



# The City Of Zillah

THE HEART OF WINE COUNTRY

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## 2010 CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT (CCR)

### INTRODUCTION

We're pleased to present to you this year's Annual Quality Water Report. 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.

### Consumer Confidence Report Translation

“Este Informe contiene informacion muy importante. Traduscalo o hable con un amigo quien lo entienda bien.”

### Where can I find out more information about my drinking water?

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact Tim Tilley, P.W.D. at Zillah City Hall or call 829-5151. 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 at the council chambers located at 111 7<sup>th</sup> St. Zillah. The meetings are the first and third Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. General drinking water issues can also be directed to the following contacts:

Environmental Protection  
Agency (EPA)  
Safe Drinking Water Act  
Hotline  
**(1-800-426-4791)**

State Department of Health  
Office of Drinking Water  
16201 E. Indiana Ave., Suite 1500  
Spokane Valley, WA 99216  
**(509) 329-2100**

### DESCRIPTION OF THE CITY'S WATER SYSTEM

Zillah derives its drinking water supply from groundwater wells. Wells No. 1 and 3 draw from the Ellensburg Formation aquifer. Well No. 2 draws from the Saddle Mountain Basalt aquifer. The wells pump groundwater to three storage reservoirs that provide protection against fire, power outages, and high water use periods. Water is carried from the wells and reservoirs to customers' homes through approximately 18.7 miles of water distribution pipes. Zone 2 (Alteejen area) booster pumps are up and running efficiently and maintaining 52 lbs of pressure. The new booster pump station and reservoir on Cutler Way is also running efficiently.

## “FOR YOUR INFORMATION”

The City of Zillah’s water hardness is 310 mg/L or 18.13 grains. Carbonate as CaCo3 is <10mg/L.

### Definitions

In this 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:

*Non-Detects (ND)* - laboratory analysis indicates that the constituent is not present.

*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.

*Parts per trillion (ppt) or Nanograms per liter (nanograms/l)* - one part per trillion corresponds to one minute in 2,000,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000,000.

*Variances & Exemptions (V&E)* - State or EPA permission not to meet an MCL or a treatment technique under certain conditions.

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

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

*Maximum Contaminant Level* - (mandatory language) The “Maximum Allowed” (MCL) 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.

*Maximum Contaminant Level Goal* - (mandatory language) The “Goal” (MCLG) 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.

### Water Production / Consumption:

The City of Zillah is required to file an annual report with the Department of Health on the volume of water pumped from its sources (water produced) and the volume of water sold to its customers (water consumed). The volume of water produced and water consumed in 2009 are shown below:

<b>Distribution System Leakage Summary:</b>	
Total Water Produced and Purchased (TP) – Annual Volume	162,956,676 gallons
Authorized Consumption (AC) – Annual Volume	136,596,049 gallons
Distribution System Leakage – Annual Volume <b>TP - AC</b>	26,360,627 gallons
Distribution System Leakage – Percent <b>DSL = [(TP - AC) / TP] x 100</b>	16.2 %

The difference between production and consumption (16.2%) is likely due in part to hydrant flushing and

main breaks (which were repaired) in the past year. The City has developed a water use efficiency program including the establishment of specific water use efficiency goals to reduce the amount of water loss.

As required by the Department of Health, the city must publicly establish water saving goals specifically directed towards their customers. These goals were established in September 2008. The following is the city’s main goal and how the city will work to achieve that goal.

Demand Side Goal: Reduce water consumption by December 2013 by 5 percent

Demand Side Goal Progress: City water conservation program, replacement water meter program, and leak detection

Additional Information: Reduce distribution system leakage from 18.3 percent in 2008 to 13 percent by December 2013. The city has been replacing consumer and source well meters to provide accurate data. The city will also work to install updated fire hydrants.

Since the required reporting to the Department of Health, the city has been able to show a 2.2 percent reduction in a one year time frame. While the city is proud of this accomplishment, we are working toward the larger goal daily.

### Water Quality Monitoring

The City of Zillah routinely monitors for constituents in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. This table shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1<sup>st</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2009. 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.

