, element.

Contaminant - To make inferior or impure by admixture.

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) - The "Maximum Allowed" is 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. MCL's are set at very stringent levels. To experience the possible health effects described for many regulated constituents, a person would have to drink 2 liters of water every day at the MCL level for a lifetime to have a one-in-a-million chance of having a health effect from the drinking water.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG) - The "Goal is 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.

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

Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/l) - One part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in \$10,000.

Parts per billion (ppb) or Micrograms per liter - One part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000.

NA - Not applicable

Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU) - Nephelometric turbidity unit is a measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person. It is monitored because it is a good indicator of water quality and assists in the effectiveness of the water filtration system.

Treatment Technique (TT) - A treatment technique is a required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

2007 TEST RESULTS

Constituent	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Unit Measure	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination	Possible Health Effects
Turbidity	No	High .34 Avg. <.07 <.3/99%	NTU	No Goal Listed	TT= 1 NTU TT= <.3/95%	Soil runoff	Turbidity can interfere with disinfection and provide a medium for microbial growth. Turbidity may indicate the presence of disease causing organisms.
Fluoride	No	.7 - 1.1	ppm	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories	Exposure in excess of the MCL over many years could cause bone disease. Fluoride at half the MCL may cause mottling of children's teeth, usually in children less than nine.
Nitrate (as Nitrogen)	No	.5 - 2.0 seasonal wells	ppm	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits	Infants below the age of six months with exposure in excess of the MCL could become seriously ill and, if untreated, may die. Symptoms include shortness of breath and blue-baby syndrome.
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs)	No	33.1	ppb	NA	80	Byproduct of drinking water chlorination	Exposure above the MCL over many years has the potential to cause liver, kidney or central nervous system problems and may increase the risk of cancer.
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5s)	No	31.2	ppb	NA	60	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection	Exposure above the MCL over many years may increase the risk of cancer.

As you can see by the table, our system had no violations. We're proud that your drinking water meets or exceeds all Federal and State requirements. We have learned through our monitoring and testing for more than 746 constituents in 2007, that some constituents have been detected. **The EPA has determined that your water IS SAFE at these levels.**

Fluoride is added to the drinking water to assist in dental hygiene. A level of .7 ppm - 1.3 ppm is necessary to be effective. Due to the high turbidity of the Cowlitz River in November and December the water treatment plant was offline. No fluoride was added during this time and fluoride samples were not taken.

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. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

Thank you for allowing us to continue providing your family with clean, quality water this year. In order to maintain a safe and dependable water supply we sometimes need to make improvements that will benefit all of our customers. These improvements are sometimes reflected as rate structure adjustments. Thank you for understanding. The following table is the new rate structure which encourages conservation and more accurately charges customers for their actual usage:

WATER RATE = \$28 base fee + \$3 per 100 cubic feet	1 cubic feet = 7.48 gallons 100 cubic feet = 748 gallons
SEWER RATE = \$18 base fee + \$7.15 per 100 cubic feet	

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/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by cryptosporidium and other microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

We at the City of Castle Rock work around the clock to provide top quality water to every tap. We ask that all our customers help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community, our way of life and our children's future. Please call our office if you have questions. This notice has been provided to property owners and tenants supplied with potable water from the Castle Rock Distribution System. The City of Castle Rock is an equal opportunity provider.