616 NE Fourth Avenue
Camas, WA 98607
360-817-1563
www.ci.camas.wa.us

CITY OF CAMAS 2006 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

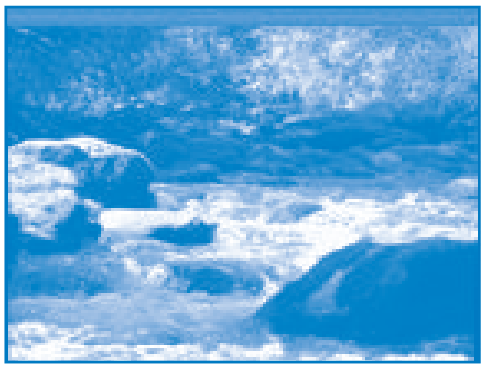
ABOUT THE REPORT

We are pleased to report that our drinking water is safe, and meets Federal and State requirements!

This report covers the calendar year 2006. The water quality data represents our major sources of supply. It compares these levels to the applicable standards and guidelines set by the Washington State Department of Health and the Environmental Protection Agency. The methods of testing and frequency of sampling are specified by regulations. The City of Camas provides drinking water to nearly 16,000 people. In 2006 that amounted to 1.5 billion gallons of water at a cost of .00166 cents per gallon! If you have questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact Water-Sewer Supervisor Mike Stevens at 817-1563, ext. 4283. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. If you would like more copies of this report, they can be obtained from the Public Works Department at City Hall, 616 NE Fourth Avenue. This report can also be found on our website at www.ci.camas.wa.us

WATER CONSERVATION & PROTECTION ~ BE WATER WISE!

Only 1% of the earth's water is available for drinking water. Let's protect and conserve our water today!



Conserving and protecting our water supply is always a good idea. Conservation reduces the demand on our aquifers. Protecting our water provides a clean supply of our water resources. If we want to ensure we have safe, high-quality drinking water for tomorrow, we need to conserve and protect our water today. Conservation and protection of our water also helps Camas citizens save on water and utility costs. The average daily consumption of water for Camas is 3.4 mgd. During a peak day we exceed 8.9 mgd. Most of this is due to irrigation.

We are asking for your help to reduce the amount of water wasted this year by implementing a voluntary Odd/Even Program for residential customers.

The Odd/Even Program works like this: if your address is even, such as 2002 NW Smith St, you would water your lawn only on even days of the month (example: June 2,4,6,8…). If your address is odd, such as 2001 NW Smith St, you would water your lawn only on odd days of the month (example: June 1, 3, 7, 9…). Please help us conserve water.

Conserving Water Resources

- Fix leaks inside and outside, including old leaky faucets, toilets, hoses and sprinkler systems. Replace them if necessary.
- Choose water saving fixtures and appliances, such as high-efficiency clothes washers and water-efficient dishwashers, that use 30% less water than traditional machines.
- Consider replacing your current showerhead with a low-flow showerhead, which uses 2.5 gallons per minute or less.
- Make sure that hoses and sprinklers are watering plants and your lawn, not the side of your house or paved areas. Sweep driveways, sidewalks and porches rather that hosing to not only conserve water, but to avoid runoff. Washing the pavement for 60 minutes uses 300 gallons of water.
- Water late at night or early in the morning (10:00p.m.-6:00a.m.), since less evaporation takes place during these hours. An inch of water per week is enough to keep lawns green. Over watering is the #1 waste of water in the summer, and the leading cause of disease and insect problems.

Protecting Water Resources

- Avoid fertilizers and pesticides, which can pollute ground and surface water. These chemicals can even be tracked into your home and onto carpets where they can remain for months.
- When washing vehicles of all kinds, use a commercial car wash or a storm drain filter, or divert wash water to a grassy surface. Please do not let the polluted runoff go down the storm drain and contaminate your water resources.
- Amend your soil, which allows the soil to more easily absorb water. Clay soils absorb water so slowly that water runs off the surface. An organic soil amendment, such as compost, improves the soil's absorption and water-holding capabilities.