TEST RESULTS						
Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Unit Measurement	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
<b>Microbiological Contaminants</b>						
Total Coliform Bacteria	No	0		0	(systems that collect 40 or more samples per month) 5% of monthly samples are positive; (systems that collect fewer than 40 samples per month) 1 positive monthly sample	Naturally present in the environment

## Inorganic Contaminants

Nitrate(as Nitrogen)						Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Rainier Well = SO1	No	6.02	Mg/L	10	10	
3 <sup>rd</sup> Ave. Well =SO2	No	<0.05	Mg/L			
Wippco Well =SO3	No	2.34	Mg/L			

### Total Coliform Monitoring

Routine total coliform samples are required each month. We are pleased to announce all sample test results in 2009 were negative. (Good)

**Total Coliform:** The Total Coliform Rule requires water systems to meet a stricter limit for coliform bacteria. Coliform bacteria are usually harmless, but their presence in water can be an indication of disease-causing bacteria. When coliform bacteria are found, special follow-up tests are done to determine if harmful bacteria are present in the water supply. If this limit is exceeded, the water supplier must notify the public by newspaper, television or radio.

### Nitrate Monitoring

Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 10 ppm is a health risk for infants of less than six months of age. High nitrate levels in drinking water can cause blue baby syndrome. Nitrate levels may rise quickly for short periods of time because of rainfall or agricultural activity. If you are caring for an infant you should ask advice from your health care provider.

**Nitrates:** As a precaution we always notify physicians and health care providers in this area if there is ever a higher than normal level of nitrates in the water supply.

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.

### GENERAL HEALTH EFFECTS INFORMATION

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immune-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 Zillah also 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.**

## **“CONSERVATION EDUCATION”**

### **“Facts about Water”**

- Did you know your body consists of 66% water?
- You find water on the earth's surface, the ground, and the air.
- The room in the house that uses the most water is the bathroom.
- Water regulates the temperature of the earth as well as the human body.
- Water is heavier than ice.
- A dairy cow must drink 4 gallons of water to produce 1 gallon of milk.

### **“5 Ways you can help Save Water!”**

1. Turn off the water after you wet your toothbrush. There is no need to keep the water running while brushing your teeth.
2. If you blow your nose, don't throw the tissue into the toilet and flush it. That could waste 7 gallons of water! Throw the tissue into a wastebasket instead.
3. If you wash your bike or your car, make sure the hose has a nozzle that you can turn on and off so the water isn't running the whole time.
4. Water your yard early in the morning or late evening. The water will stay longer on the grass because the hot sun won't dry it up.
5. Don't stay in the shower too long. Five minutes is enough. If you take a bath, don't fill the bathtub all the way up.

### **<sup>1</sup>“More Water Conservation Information”**

Do you know how much water a family of four uses everyday in the United States? Not 50 gallons, not 100 gallons, but 400 gallons!

Did you know that less than 1% of all the water on Earth can be used by people? The rest is salt water (the kind you find in the ocean) or is permanently frozen and we can't drink it, wash with it, or use it to water plants.

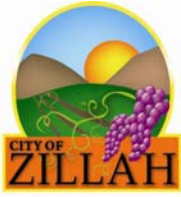
A shower only uses 10 to 25 gallons of water while a bath takes up to 70 gallons of water. If you do take a bath, be sure to plug the drain right away and adjust the temperature as you fill the tub.

If your toilet has a leak, you could be wasting about 200 gallons of water every day. That would be like flushing your toilet more than 50 times for no reason. To test for a leaky toilet, place a drop of food coloring in the toilet tank. If color shows up in the bowl without flushing, you have a leak.

Did you know a hose can waste 6 gallons per minute, if you leave it running?

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<sup>1</sup> “Facts about Water” and “5 Ways you can help save water!” from Washington State Dept. of Health, Division of Drinking Water.



# The City Of Zillah

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June 30, 2010

Dear Resident,

The City of Zillah has developed a Source Water Protection Program as required by the State Department of Health. Wellhead protection, a component of the program, involves protecting the land areas surrounding our wells. This plan will help prevent the contamination of our drinking water supply.

Part of the plan is a letter of notification to all potential sources of contamination to our wells, including residents. Many of us live within the wellhead protection zones surrounding the wells.

This letter is intended to serve as a reminder that hazardous materials put onto the ground (or in septic systems) can contaminate our drinking water supply. Some examples of household hazardous materials are:

- Household chemicals including cleaners, bleach, and furniture polish.
- Home improvement supplies including paint, paint thinner and other solvents.
- Automotive fluids including motor oil, gasoline, antifreeze or similar products.
- Lawn and garden supplies including fertilizers and pesticides.

These materials should only be used and disposed of according to manufactures label instructions.

We are fortunate to have a very good supply of drinking water here in Zillah. It should be everyone's intent to keep it that way for our continued good use, and for those who come along after us. Thank you for following these guidelines. If you have any questions about this matter, please feel free to contact me at the number listed below.

Sincerely,

Tim Tilley  
Public Works Director