



## CITY OF BINGEN NEWSLETTER - JUNE 2016

### **Water Conservation**

The City of Bingen adopted an ordinance providing guidelines for water shortages. We do not anticipate a water shortage due to drought this summer. However, we want to provide information to our residents in case a water shortage is declared for other reasons.

#### **Stage I - Anticipated Water Shortage - Internal Preparations**

Public education efforts will be conducted regarding the benefits and necessity of water conservation.

#### **Stage II - Serious Water Shortage - Limited Outdoor Restrictions**

Irrigation of lawns and gardens will be restricted to the hours of 6:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. on all days. Irrigation of lawns and gardens using timer systems will be restricted to the hours of 4:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

#### **Stage III - Critical Water Shortage - Outdoor Restrictions**

- Irrigation of lawns and gardens will be restricted to the hours of 6:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. Irrigation that is on a timer system will be restricted to the hours of 4:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. Properties with "even number" addresses will be permitted to irrigate only on "even number days." Properties with "odd number" addresses will be permitted to irrigate only on "odd number days."
- Vehicle washing is prohibited, except for commercial/industrial vehicles where washing takes place on commercial/industrial property and is necessary for vehicle maintenance. Licensed and permitted car washes are allowed to operate.
- Driveway, sidewalk, etc. flushing is prohibited.
- Orchard irrigation is prohibited.
- Filling wading pools, swimming pools, and hot tubs is prohibited.

#### **Stage IV - Extreme Water Shortage - Outdoor Usage Prohibited.**

- All lawn, garden and orchard irrigation is prohibited.
- Vehicle washing is prohibited, except for commercial/industrial vehicles where washing takes place on commercial/industrial property and

is necessary for vehicle maintenance. Licensed and permitted car washes are allowed to operate.

- Driveway, sidewalk, etc. flushing is prohibited.
- Orchard irrigation is prohibited.
- Filling wading pools, swimming pools, and hot tubs is prohibited.
- Water consumption is permitted for essential indoor purposes only.

#### **Stage V - Maximum Emergency - No Water Use.**

All indoor and outdoor water usage shall be prohibited until the emergency is lifted.

We encourage all residents and businesses to think of ways they can conserve water this summer. Early water conservation may help prevent the declaration of water restrictions.

### **Water Use Efficiency Report**

In 2015 the city adopted two water use efficiency goals.

Goal 1: reduce lost and unaccounted for water (distribution system leakage) to 10 percent or less of total source production by 2018. The reported distribution system leakage for 2015 is 32.4%. The 3-year average is 26.5% compared to 27.5% in 2014 and 35.6% in 2013.

Goal 2: Reduce water consumption by 10 percent over the 20-year planning period.

The city continues to identify potential sources for leakage. The city replaced three water lines in the summer of 2015.

The city provides information to customers through this newsletter and through its utility bills about water conservation and its importance.

A copy of the city's 2015 Water Use Efficiency Report is available from city hall or from the city's web page.

## Bingen 2015 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 2015.

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 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> 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. After the water comes out of the wells, it is aerated and disinfected to protect you against microbial contaminants.

In addition, the City of Bingen purchases water from the City of White Salmon. Copies of White Salmon's Annual Drinking Water Quality Report are available at Bingen City Hall and White Salmon City Hall.

### Is the water safe?

Last year, your tap water met all U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and state drinking water health standards. The City of Bingen vigilantly safeguards its water supplies and once again we are proud to report that our system has not violated a maximum contaminant level or any other water quality standard. The decision makers for your water system (the city council) reside within the city limits and use water from your water system.

