



CITY OF BINGEN NEWSLETTER - JUNE 2006

Fireworks Prohibited in Bingen

The City of Bingen adopted an ordinance in 2005 that goes into effect this year that bans all fireworks in the city limits.

No fireworks are allowed to be set off in the city limits of Bingen. Law enforcement personnel will be enforcing the ordinance. We encourage residents and other individuals to take advantage of the opportunity to set off legal fireworks at Bingen Point on July 4 from 8 pm to 11 pm.

4th of July Celebration

The cities of Bingen and White Salmon in conjunction with the Port of Klickitat and Klickitat County have designated a safe area at Bingen Point for shooting off fireworks from 8 pm to 11 pm. Areas are also provided for those who wish to view fireworks but not shoot them off.

To keep people and property safe, laws and rules are in place.

- Please remember that illegal fireworks will be confiscated.
- Be aware of the people around you when discharging fireworks. It is unlawful to discharge or use a firework in a reckless manner which creates a risk of death or injury to a person or damage to property.
- Remember to use the garbage containers located throughout the area. It is unlawful to litter.
- Alcoholic beverages are prohibited on Port property.



Keep Cool in the Pool

How can you keep cool this summer – by visiting the White Salmon Swimming Pool. The pool officially opens for business June 16.

Monday through Friday

10:00 am – 11:30 am	Swim Lessons
12:00 pm – 2:00 pm	Open Swim, Session #1
2:30 pm – 5:00 pm	Open Swim, Session #2
5:00 pm – 6:00 pm	Water Aerobics
5:00 pm – 6:00 pm	Swim Lessons
6:00 pm – 7:30 pm	Family Swim, Session #3

Saturday

2:00 pm – 5:30 pm	Open Swim, Session #1
6:00 pm – 7:30 pm	Open Swim, Session #2

General Admission	\$2.25 per person/session
Water Aerobics	\$2.25 per person

Season Passes/1 Person	\$60.00
Season Passes/2 People	\$90.00
Season Passes/3 People	\$120.00
Season Passes/4 or more	\$150.00

Swimming Lessons	\$40.00 per class
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Swimming Lessons

Sign up for swimming lessons at White Salmon City Hall. Lesson times are at 10:00 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 11:00 a.m., 11:30 a.m., 5:00 p.m. and 5:30 p.m.

Swimming lessons are scheduled as follows:

June 19 th – June 30 th
July 3 rd – July 14 th
July 24 th – August 4 th
August 7 th – August 18 th

Your child may qualify for free swim lessons. Call White Salmon City Hall at 509-493-1133 for eligibility guidelines and application.

Grease is a Major Cause of Sewer Overflows

To keep your drains and the city's sewer lines flowing freely, please follow these suggestions:

- Put oil and grease in collection containers
- Remove oil and grease from kitchen utensils, equipment, and food preparation areas with scrapers, towels, brooms
- Keep grease out of wash water
- Place food scraps in collection containers

- ⊗ Do not pour oil and grease down drains
- ⊗ Do not wash fryers/griddles, pots/pans, and plates with water until oil and grease are removed
- ⊗ Do not use hot water to rinse grease off surfaces
- ⊗ Do not put food scraps down drains



City of Bingen 2005 Water Quality Report

The Environmental Protection Agency and the Washington State Department of Health require community water systems to report to their customers about the quality of water they drink. The following information is provided for the year 2005.

Details are provided about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and state standards. We are committed to providing you with information. For more information about your water, call the Public Works Department at 509-493-1348. Additional information can be obtained by attending City Council meetings. The City Council meets the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of each month at 7:00 p.m.

Where does our water come from?

The City of Bingen's water comes from three municipal wells sunk approximately 300 to 360 feet into an underground source of water. These wells are located as follows: Park Well at Willow and Humboldt; the Dry Creek Well located at Jefferson and Walnut; and the Reservoir Well located north of Highway 141 and Ash Street. After the water comes out of the wells, it is aerated and disinfected to protect you against microbial contaminants.

It should be noted that the City of Bingen purchases water from the City of White Salmon during peak usage. During 2005 most the city's water came from the City of White Salmon. Copies of White Salmon's Annual Drinking Water Quality Report is available at Bingen City Hall and White Salmon City Hall.

Is the water contaminated?

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. Environmental Protection Agency and Center for Disease Control guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

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 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 (1-800-426-4791).

The sources of drinking water (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 from human activity.

Contaminants that may be present in source water before we treat it include:

- **Microbial contaminants**, such as viruses and bacteria, which 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 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 and residential uses.
- **Radioactive contaminants**, which are naturally occurring or can be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.
- **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 storm water runoff, and septic systems.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the Washington Department of Health and EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. We treat our water according to DOH and EPA's regulations. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

Monitoring and reporting of violations

The City did not timely respond to the results of a sanitary survey conducted in April 2005. Two critical sanitary deficiencies were noted in the sanitary survey results and were corrected immediately. No health effects occurred due to the untimely response.

Water Quality Data Table

The water quality information presented in the table(s) is from the most recent round of testing done in accordance with the regulations. All data shown were collected during the last calendar year unless otherwise noted in the table(s). The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) or the State requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per because the concentration of these contaminants do not change frequently.

Important Drinking Water Definitions:

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: 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.

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

TT: Treatment Technique: A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

Variances and Exemptions: State or EPA permission not to meet an MCL, an action level, or a treatment technique under certain conditions.

