



# Garden City Water Quality Report 2021

## **Spanish (Espanol)**

Este informe contiene informacion muy importante sobre la calidad de su agua beber. Traduscalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

## **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 provides and informs details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to standards set by regulatory agencies. In addition, 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. For example, 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. In addition, 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?**

Garden City owns and operates nine deep groundwater wells at separate city limits. The groundwater well capacities range from 400 gallons per minute to over 2000 gallons per minute. The number of wells in operation at any time varies with demand. All the wells have concentrations of regulated contaminants

significantly below maximum contaminant level (MCL) limits set by EPA and our local Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ).

### **Source water assessment and its availability**

The Idaho Department of Environmental Quality completed its final source water assessment report of Garden City's system on May 29th, 2002. For inquiries related to this report, please contact IDEQ at 208-373-0550

### **Why are there contaminants in my drinking water?**

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. Therefore, pollutants do 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 drinking water sources (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 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. To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations that limit the number of specific contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, providing the same protection for public health.

### **How can I get involved?**

City Council Meetings are held on the second and fourth Monday of each month.

### **Description of Water Treatment Process**

Garden City water is treated by filtration and disinfection.

1. Filtration removes particles suspended in the source water. Particles typically include clays and silts, natural organic matter, iron and manganese, and microorganisms.
2. Disinfection involves the addition of chlorine or other disinfectants to kill bacteria and other microorganisms (viruses, cysts, etc.) that may be in the water. Disinfection is considered one of the significant public health advances of the 20th century.

## **Other Information**

Water Hardness: 170 parts per million or 10 grains per gallon

PH: 7.20

Total Dissolved Solids: 220 parts per million

Iron: .18 parts per million

Manganese: .09 parts per million

## **Additional Information for Lead**

If present, elevated lead levels 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. Garden City Water provides 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 test your water. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

## **Additional Information for Arsenic**

While your drinking water meets EPA's standard for arsenic, it does contain low levels of arsenic. EPA's standard balances the current understanding of arsenic's possible health effects against the costs of removing arsenic from drinking water. EPA continues to research the health effects of low levels of arsenic, a mineral known to cause cancer in humans at high concentrations and is linked to other health effects such as skin damage and circulatory problems.

## Water Quality Data Table

To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations that limit the number of contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The table below lists all 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. These substances are generally not harmful in our drinking water at low levels. Removing all contaminants would be extremely expensive and would not provide increased protection of public health in most cases. A few naturally occurring minerals may 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 specific 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, maybe 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.

| Contaminants  | MCLG<br>or<br>MRDLG | MCL,<br>TT,<br>or<br>MRDL | Detect<br>In<br>Your<br>Water | Range |      | Sample<br>Date | Violation | Typical Source  |
|---|---------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------|-------|------|----------------|-----------|---|
|   |                     |                           |                               | Low   | High |                |           |   |
| Disinfectants & Disinfection By-Products  |                     |                           |                               |       |      |                |           |   |
| (There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants) |                     |                           |                               |       |      |                |           |   |
| Chlorine (as Cl2)<br>(ppm)  | 4                   | 4                         | .5                            | .28   | .5   | 2021           | No        | Water additive used<br>to control microbes  |
| TTHMs [Total<br>Trihalomethanes]<br>(ppb)   | NA                  | 80                        | .007                          | .004  | .007 | 2021           | No        | By-product of<br>drinking water<br>disinfection   |
| Inorganic Contaminants  |                     |                           |                               |       |      |                |           |   |
| Arsenic (ppb)   | 0                   | 10                        | .004                          | NA    | .004 | 2019           | No        | Erosion of natural<br>deposits; Runoff<br>from orchards;<br>Runoff from glass<br>and electronics<br>production wastes |
| Barium (ppm)  | 2                   | 2                         | .06                           | NA    | .06  | 2019           | No        | Discharge of drilling<br>wastes; Discharge<br>from metal  |

| Contaminants                                 | MCLG<br>or<br>MRDLG | MCL,<br>TT,<br>or<br>MRDL | Detect<br>In<br>Your<br>Water | Range       |                        | Sample<br>Date | Violation  | Typical Source  |
|--|---------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------|------------------------|----------------|--|---|
|  |                     |                           |                               | Low         | High                   |                |  |   |
|  |                     |                           |                               |             |                        |                |  | refineries; Erosion of natural deposits   |
| Chromium (ppb)                               | 100                 | 100                       | .002                          | NA          | .002                   | 2019           | No   | Discharge from steel and pulp mills; Erosion of natural deposits  |
| Fluoride (ppm)                               | 4                   | 4                         | .48                           | .21         | .48                    | 2019           | No   | Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories |
| Nitrate [measured as Nitrogen] (ppm)         | 10                  | 10                        | .6                            | NA          | .6                     | 2021           | No   | Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits                               |
| Radioactive Contaminants                     |                     |                           |                               |             |                        |                |  |   |
| Alpha emitters (pCi/L)                       | 0                   | 15                        | 4.8                           | NA          | 4.8                    | 2019           | No   | Erosion of natural deposits   |
| Uranium (ug/L)                               | 0                   | 30                        | 5                             | NA          | 5                      | 2019           | No   | Erosion of natural deposits   |
| Contaminants                                 | MCLG                | AL                        | Your Water                    | Sample Date | # Samples Exceeding AL | Exceeds AL     | Typical Source   |   |
| Inorganic Contaminants                       |                     |                           |                               |             |                        |                |  |   |
| Copper - action level at consumer taps (ppm) | 1.3                 | 1.3                       | .77                           | 2020        | 0                      | No             | Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits |   |
| Lead - action level at consumer taps (ppb)   | 0                   | 15                        | 0                             | 2020        | 0                      | No             | Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits |   |

| Unit Descriptions |  |
|-------------------|--|
| Term              | Definition   |
| ug/L              | ug/L : Number of micrograms of substance in one liter of water |
| ppm               | ppm: parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/L)         |

| Unit Descriptions |  |
|-------------------|--|
| ppb               | ppb: parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (µg/L)   |
| pCi/L             | pCi/L: picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity) |
| NA                | NA: not applicable                                       |
| ND                | ND: Not detected   |
| NR                | NR: Monitoring not required but recommended.             |

| 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   |

**For more information please contact:**

Contact Name: Chad Vaughn  
Address: 6015 N GLENWOOD ST  
GARDEN CITY, ID 83714  
Phone: 208-472-2949