### Do I need to take special precautions?

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. 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 storm water 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.
- **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, EPA regulates the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. We treat our water according to EPA's regulations. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

## 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 year 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.

ppm: Parts per million, or milligrams per liter

ppb: Parts per billion, or micrograms per liter

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

Contaminants	MCLG	MCL	Your Water	Range Low	High	Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
<b><i>Inorganic Contaminants</i></b>								
Nitrate [measured as Nitrogen] (ppm)	10	10	.05	.05	.05	2015	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Nitrite [measured as Nitrogen] (ppm)	1	1	.05	.05	.05	2015	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Arsenic (ppb)	0	10	1.4	1.4	1.4	2012	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronics productions wastes
Antimony (ppb)	6	6	3	3	3	2012	No	Discharge from petroleum refineries; fire retardants; ceramics; electronics; solder; test addition
Barium (ppm)	2	2	0.002	0.002	0.002	2012	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Beryllium(ppb)	4	4	0.2	0.2	0.2	2012	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Cadmium (ppb)	5	5	.3	0.3	0.3	2012	No	Corrosion of galvanized pipes; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from metal refineries; runoff from waste batteries and paints
Chromium (ppb)	100	100	4.7	4.7	4.7	2012	No	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; Erosion of natural deposits
Cyanide [as Free Cn] (ppb)	200	200	10	10	10	2012	No	Discharge from plastic and fertilizer factories; Discharge from steel/metal factories
Mercury [Inorganic] (ppb)	2	2	0.2	0.2	0.2	2012	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from refineries and factories; Runoff from landfills; Runoff from cropland

Contaminants	MCLG	MCL	Your	Range	Sample	Date	Violation	Typical Source
			Water	Low	High			
<b><i>Inorganic Contaminants</i></b>								
Selenium (ppb)	50	50	2	2	2	2012	No	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries, Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from mines
Thallium (ppb)	0.5	2	1	1	1	2012	No	Discharge from electronics, glass, and Leaching from ore-processing sites; drug factories
Fluoride (ppm)*	4	4	0.23	0.23	0.24	2012	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories

Contaminants(units)	MCLG	AL	Your	# of Samples >	Sample	Date	Exceeds	Typical Source
			Water	AL	Date			
<b><i>Inorganic Contaminants</i></b>								
Copper (ppm)	1.3	1.3	0.0114	0	2014	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits	
Lead (ppb)	0	15	1.31	0	2014	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits	

Contaminants	MCLG	MCL	Your	Range	Sample	Date	Violation	Typical Source
			Water	Low	High			
<b><i>Disinfectants &amp; Disinfection By-Products</i></b>								
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (ppb)	NA	60	3.1	6.8	12.1	2015	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
TTHMS (Total Trihalomethanes) (ppb)	NA	80	6.4	14.3	19.9	2015	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination

Contaminants	MCLG	MCL	Your	Range	Range	Sample	Date	Violation	Typical Source
			Water	Low	High				
<b><i>Radioactive Contaminants</i></b>									
Radium (combined 226/288) (pCi/L)	0	5	ND	NA	NA	2015	No	Erosion of natural deposits	

\*Neither the City of Bingen nor the City of White Salmon adds fluoride to its water.

### Additional Information for Arsenic and Lead

Your drinking water currently meets EPA's revised drinking water standards for arsenic. However, it does contain low levels of arsenic. There is a small chance that some people who drink water containing low levels of arsenic for many years could develop circulatory disease, cancer, or other health problems. Most types of cancer and circulatory diseases are due to factors other than exposure to arsenic. EPA's standard balances the current understanding of arsenic's health effects against the costs of removing arsenic from drinking water.

If present, elevated levels of lead 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. The City of Bingen is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

### Hydrogen Sulfide in Water

The City of Bingen's water contains hydrogen sulfide which can have a sulfur or sometimes a "sewer" smell. Hydrogen sulfide is formed by sulfur bacteria that may occur naturally in water. These sulfur bacteria do not cause disease, but their presence can cause a bad taste or odor. Filling a pitcher of water and letting it set for a period of time helps dissipate the bad taste and/or odor. The water produced by the three Bingen wells is safe to drink.

### Hydraulic Connection

One of the city's source wells is in hydraulic connection with surface water, the source is not considered to be directly influenced by surface water.

### City of White Salmon Results

The City of White Salmon monitors its treated water using laboratories certified by the Washington Department of Health. Copies of the full City of White Salmon Water Quality Report for the Year 2015 are available at Bingen City Hall and on the City of Bingen's web site <http://www.bingenwashington.org>.