City of Bingen Results

Contaminants	MCLG	MCL	Your Water	Range Low	High	Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
<i>Inorganic Contaminants</i>								
Nitrate [measured as Nitrogen] (ppm)	10	10	0.2	0.2	0.2	7/27/05	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Barium (ppm)	2	2	0.001	0.001	0.001	7/27/05	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm)*	4	4	0.32	0.32	0.32	9/28/05	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories

Contaminants(units)	MCLG	AL	Your Water	# of Samples > AL	Sample Date	Exceeds AL	Typical Source
<i>Inorganic Contaminants</i>							
Lead (ppm)	0	15	0.6	0	7/27/05	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits

*Neither the City of Bingen or the City of White Salmon adds fluoride to its water.

City of White Salmon Results

The City of White Salmon monitors its treated water for a host of Inorganic (IOCs) constituents and Synthetic Organic Chemicals (SOCs) using laboratories certified by the Washington State Department of Health. All analytes were found to be in compliance with State and Federal maximum contaminant levels (MCLs) for drinking water. Copies of the full City of White Salmon Water Quality Report for the Year 2005 are available at Bingen City Hall.

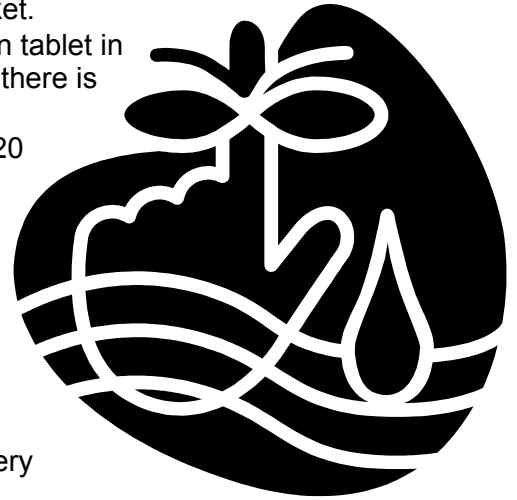
Spanish (Español) Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre la calidad de su agua beber. Tradúzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

Water Conservation

Did you know:

Efficient water use can save you money on water and utility bills, and reduce the costs for sewer services. Use the following household tips in the bathroom, kitchen and laundry room to help protect the environment and save your family money.

- Each flush wastes water. Don't use the toilet as a wastebasket.
- Check toilets for leaks. Use food coloring or a leak detection tablet in the toilet tank. If color appears in the bowl without flushing, there is a leak that requires immediate attention.
- Check faucets and pipes for leaks. A small drip can waste 20 or more gallons of water per day.
- Don't let the bathroom sink run while wetting your toothbrush, brushing your teeth or when shaving.
- Install water-efficient showerheads and take shorter showers.
- Only wash dishes when necessary. Turn the dishwasher on only when it is full.
- Do not wash dishes under a running faucet.
- Install low-flow fixtures, then buy and install aerators for every faucet in the house.
- In-sink garbage disposal devices use roughly 11.5 gallons of water each day. Try composting organic wastes instead of throwing them away.
- Pre-rinse clothes only when absolutely necessary.
- Use the proper water level, load size selection and water temperature when washing clothes.



Efficient water use is critical to a healthy and clean environment. Fish, trees and animals depend on wise use of our limited water supplies. Use the following tips to save water (and money) outdoors.

- Water in short repeated intervals for best absorption, especially on slopes or compacted soils. Prevent water runoff from your sprinkler system.
- To reduce evaporation, water the lawn in the early morning or evening. Avoid watering during the heat of the day or when it is windy.
- Install a trickle or drip irrigation system for slow steady supply of water to the plant roots.
- Water only when needed. Frequency depends on plant and soil type.
- Water root areas of your plants to establish hardiness.
- Low or no-water landscaping requires minimal amounts of water, fertilizer and pesticides. This can save you money and will protect the environment.
- Place a 2" to 4" layer of mulch around plants and trees to avoid excess evaporation.
- Use native and adapted plants when landscaping your yard. These plants usually require less care and water. Consider installing plants that don't require water once they are established for some or all of your yard.
- If your lawn is healthy, consider letting your lawn go dormant in the summer. It will turn green again when it rains.
- Use a broom to clean walkways and driveways. Do not use the hose. Watering the sidewalk, gutter and street wastes water.
- Clean gutters and downspouts manually instead of hosing them down.
- Use a hose with a shut-off nozzle along with a bucket of soapy water to wash the car.

Fireworks Prohibited in Bingen

Setting off fireworks within the city limits of Bingen is prohibited.

Law enforcement personnel will be enforcing the city ordinance banning fireworks.

La ciudad de Bingen prohíbe juegos pirotécnicos dentro del los limites del la ciudad.

El departamento de policía estará patrullando para hacer cumplir la ley ha de esta nueva orden.

BMC 8.16

Bingen Council Members and Staff

Brian Prigel, Mayor
Randy Anderson, Council Member
Laura Mann, Council Member
Betty Barnes, Council Member
Terry Trantow, Council Member
Tim Hearn, Council Member

Jan Brending, Clerk Treasurer
Dena Riggleman, Deputy Clerk
Brandon Walter, Public Works Superintendent
Esteban Sanchez, Public Works Maintenance
Daniel Dreier, Public Works Maintenance
Tom Hons, Treatment Plant Operator
Micheal Robarge, Treatment Plant Operator

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