



# Annual Drinking Water Report Calendar Year 2022

City of Milton-Freewater, Oregon  
Public Works Department

501 Lamb Street - PO Box 6 - Milton-Freewater, OR 97862

We are pleased to provide you with our Annual Water Quality Report. It is important to us that we keep you informed about the excellent water quality and services we have provided to you over the past year. Our goal is and has always been to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. Our City water source comes from a total of four (4) well fields, which consist of six (6) deep basalt wells.

## **WE ARE PLEASED TO REPORT THAT OUR DRINKING WATER IS SAFE AND MEETS FEDERAL AND STATE REQUIREMENTS.**

As water travels over the land or underground, it can acquire substances or contaminants such as microbes, inorganic and organic chemicals, and radioactive substances. All drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some constituents. It is important to remember that the presence of these constituents does not necessarily pose a health risk.

### **What We Do:**

The City collects at least eight (8) drinking water samples per month from various pre-determined locations throughout town as well as source coliform and nitrate samples from each well as well as additional sampling that is required by our drinking water permit.

This past year we were faced with some well pump repairs at Well 1 as well as Well 3.

An assessment for our middle water reservoir was completed to gauge current and future water storage needs. This reservoir is one of three, and is only 1 million gallons, whereas the other two are 2 million gallons each. It was determined that it is time to be planning on replacing the existing reservoir with a new, larger one. With a continued emphasis on water conservation, we hired a consultant to complete a city-wide leak detection survey as part of our Water Conservation and Master Plan requirements. We also thank those that called in and helped identify leaks!

We reported in 2021 that we were notified that our current automated metering platform was no longer available. We have implemented a five year change out plan for our meter transmitters due to the high cost of this investment for approximately 2,500 total transmitters. These transmitters initially cost \$167 each for the first 325 ordered in 2022 to kick off this project. Upon ordering our second batch of 712 at the end of 2022 we were notified they had gone up to \$200 each.

These projects are examples of what your infrastructure fees and water rates fund. Not only do we pride ourselves in providing quality drinking water, we continue to find ways to conserve and protect our valuable resource.

### **Your Health Matters!**

Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCL's) are set at very stringent levels. To understand the possible health effects described for many regulated constituents, a person would have to drink two liters of water every day at the MCL for a lifetime to have a one-in-a-million chance of having the described health effect.

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 also available from the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

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. The City of Milton-Freewater 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 two 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 on the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline or website ([www.epa.gov/safewater](http://www.epa.gov/safewater)).

The City of Milton-Freewater routinely monitors your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. The table below shows the results of our monitoring samples for the period of January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022.

## What's in YOUR City water?

JANUARY 1, 2022 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2022  
TEST RESULTS

Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Measurement Unit	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
<b>Inorganic Contaminants</b>						
Copper	N	0.032	ppm	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits, leaching from wood preservatives.
Fluoride	N	0.260	ppm	4.0	4	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive, which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
Lead	N	0.000	ppb	0.0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits.
Nitrate (as Nitrogen)	N	0.000 ND	ppm	10.0	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits.
Barium	N	0.023	ppb	2.0	2.0	Erosion of natural deposits and mining.

### Abbreviations, Definitions and Notes:

**ppb – Parts Per Billion or Micrograms Per Liter** – One part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000.

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

**Maximum Contaminant Level Goal** – The “Goal” (MCLG) is the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLG’s allow for a margin of safety.

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

**MCL-Maximum Contaminant Level** – The “Maximum Allowed” is the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCL’s are set as close to the MCLG’s as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

## Test Result Summary

As you can see by the table above, our water system did not have any violations this past year. We are proud to provide drinking water that meets or exceeds all Federal and State requirements. We have learned through our monitoring and sampling that some constituents have been detected. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has determined that **OUR WATER IS SAFE** at these levels.

All sources of drinking water are subject to potential contamination by substances that are naturally occurring or manmade. These substances can be microbes, inorganic or organic chemicals, and radioactive substances. 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 EPA’s Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791 or you can visit their website at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/>.



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The City of Milton-Freewater works 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.

El “Consumer Confidence Report” es disponible en Espanol en la oficina de Milton-Freewater si usted lo quiere.

If you have any questions about this report please contact Brian Steadman at 541-938-8272.

We want you, our valued customer, to be informed about the quality of your water utility.

Sincerely,  
*Brian Steadman*  
Public Works Superintendent