The City of Camas also offers water-saving ideas through newsletter articles, news releases, and through printed material which is available to customers at City Hall or at the Operations Center. Please email us at opcenter@ci.camas.wa.us or call 817-1563 to request your copy of The Washington Department of Health's ***Guidelines To Being Water Wise.*** The State of Washington has a website with many links and a good deal of Information at: www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wr/ws/wtrcnsv.html. The Regional Water Providers Consortium: www.conserveh20.org also offers water-saving tips. Please report possible water pollution to the Water Department at 360-817-1567.

WHAT'S AHEAD

The City of Camas is a fast growing community. With the continuing development in our area, water service interruptions will take place throughout the community this summer. We will make our best effort to notify you prior to any disruption of service and will work to minimize the outage. Our water system continues to change and expand to keep pace with the demand for reliable clean water for industrial, commercial, and residential use. We are currently under design on Well #13 to provide another dependable water source. The City of Camas anticipates the start of construction on a utility bridge crossing the Washougal River that will provide added distribution capacity to our system. We continue to upgrade our booster and reservoir systems to provide reliability in water delivery. Please call our office at 817-1563 if you have questions. We at the City of Camas, work diligently to provide top quality water to every tap. We ask that all of our customers help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community, our way of life, and our children's future.

IRRIGATION SYSTEMS

Residential irrigation systems are not only a time saver, but can also be a water saver. Washington property owners are required by law to install, maintain and have inspected yearly, the backflow prevention devices on in-ground sprinkler systems. If a system is not designed and installed correctly, or maintained regularly, it becomes a water waster and backflow can occur. This could allow contaminants that could be in the water to flow back into the potable water, putting the public at risk. Systems typically operate using a "timer type" control unit, and are set to run during the night. Homeowners should periodically check their system to make sure the heads are spraying correctly, and verify that the times for each zone is set correctly so that over watering does not occur. An inch of water per week is enough to keep lawns green. Proper lawn care also includes aeration, weed control, and proper fertilization. Residential irrigation system maintenance also means having the backflow device tested annually by a certified tester for the State of Washington. A list of certified testers can be obtained from the City of Camas Building Department, or at the City website at: www.ci.camas.wa.us/services/utilities/irrigation.htm.

OUR WATER SYSTEM

The City of Camas has multiple water sources that include surface and groundwater. The surface water sources, Boulder and Jones Creeks are located on the south side of Larch Mountain northeast of Camas. This surface water is filtered at the Water Filtration Plant located near Lacamas Lake before it enters the distribution system. The groundwater sources include eight wells near the Washougal River and one well in Grass Valley in the northwest area of the City. All Camas water sources are treated with chlorine for disinfection, fluoride for good dental health, and groundwater sources are treated with sodium hydroxide to reduce the corrosion of copper piping to meet state and EPA standards. Water pressure and fire flows are maintained throughout the service area with six distribution reservoirs, six pumping stations, and 137.5 miles of pipeline.

The following table shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1st to December 31st, 2006. 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-Detectable (ND) - Laboratory analysis indicates that the constituent is not present.
Milligrams per liter (mg/l) – A unit used in reporting the concentration of matter in water as determined by water analyses.
Micrograms per liter (ug/L) – A unit of concentration for dissolved substances based on their weights.
Picocuries per liter (pCi/L) - Picocuries per liter is a measure of the radioactivity in water.
Millirems per year (mrem/yr) - measure of radiation absorbed by the body.
Million Fibers per Liter (MFL) - Million fibers per liter is a measure of the presence of asbestos fibers that are longer than 10 micrometers.
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.
ug/L – Units of measurement in Micrograms/Liter
Regulatory 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) - A treatment technique is a required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
Maximum Contaminant Level - 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 - 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.

