

# VERA WATER & POWER 2008 ANNUAL DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT

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

| 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><br>240 Tests were taken during this reporting period<br>Total Coliform Bacteria<br>Fecal Coliform and E. Coli   |                 |                                      |      |    |    |     |     |     |    |   |    |    |  |   |
| <b>Inorganic Chemicals</b><br>29 Inorganic Chemicals have been tested for in 2006   |                 |                                      |      |    |    |     |     |     |    |   |    |    |  |   |
| Nitrates - Tested for in 2008   | ppm             | 10                                   | 10   | .8 | .6 | 1.2 | 3.5 | 1.1 | .6 |   | .6 | .5 | .9   | Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits |
| <b>Synthetic Organic Compounds</b><br>86 Synthetic Organic Chemicals have been tested for in 2007   |                 |                                      |      |    |    |     |     |     |    |   |    |    |  |   |
| <b>Volatile Organic Compounds</b><br>61 Volatile Organic Chemicals have been tested for in 2007   |                 |                                      |      |    |    |     |     |     |    |   |    |    |  |   |
| <b>Lead &amp; Copper</b><br>30 Homes were tested in 2007 for Lead and Copper which is regulated at the customer's tap. Additional testing in 2009   |                 |                                      |      |    |    |     |     |     |    |   |    |    | Vera Water & Power was required to monitor lead and copper levels in 2006. Samples were taken in 2007 and met monitoring requirements. |   |
| <b>Abbreviations</b><br>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. |                 |                                      |      |    |    |     |     |     |    |   |    |    |  |   |

- SMART WATER USE -  
WE ALL GAIN!

Every day we hear about conserving all the natural resources we consume whether it is oil, electricity or water! The importance of these resources that we need to maintain our lives has certainly come to the forefront and what we hear about the most is conservation! What that really boils down to is just being smart about our resource use. With water among our most critical resources for life, smart water use means everyone gains by preserving enough to ensure our future supply.

Smart water use means not wasting our valuable resource that supplies us with not only our drinking water, but water for our laundry, cooking, bathing and many household uses as well. It also provides the irrigation for our lawns and gardens through the summer months. If we use our water wisely, we will have more than enough to go around. Plus, smart water use will save you, the consumer, money on your water utility bill. That is something that we all think about, especially during these more difficult economic times.



System I.D. 914505

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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.

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

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.

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

**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.

GALLONS PUMPED BY VERA WATER & POWER

Vera Water and Power pumped 2.8 billion of gallons for water to its customers in 2008 which was less than the total amounts pumped in 2007 or 2006. Of the 2.8 billion gallons of water pumped, the District reported less than 268 million gallons in leakage last year which represents only 9.6 % loss of all water pumped.

We are required under the State *Water Use Efficiency Rule* to sustain an average loss of 10% or less for three years running. Vera has met this requirement. We work very hard maintaining Vera's water system with a strong leak detection program and aggressive hydrant use metering policies to reduce the loss of water each year. Water loss also results during construction occurring in the District and the accidental digging into water lines. Vera's water conservation requirements make it essential that our leaks and construction dig-in repairs receive top priority. Vera's goal is to preserve an adequate supply of pure, clean drinking water for our future generations.



**Vera Water & Power**

*Vera's original No. 1 Well built in 1908 celebrated 100 years of service to our customers in April 2008.*

*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.*

Vera Water and Power has taken many steps itself to aggressively maintain its system and prevent water loss and to assist our customers with concerns about leaks. There are many easy ways to cut down on water use that we can do such as turning off the hose between rinsings when washing the car. Sweeping your sidewalks and driveway instead of using water saves several gallons of water. Inside the home, you can make several small adjustments that will save water each time you do. When you brush your teeth, try not leaving the water running or when you are washing dishes, turn the water off in between rinsing each one. Small changes really make a big difference, but the biggest change is just thinking about the efficient use of this resource every time we turn the faucet on!

We have links on our website with several ideas for using your water wisely. We are happy to provide you with many ideas and we welcome your calls. Ask for Todd Henry or Gail Gibson at 509-924-3800 or visit our website at [www.verawaterandpower.com](http://www.verawaterandpower.com).