Our water quality depends on all of us.

Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

City of Sand Point
P. O. Box 249
Sand Point, Alaska 99661
2015
Public Water System I.D. # 260294

We're pleased to present to you this year's Annual Water Quality Report. This report is designed to inform you about the quality water and services we deliver to you every day.

Is my water safe?
We are pleased to present this year's Annual Water Quality Report (Consumer Confidence Report) as required by the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). This report is designed to provide details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to standards set by regulatory agencies. This report is a snapshot of last year's water quality. We are committed to providing you with information because informed customers are our best allies.

Do I need to take special precautions?
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?
Our water source is the Humboldt Reservoir located on the southeast side of Sand Point.

Source water assessment and its availability
The State of Alaska has completed a source water assessment and a copy is available at the water/wastewater office in the City Building. Please call 383-3435 and leave a message to arrange a time to see the report.

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). 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 stormwater 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 stormwater 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 stormwater 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?
If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact Allen Hill at 907-383-3435 or Andy Varner, the City Administrator, at 907-274-7561. We want our community to be informed about their water system. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled meetings. They are held on the second Tuesday of the month at the City Council Chambers at 7:00 pm.

Water Conservation Tips
Did you know that the average U.S. household uses approximately 350 gallons of water per day and that the average daily produced per person is Sand Point is above 160 gallons of water per day? Luckily there are many low-cost or no-cost ways to conserve water. 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 future water, sewer and garbage rate increases! Visit www.epa.gov/watersense for more information.

Source Water Protection Tips
Protection of drinking water is everyone's responsibility. You can help protect your community's drinking water source in several ways:
Pick up after your pets, especially if you walk them in the watershed.
All-Terrain Vehicles (ATV's) carry oil and gas onboard. Driving an ATV in the watershed puts our drinking water at risk. We do not have an alternate water source. Oil and gas spilled in the watershed might prevent us from supplying drinking water to Sand Point for quite a while.

Water Quality Data Table

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The table below lists all of the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the calendar year of this report. Although many more contaminants were tested, only those substances listed below were found in your water. All sources of drinking water contain some naturally occurring contaminants. At low levels, these substances are generally not harmful in our drinking water. Removing all contaminants would be extremely expensive, and in most cases, would not provide increased protection of public health. A few naturally occurring minerals may actually improve the taste of drinking water and have nutritional value at low levels. 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 vary significantly from year to year, or the system is not considered vulnerable to this type of contamination. As such, some of our data, though representative, may be more than one year old. In this table you will find terms and abbreviations that might not be familiar to you. To help you better understand these terms, we have provided the definitions below the table.

Contaminant	MCL	MCLG	Your Water	Range	Year Sampled	Violation	Typical Source
TTHM	80 ppb	NA	47 ppb	13 - 47 ppb	2015	No	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
HAA5	60ppb	NA	34 ppb	15.4 - 34 ppb	2015	No	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
Lead	15 ppb	0	4.19 ppb	ND - 11.0 ppb	2013	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems
Copper	1300 ppb	1300 ppb	775 ppb	45.4 - 1080 ppb	2013	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems
Nitrate	1 ppm	1 ppm	.261 ppm	NA	2015	No	Animal fecal waste - also listed are runoff from fertilizer use and erosion of natural deposits
VOC	NA	NA	0	0 - 0	2015	No	Industrial discharges
Old Inorganics	*	*	*	*	2004	No	Industrial discharges
New Inorganics	*	*	*	*	2005	No	Industrial discharges
Radium 226	5.0 Pci/L		0.0	NA	2005	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium 228	5.0 Pci/L		0.8	NA	2005	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Total Gross Alpha	5.0 Pci/L		0.0	NA	2005	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Arsenic	10	0	0	NA	2010	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Total Coliform	1 positive sample per month	0	1	NA	2015	No	Naturally present in the environment
Fecal coliform or *E. coli* bacteria		0	0	NA	2015	No	Human and animal fecal waste

Waivers

Contaminant	MCL	MCLG	Your Water	Original Approval	Latest Renewal	Comment
Arsenic	10 ppb	0	5.00 ppb U	2004	NA	5.00 U means that Arsenic was not detected. 5.00 ppb was the lower limit of detection when the test was taken.
Asbestos	7 MFL	7MFL	NA	NA	NA	Waiver was granted because we have no pipe containing asbestos in the water distribution system.
SOC	NA	NA	NA	1997	2015	The waiver was granted because we do not have industrial activities other than the road to the airport in our watershed.

* - See Inorganics under **Additional Information** section for details

Unit Descriptions	
Term	**Definition**
ppm	ppm: parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/L)
ppb	ppb: parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (µg/L)
pCi/L	Picocuries per liter (pCi/L)
U	U indicates the compound was analyzed for but not detected.
NA	NA: not applicable
ND	ND: Not detected
NR	NR: Monitoring not required, but recommended.
positive samples	positive samples/yr: The number of positive samples taken that year

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 conditions.
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

Additional Information:

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 service lines and home plumbing. City of Sand Point is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in 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 or at http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

Inorganics – test records for Sand Point
New Inorganics
Antimony 1.00 ug/L U, Beryllium 0.400 ug/L U, Nickel 2.00 ug/L U, Thallium 1.00 ug/L U, Cyanide 0.0060 mg/L U

Old Inorganics
Mercury .000200 mg/L U, Arsenic 5.00 ug/L U, Barium 3.00 ug/L U, Cadmium 0.500 ug/L U, Chromium 1.00 ug/L U, Selenium 5.00 ug/L U, Flouride 0.100 mg/L U

Additional Information continued:

VOC's
1,2,4-Trichlorobenzene 0 ug/L, CIS-1,2-Dichloroethylene 0 ug/L, Xylenes, total 0 ug/L, Dichlorometane 0 ug/L, O-Dichlorobenzene 0 ug/L, P-Dichlorobenzene 0 ug/L, Vinyl Chloride 0 ug/L, 1,1-Dichloroethylene 0 ug/L, Trans-1,2-Dichloroethylene 0 ug/L, 1,2-Dichloroethane 0 ug/L, 1,1,1-Trichloroethane 0 ug/L, Carbon Tetrachoride 0 ug/L, 1,2-Dichloropropane 0 ug/L, Trichloroethylene 0 ug/L, 1,1,2-Trichloroethane 0 ug/L, Tetrachloroethylene 0 ug/L, Chlorobenzene 0 ug/L, Benzene 0 ug/L, Toluene 0 ug/L, Ethylbenzene 0 ug/L, and Styrene 0 ug/L.

For more information please contact:
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