

Valley Grove Subdivision Public Water System Consumer Confidence Report for 2021

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 is a summary of last year's water quality. Its intent is to provide details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to standards set by regulatory agencies. Your drinking water quality meets all federal and state standards.

System Information

Your water system is regulated by the State of Montana as a community water system and is designated Public Water System (PWS) No. [MT0003780](#). For questions or service problems, please contact Pete Adams at 406-580-1527 or call one of the HOA Board members. Water quality or service issues can also be brought to the HOA Board's attention at their regular monthly meeting. Please see the HOA web site for Board contact information and for the meeting time and location (<http://www.vghoa.org>).

Water Source

The Valley Grove Subdivision PWS draws water from four wells. Wells 1, 2 and 4 tap a semi-confined alluvial aquifer, while Well 3 taps an unconfined alluvial aquifer. These types of aquifers underlie much of the Gallatin Valley and generally produce high quality water.

The Valley Grove Subdivision PWS wells are however potentially susceptible to being contaminated by several pollution sources including failing or overloaded septic systems and improper use or disposal of agricultural and household chemicals. A source water assessment report that provides more information is available on line at <http://deq.mt.gov/water/drinkingwater/sourcewater>

Water drawn from Wells 1, 2 and 3 is not filtered or treated in any manner before distribution. Water drawn from Well 4 is passed through a sand separator before distribution.

Compliance with Drinking Water Regulations

Your drinking water quality currently meets all federal and state standards.

Water Quality Monitoring Results

The Valley Grove Subdivision PWS follows a testing protocol established by the Montana Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) to monitor the microbiological, chemical and radiological quality of the water supply. A listing of required tests and historical test results is available on line at <http://deq.mt.gov/water/drinkingwater/yourdrinkingwater> under the drinking water watch link.

Results from the most recent water quality tests are summarized in Tables 1 and 2 below.

Educational Information

All sources of drinking water are subject to potential contamination from microbes, organic and inorganic chemicals or radioactive materials. 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 Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

Drinking water sources for both tap water and bottled water may 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 materials and it can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

Contaminants that may be present in drinking water sources 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 urban 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, urban storm water 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 storm water runoff, and septic systems.
- *Radioactive contaminants*, which can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. FDA regulations also establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

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 microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

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 Valley Grove Subdivision PWS is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but can not 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 the water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods and steps you can take to minimize your exposure is available for the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

The following data in this report is from the most recent testing done in accordance with the regulations. No data older than 5 years is included.

Regulatory Definitions:

NSDWR: A National Secondary Drinking Water Regulation is a non-mandatory water quality standard regarding contaminants that may cause cosmetic effects such as taste, odor or color

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG): The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health.

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL): The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water

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

Not-Detected (ND) - laboratory analysis indicates that the constituent is not present above reporting limits.

Ppm - one part per million

ppb - one part per billion

pCi/L - picocuries per liter is a measure of the radioactivity in water.

90th percentile – 90 percent of measured values are equal to or less than indicated value

**Table 1
Secondary Drinking Water Regulation Test Results**

Contaminant	Last Tested	Result (max)	NSDWR
pH	Dec. 2019	7.8	6.5-8.5
Calcium	Dec. 2019	73 ppm	
Chloride	Dec. 2019	10 ppm	250 ppm
Fluoride	Dec. 2019	ND ppm	2 ppm
Iron	Dec. 2019	ND ppm	0.3 ppm
Magnesium	Dec. 2019	19 ppm	
Manganese		not tested	0.05 ppm
Potassium	Dec. 2019	6 ppm	
Sodium	Dec. 2019	13 ppm	<20 ppm
Sulfate	Dec. 2019	21 ppm	250 ppm
Total Dissolved Solids	Dec. 2019	352 ppm	500 ppm
Zinc		not tested	5 ppm
Alkalinity	Dec. 2019	247 ppm	
Hardness	Dec. 2019	260 ppm	

**Table 2
Primary Drinking Water Regulation Compliance**

Contaminant	Last Tested	Result	Violation	MCLG	MCL or Action Level	Likely Source
Total Coliform ¹⁾	monthly	Not detected	No	zero detects	1 detect/mo.	
Fecal Coliform ¹⁾	monthly	Not detected	No	zero detects	1 detect/mo.	
Nitrate & Nitrites	Nov. 2021	1.87 to 2.07 ppm	No	10 ppm N	>5 ppm –action 10 ppm –MCL	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaks from septic tanks or sewage mains, leaching of septic drain fields
Copper – 90 th percentile – # samples > action level	Sep. 2020	0.164 ppm 0	No	1.3 ppm	1.3 ppm	Corrosion of household plumbing and fixtures
Lead – 90 th percentile – # samples > action level	Sept. 2020	ND 0	No	0.0 ppb	15 ppb	Corrosion of household plumbing and fixtures
Inorganics • Fluoride • Arsenic • Barium • 8 other regulated elements	Dec. 2019 Dec. 2019 Dec. 2019 Dec. 2019	.1ppm Not detected 0.06 ppm Not detected	No No No No	4.0 ppm 0.0 ppm 2.0 ppm Varies w/ contaminant	4.0 ppm 0.01 ppm 2.0 ppm Varies w/ contaminant	Erosion of natural deposits Erosion of natural deposits Erosion of natural deposits
Volatile Organics • Phthalate ²⁾ • Other regulated compounds	Oct. 2017 Nov. 2018 Dec. 2019 Oct. 2020 Dec. 2019	0.0012 ppm ND ND Not detected ND	No No	0.0 ppm Varies w/ contaminant	0.006 ppm Varies w/ contaminant	Leached from plastic and rubber materials
Synthetic Organics • Regulated compounds	Dec. 2019	Not detected	No	Varies w/ contaminant	Varies w/ contaminant	
Radiological • Radium 226 & 228 ³⁾ • Gross alpha ³⁾	Nov. 2021 Nov. 2021	0 to .576 pCi/L 2.14 to 4.72 pCi/L	No No	0 pCi/L 0 pCi/L	5 pCi/L 15 pCi/L	Erosion of natural deposits Erosion of natural deposits

- 1) The presence of Total and Fecal coliform bacteria is tested for monthly in two samples.
- 2) No di(2-ethylhexyl) phthalate was detected in Wells #1, 2 & 3. The concentration of di(2-ethylhexyl) phthalate initially detected in Well #4 (2013), while less than the MCL was greater than the detection limit and annual monitoring has been imposed until it is shown that the contamination in that well is consistently below the MCL
- 3) Radium radiation level in Well #3 and Uranium concentration and gross alpha radiation level in the composite sample from Wells #1 and #2 were high enough that increased monitoring frequency may be imposed.