TEST RESULTS

Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Unit Measurement	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Microbiological Contaminants						
Total Coliform Bacteria	NO	NONE	No./100ml	0	0	
Fecal Coliform and E.coli	NO	NONE	No./100ml	0	0	
Turbidity – Surface Source	NO	.011-.21	NTU	N/A	TT	
Turbidity – Ground Water	NO	.15-.21	NTU	N/A	TT	
Inorganic Contaminants EPA Regulated						
Antimony	NO	ND	mg/L	0.006	0.006	
Arsenic	NO	ND	mg/L	0.05	0.05	
Asbestos	NO	N/A	mg/L	7	7	
Barium	NO	ND	mg/L	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Beryllium	NO	ND	mg/L	0.004	0.004	
Cadmium	NO	ND	mg/L	0.005	0.005	
Chromium	NO	ND	mg/L	0.1	0.1	
Cyanide	NO	NO	mg/L	0.02	0.02	
Fluoride	NO	.80-1.20	mg/L	2	4	Sodium Fluoride is added to Camas water to maintain good dental hygiene
Mercury (inorganic)	NO	ND	mg/L	0.002	0.002	
Nickel	NO	ND	mg/L	0.1	0.1	
Nitrate (as Nitrogen)	NO	.35-1.04	mg/L	5	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Nitrite (as Nitrogen)	NO	ND	mg/L	5	1	
Total Nitrate/Nitrite	NO	ND	mg/L	5	10	
Selenium	NO	ND	mg/L	0.05	0.05	
Thallium	NO	ND	mg/L	.002	.002	
Inorganic Contaminants EPA Regulated (Secondary)						
Iron	NO	ND	mg/L	0.3	0.3	
Manganese	NO	ND	mg/L	0.05	0.05	
Silver	NO	ND	mg/L	0.05	0.05	
Zinc	NO	ND	mg/L	5	5	
Chloride	NO	2.65-3.94	mg/L	250	250	
Sulfate	NO	2.65-7.5	mg/L	250	250	
Inorganic Contaminants State Regulated						
Turbidity	NO	.13-.21	NTU	1	1	
Sodium	NO	5.07-18.7	mg/L			
Hardness	NO	11.1-52	mg/L			
Electrical Conductivity	NO	48.8-175	Umhos/cm	700	700	
Color	NO	<5	Color Units	15	15	
Inorganic Contaminants State Unregulated						
Copper	NO	.002-.591	mg/L	0	1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems. Continued testing to prove corrosion control is working
Lead	NO	0.002	mg/L		0.015	
Volatile Organic Contaminants						
Benzene	NO	ND	ug/L	0.5	5	
Carbon Tetrachloride	NO	ND	ug/L	0.5	5	
Chlorobenzene	NO	ND	ug/L	0.5	100	
O-Dichlorobenzene	NO	ND	ug/L	0.5	600	
P-Dichlorobenzene	NO	ND	ug/L	0.5	75	
1,2 - Dichloroethane	NO	ND	ug/L	0.5	5	
1,1 - Dichloroethylene	NO	ND	ug/L	0.5	7	
Cis-1,2 - Dichloroethylene	NO	ND	ug/L	0.5	70	
T - 1, 2 - Dichloroethylene	NO	ND	ug/L	0.5	100	
Ethylene Dibromide (EDB)	NO	ND	ug/L		0.5	
1,2-Dibromo-3-Chloropropane	NO	ND	ug/L		0.2	
1,2-Dichloropropane	NO	ND	ug/L	0.5	5	
Ethylbenzene	NO	ND	ug/L	0.5	700	
Styrene	NO	ND	ug/L	0.5	100	
Tetrachloroethylene	NO	ND	ug/L	0.5	5	
1,2,4 -Trichlorobenzene	NO	ND	ug/L	0.5	70	
1,1,1 - Trichloroethane	NO	ND	ug/L	0.5	200	
1,1,2 -Trichloroethane	NO	ND	ug/L	0.5	5	
Trichloroethylene	NO	ND	ug/L	0.5	5	
Methylene Chloride	NO	ND	ug/L	0.5	5	
Toluene	NO	ND	ug/L	0.5	1000	
Vinyl Chloride	NO	ND	ug/L	0.5	2	
M/P - Xylene	NO	ND	ug/L	0.5		

