



2023 Consumer Confidence Report

The Green Area Water & Sanitary Authority (GAWSA) is pleased to present the 2023 Annual Water Quality Report, which includes treated water test results from January 1–December 31, 2023. GAWSA is committed to maintaining and ensuring the quality of your drinking water. The Board and Staff continuously strive to improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources.

Primary Water Source:	South Umpqua River
Reserved Water Source:	Ben Irving Reservoir, 750 acre-ft (approximately 244 million gallons)
Emergency Interties:	City of Roseburg, Winston-Dillard Water District
Service Connections:	3,150 - includes residential, mobile home parks, RV parks, schools, churches, industrial, and commercial sites
Service Area:	Approximately 9 square miles in the Green District, including Roberts Creek, Glengary, Shady, and area near McClain Avenue
Water Treatment Facility:	Level 2 facility with multi-stage filtration and disinfection. Production capacity is 3.75 million gallons of treated water per day (MGD)
Average Daily Demand:	1.12 Million Gallons Per Day
Water Hardness:	Considered “medium” at 32 milligrams per liter

How to Read the Water Quality Data Table: EPA establishes the safe drinking water regulations that limit the number of contaminants allowed in drinking water. The table shows the concentrations of detected substances in comparison to regulatory limits. Substances not detected are not included in the table.

Contaminant and Date of Last Required Test	EPA’s Action Level	Maximum Detected	MCLG	Typical Sources of Contaminants	Violation
Lead 8/30/2023	90% of homes less than 15 ppm	None Detected	None	Corrosion of household plumbing systems	No
Copper* 8/30/2023	90% of homes less than 1.3 ppm	.031 ppm	None	Corrosion of household plumbing systems	No
Total Trihalomethanes** 7/6/2023	.08 ppm	.0402 ppm	None	By-product of chlorinated water	No
Total Haloacetic Acid HAA5 7/6/2023	.06 ppm	.0295 ppm	None	By-product of disinfection and chlorination of drinking water	No
Nitrate 11/27/2023	10.0 ppm	None Detected	None	Fertilizer runoff, leaching from sewage or septic tank; erosion of natural deposits	No
Bacteria in Tap Water and Date of Last Required Test	Highest Level Allowed (EPA’s MCL)	Highest Monthly Number of Samples With Total Coliform Present	MCLG	Typical Sources of Bacteria	Violation
Total Coliform Bacteria 12/7/2023	1 sample contains total coliform	0	0	Naturally present in the environment	No
Total E. Coli / Fecal Coliform Bacteria 12/7/2023	1 sample contains total coliform	0	0	Human and animal fecal waste	No

MAXIMUM CONTAMINANT LEVEL GOAL (MCLG): The level of any contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

MAXIMUM CONTAMINANT LEVELS (MCL): 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 treatment technology available.

ACTION LEVEL: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment action or some other requirement which the water treatment system must follow.

PARTS PER MILLION (PPM): Equals 1 drop in 1 million gallons (1 ppm = 1 mg/liter). **PARTS PER BILLION (PPB):** Equals 1 drop in 1 billion gallons (1 ppb = µg/liter).

All drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. However, the presence of these contaminants does not necessarily pose a health risk. GAWSA routinely monitors for these in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws, and the EPA has determined that your water is safe. To understand the possible health effects described for many regulated contaminants, a person would have to drink 2 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. The table below shows that we had no contaminant violations. Our Authority and its employees are proud that your drinking water consistently meets and often exceeds all Federal and State requirements.

If present, elevated levels of lead and copper 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. GAWSA is responsible for providing high quality drinking water but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When water has been sitting for several hours, any potential threat of exposure can be minimized by flushing the tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking.

If customers are concerned about lead in their water, they may wish to have their 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 at 800-426-4791 or at www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

Copper** is an essential nutrient, but some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over a relatively short amount of time could experience gastrointestinal distress. Some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over many years could suffer liver or kidney damage. People with Wilson's Disease should consult their personal physician. Some people who drink water containing *trihalomethanes** in excess of the MCL over many years may experience problems with their liver, kidneys or central nervous systems and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

It is important to note that 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 at 800-426-4791.

HOW YOU CAN HELP US PROTECT OUR CLEAN DRINKING WATER

As a public water system, GAWSA is required by the Oregon Department of Human Services Drinking Water Program to establish a Cross-Connection Control Program (also known as "backflow") to protect public drinking water. The program's purpose is to educate customers on how to prevent situations that could create a "cross connection" which occurs when a drinking water supply encounters substances that might not be safe to drink. The issue with these connections or situations is that if the water reverses its normal flow of direction due to a back-siphonage or backpressure condition, that substance (hot tub water, livestock water, insecticide, etc.) could be pulled or pushed into a customer's home plumbing system or out into the public water supply. When drinking water is permanently connected to a system (such as an underground sprinkler system) that is potentially unsafe to drink from, a cross-connection device **is required** to prevent the reversal of flow and ensure safe drinking water. The State of Oregon mandates that devices be tested annually by a state-certified tester. A list of the state-certified testers in our area is available online at <https://yourwater.oregon.gov/backflow.php?county=Douglas> or in the Yellow Pages under "Backflow Prevention."

For more information about this report, the Source Water Assessment, tours of our water treatment facility, or any other questions regarding your drinking water, please contact Chief Plant Operator Jeremy Wolford at 541-679-6321.

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Board Meetings: second Thursday of every month at 5:00 pm