

# Vera Water & Power 2005 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

Mandatory Health-Related Standards Are Established by the Washington State Department of Health

THE VALUE OF OUR DRINKING WATER

Parameter	Unit of Measure	Highest Detected Level Pump Stations												Likely Source of Contamination
		MCL	MCLG	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	33	
<b>Microbiology</b>														
193 Tests were taken during this reporting period														
Total Coliform Bacteria														No Constituents Detected
Fecal Coliform and E. Coli														No Constituents Detected
<b>Inorganic Chemicals</b>														
29 Inorganic Chemicals have been tested for in 2005														
Nitrate - Tested for in 2005	ppm	10	10	.8	.7	.6	2	.7	.5		.5	.5	.6	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
<b>Synthetic Organic Compounds</b>														
85 Synthetic Organic Chemicals have been tested for in 2005														No Constituents Detected
<b>Volatile Organic Compounds</b>														
61 Volatile Organic Chemicals have been tested for in 2004														No Constituents Detected
<b>Lead &amp; Copper</b>														
30 Homes were tested in 2003 for Lead and Copper which is regulated at the Customer's tap.														Action levels not exceeded

2005 was a year to remember when it came to our weather here in the Northwest. It reminds us how much effect "Mother Nature" can have on our region's sole source of drinking water, the Spokane~Rathdrum Prairie Aquifer.

We began 2005 with deep concerns with the region's snow pack which at that time was 50% lower than normal. At Vera, we were keeping a sharp eye as to how it would impact our customers. The hard question was, "Would we have enough water in our wells to supply Vera's customers through the hot, dry, summer months?". As a result of the drought, in March, Governor Gregoire authorized the Department of Ecology to declare a statewide emergency because of the record-low mountain snow pack and stream flows in most river basins across the state.

Fortunately, a wet Spring and early Summer returned the Aquifer levels to near normal. This was a result of not only the rain replenishing the areas' water levels but also as a result of customers responding to the region's drought concerns. Our customers were careful in their water use, especially during July and August when water use is always at its highest.

Last year's experience showed us that there is a growing understanding of the Aquifer as our area's sole water source by Vera's customers. You, the customer, have an awareness that the source of our drinking water begins with the rain and snow stored in the mountains which provides the runoff that eventually enters the Aquifer. Using water wisely will ensure that we will have plenty of pure drinking water each year and by protecting our Aquifer, we will ensure that our drinking water remains pure. It is our region's treasure!



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 Todd Henry  
 Director of Operations

Regularly scheduled Board Meetings are held on the second Wednesday of every month at 7:00 P.M. at the District office North 601 Evergreen Road, Spokane Valley, WA.

**Abbreviations**

ND = Not Detected  
 ppm = parts per million  
 ppb = parts per billion  
 AL = Action Level - concentrations of a constituent which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements.

Maximum contaminant level or **MCL**: The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water.

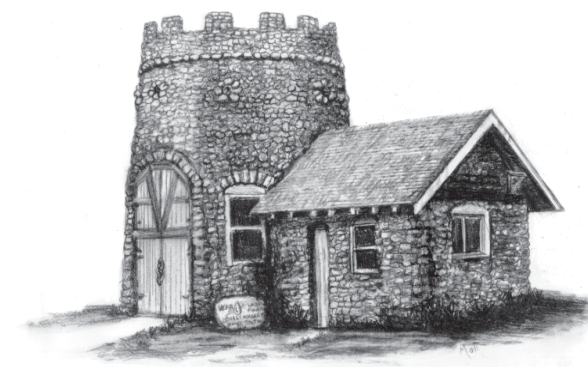
Maximum Contaminant Level Goal or **MCLG**: The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health.

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

We at Vera Water & Power work around the clock to provide top quality water to every tap. Let's all work together to keep our precious and pure drinking water clean and clear. Please remember that the Spokane Aquifer is our sole source of drinking water!

**MCL's** are set at very stringent levels. To understand the possible health effects described from the many regulated constituents, a person would have to drink 2 liters of water every day at the MCL level for a lifetime to have a one-in-a-million chance of having the described health effect.

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



Vera's original No. 1 Well built in 1908