TEST RESULTS
continued

Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Unit Measurement	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
O - Xylene	NO	ND	ug/L	0.5		
Total Xylenes	NO	ND	ug/L	0.5	10000	
Volatile Organic Compounds - EPA Unregulated Monitoring Required						
Chloromethane	NO	ND	ug/L	0.5		
Bromomethane	NO	ND	ug/L	0.5		
Chloroethane	NO	ND	ug/L	0.5		
1,1 - Dichloroethane	NO	ND	ug/L	0.5		
2,2 - Dichlorpropane	NO	ND	ug/L	0.5		
1,1 – Dichloropropene	NO	ND	ug/L	0.5		
Dibromomethane	NO	ND	ug/L	0.5		
CIS-1, 3 - Dichloropropene	NO	ND	ug/L	0.5		
Trans - 1, 3 - Dichloropropene	NO	ND	ug/L	0.5		
1,3-Dichloropropane	NO	ND	ug/L	0.5		
1, 1, 1, 2 - Tetrachloroethane	NO	ND	ug/L	0.5		
Bromobenzene	NO	ND	ug/L	0.5		
1, 2, 3 - Trichloropropane	NO	ND	ug/L	0.5		
Bromobenzene	NO	ND	ug/L	0.5		
1, 2, 3 - Trichloropropane	NO	ND	ug/L	0.5		
1, 1, 2, 2 - Tetrachloroethane	NO	ND	ug/L	0.5		
O - Chlorotoluene	NO	ND	ug/L	0.5		
P - Chlorotoluene	NO	ND	ug/L	0.5		
M - Dichlorobenzene	NO	ND	ug/L	0.5		
Trichlorofluoromethane	NO	ND	ug/L	0.5		
Bromochloromethane	NO	ND	ug/L	0.5		
Isopropylbenzene	NO	ND	ug/L	0.5		
N - Propybenzene	NO	ND	ug/L	0.5		
1, 3, 5 - Trimethybenzene	NO	ND	ug/L	0.5		
Tert - Butybenzene	NO	ND	ug/L	0.5		
1, 2, 4 - Trimethylbenzene	NO	ND	ug/L	0.5		
SEC - Butylbenzene	NO	ND	ug/L	0.5		
P - Isopropyltoluene	NO	ND	ug/L	0.5		
N - Butylbenzene	NO	ND	ug/L	0.5		
Naphthalene	NO	ND	ug/L	0.5		
Hexachlorobutadiene	NO	ND	ug/L	0.5		
1, 2 ,3 - Trichlorobenzene	NO	ND	ug/L	0.5		
Dichlorodifluoromethane	NO	ND	ug/L	0.5		
Volatile Organic Compounds - State Unregulated - Other						
Methyl Tert - Butyl Ether	NO	ND	ug/L			
Disinfection By Product Compounds - EPA Regulated – Under Trihalomethanes Program						
Chloroform	NO	1.4-21.7	ug/L			
Bromoform	NO	ND	ug/L			
Bromodichloromethane	NO	0.8-4.3	ug/L			
Chlorodibromomethane	NO	1.4-1.2	ug/L			
Total Trihalomethane	NO	0.7-27.2	ug/L	60	80	
Halo-Acetic Acids						
Monochloroacetic Acid	NO	.80-8.4	ug/L			
Diclhoroacetic Acid	NO	.50-12.0	ug/L			
Trichloroacetic Acid	NO	.60-14.9	ug/L			
Monobromoacetic Acid	NO	ND	ug/L			
Dibromoacetic Acit	NO	.50-1.3	ug/L			
HAA(5)	NO	.50-26.9	ug/L	48	60	
Other: Bromochloroacetic Acid	NO	.60-13.5	ug/L			
Carbamates Non-Detected 2006						
Herbicides Non-Detected 2006						
Synthetic Organic Compounds (SOC) Report – Surface Water Sites Sampled for 2006						
#5 Well	NO	ND				
#6 Well	NO	ND				
#7 Well	NO	ND				
#8 Well	NO	ND				
#9 Well	NO	ND				
#10 Well	NO	ND				
#11 Well	NO	ND				
Total Organic Carbon	NO	.68-1.4	mg/L			

WATER QUALITY MONITORING

The City of Camas routinely monitors for constituents in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. Field and laboratory analyses include tests for bacteria, as well as chemical, and physical indicators. Reports are submitted monthly to the Department of Health to show that your water meets all drinking water standards. Should there ever be a public health concern, you would be notified immediately.