## Fireworks Prohibited in Bingen

The City of Bingen adopted an ordinance that bans all fireworks in the city limits at all times.

No fireworks are allowed to be set off in the city limits of Bingen. Law enforcement personnel will be enforcing the ordinance. Please call the Klickitat County Dispatch Center at 509-493-2660 to report the unlawful discharge of fireworks in Bingen. 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.

## 4<sup>th</sup> of July Celebration

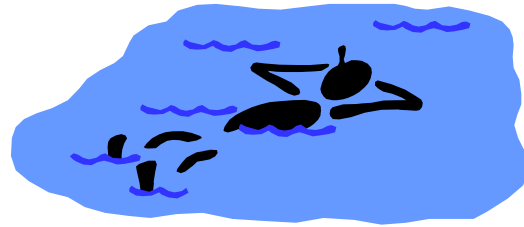
The cities of Bingen and White Salmon in conjunction with the Port of Klickitat and Klickitat County have designated a safe area at Bingen Point for shooting off fireworks from 8 pm to 11 pm. Areas are provided for those who wish to view fireworks but not shoot them off.

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.
- Alcohol, drugs and weapons are prohibited on Port property.
- Children under the age of 15 should be accompanied and supervised by an adult.



## Keep Cool in the White Salmon Pool



### Monday through Friday

9:30 am – 12:15 pm	Swim Lessons
11:30 am – 12:30 pm	Water Aerobics
12:30 pm – 5:00 pm	Open Swim
5:00 pm – 6:15 pm	Swim Lessons
5:30 pm – 6:30 pm	Water Aerobics
6:30 pm – 8:00 pm	Family Swim

### Saturday and Sunday

1:00 pm – 6:00 pm	Open Swim
6:00 pm – 8:00 pm	Family Swim

General Admission	\$3.00 in city limits
and Aerobics	\$3.50 outside city limits

See city website for additional prices. The City of White Salmon is charging a slightly higher price for individuals who do not live in the city limits of White Salmon.

Bingen residents can swim at the White Salmon Pool for free. A family may pickup free punch cards (good for 11 swims) from city hall. You must be a resident of Bingen to receive free punch cards from the City of Bingen.

### Swimming Lessons

Sign up for swimming lessons at White Salmon City Hall. Swimming lesson run 2 weeks for 8 lessons per session. **Lesson times** are 9:30 a.m., 10:15 a.m., 11:00 a.m., 11:45 a.m., 5:00 p.m., 5:45 p.m. Swimming lessons start dates are June 20, July 5, July 18, August 1 and August 15.

The City of Bingen will provide free swimming lessons to Bingen residents on a first come, first serve basis. Contact Bingen City Hall for more information.

**Local  
Postal Customer**

**Fireworks Prohibited in Bingen**

Setting off of fireworks *at any time* within the city limits of Bingen is prohibited.

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

**Free Entrance for Bingen Residents**

The City of Bingen will provide free punch cards (good for 11 swims) for its city residents to use the White Salmon Swimming Pool. Bingen residents can come to Bingen City Hall and request a single punch card at a time. Proof of residency is required. Free swim lessons will also be provided on a first come, first serve basis. Parents need to pickup the punch cards and register for swim lessons at Bingen City Hall.

**Este boletín está disponible en español en el Ayuntamiento y en línea en <http://www.bingewashington.org>.**

**Bingen Council Members and Staff**

Betty J. Barnes, Mayor  
Dan Armstrong, Council Member  
Stephanie Porter, Council Member  
Catherine Kiewit, Council Member  
Isolde Schroder, Council Member  
Vacant, Council Member

Jan Brending, City Administrator  
Cheyenne Willey, Deputy Clerk  
David Spratt, Public Works Superintendent  
Jay Hicks, Public Works Maintenance  
Tom Hons, Treatment Plant Manager  
James Buckland, Treatment Plant Operator  
Marlon Morat, Building Official

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