CONSTITUENTS OF INTEREST

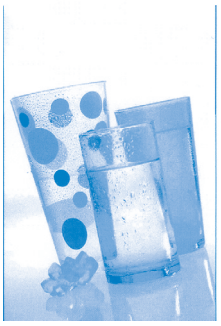
The following test results are not required by law, but are provided to keep you informed:

Constituent	Surface Water	Wells
Alkalinity	14.0 mg/L	50.0 mg/L
Calcium	2.1 mg/L	9.5 mg/L
Chloride	2.65 mg/L	3.94 mg/L
Color	ND	<5
Conductivity	48.8 umhos/cm	175.5 umhos/cm
Hardness	11.1 mg/L	33.4 mg/L
Iron	ND	ND
Magnesium	.59 mg/L	2.8 mg/L
pH	7.3	7.2-7.7
Sodium	5.07 mg/L	17.25 mg/L
Sulfate (SO4)	2.65 mg/L	7.52 mg/L
Total Dissolved Solids (TDS)	ND	93.0 mg/L
Total Organic Carbon (TOC)	.5 mg/L	.5 mg/L
Silica	10.0 mg/L	49.0 mg/L

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 the appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by cryptosporidium and other microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

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.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



- ***Our water is cloudy when it comes out of the tap, but then it clears up. Is it safe to drink?*** Yes, it is safe to drink. The cloudiness is usually dissolved oxygen that is being released. The oxygen is under pressure from the water system and when it comes out of the tap into a glass, the pressure is removed and the bubbles form.
- ***Does Camas fluoridate our drinking water?*** Yes, the citizens of Camas voted in 1968 to add fluoride to the drinking water. The water is fluoridated to a level of .80 to 1.20 milligrams per liter. At these levels, fluoride helps reduce dental disease and promote oral health of adults and children.
- ***I have noticed my kitchen and bathroom faucets are not producing the volume that I am used to, and when I remove the strainer, I find little white particles.*** These particulates most likely are coming from your hot water tank's "dip-tube." This long internal tube delivers cold water to the bottom of the hot water heater tank. The tube, which is composed of polypropylene, may disintegrate. It is a good idea to flush the tank on an annual basis to remove sediment that develops on the bottom of the tank.

Hardness Classification Scale

Hardness Range mg/L	Hardness Description	City of Camas Surface Water	City of Camas Ground Water
0-75	Soft Water	11.1	33.4
75-150	Moderately Hard Water		
150-300	Hard Water		
>300	Very Hard Water		

(see chart at left to compare soft-very hard water).

- ***Should I buy bottled water?*** This is a personal choice for all residents, however, you do not need to buy bottled water for health reasons in the City of Camas, since our water meets all federal and State health-based drinking water standards.

COPPER AND LEAD IN OUR WATER

The injection of sodium hydroxide to the City of Camas groundwater sources has lowered the level of copper at home-owners' taps significantly. Testing has shown that copper levels are well below the 1.3 mg/L action level. Lead testing performed throughout the year meets standards set by EPA.

How to contact us:

Water Department Maintenance	817-1567	Operations Center	817-1563
Billing (Finance) Department	834-2462	Emergency After Hours/Holiday	737-0592
616 NE Fourth Avenue,	Camas, WA 98607	City of Camas Website	www.ci.camas.wa.us

The Camas City Council meets every first and third Monday of the month at 4:30 for workshop sessions, and at 7:00 PM for regular meetings in the City Council Chambers in City Hall. (616 NE Fourth Avenue)

We're Here To Serve You

Attention Non English Speaking Customers

This report contains important information about your drinking water. Translate it, or speak with someone who can translate it for you.

Spanish:

Este informe contiene información importante acerca de su agua potable. Haga que alguien lo traduzca para usted, o hable con alguien que lo entienda.

Russian:

В этом сообщении содержится важная информация о воде, которую вы пьёте. Попросите кого-нибудь перевести для вас это сообщение или поговорите с человеком, который понимает его содержание.

Postal Customer
Camas, Washington 98607

City of Camas
Public Works Department
P.O. Box 1055
Camas, WA 98607

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