From Your Local Water Utility

601 N. Evergreen Road, P.O. Box 630, Spokane Valley, WA 99037

VERA WATER & POWER

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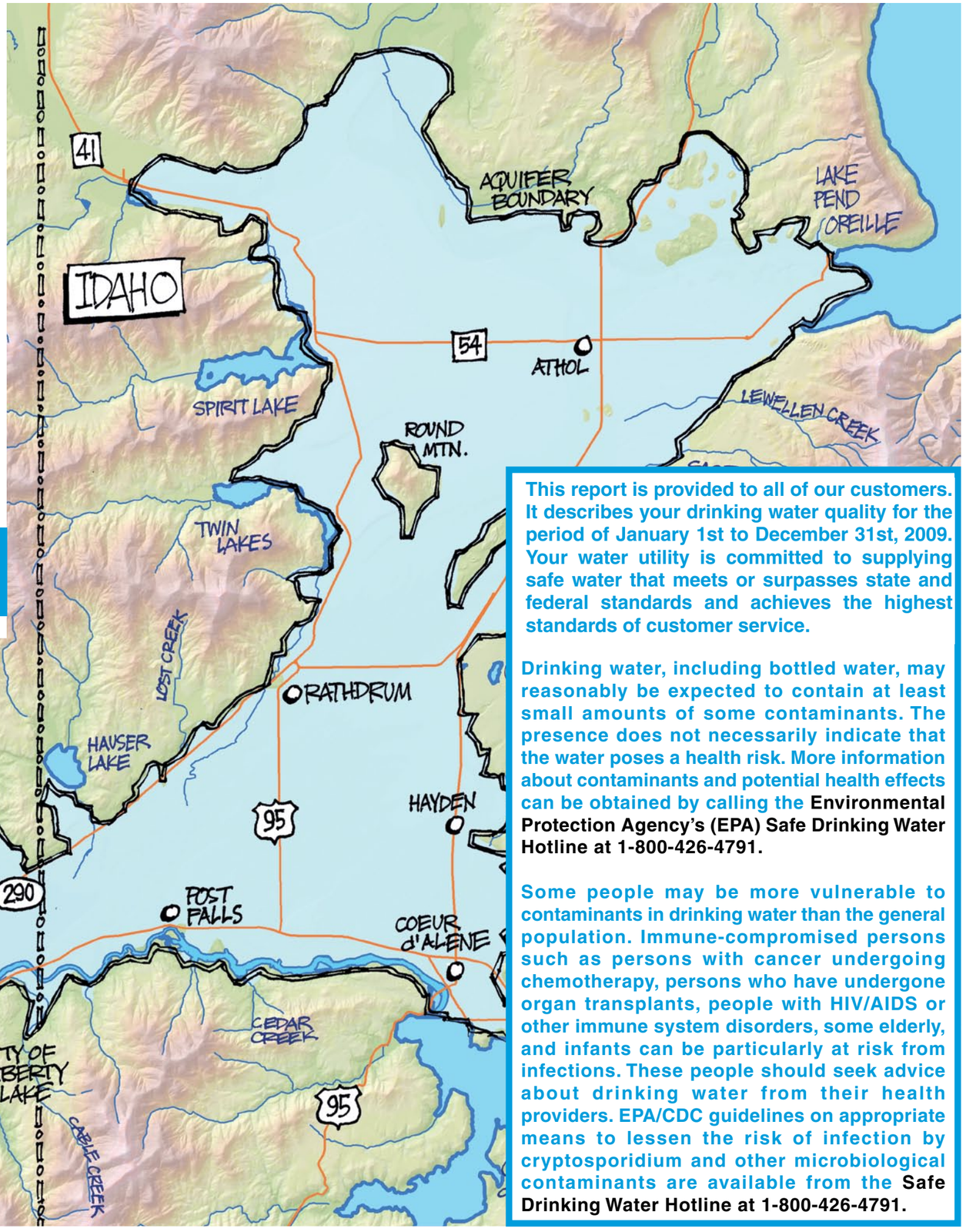
MEMBER SPOKANE AQUIFER JOINT BOARD

SAJB

Your Annual Water Quality Report



This report is provided to all of our customers. It describes your drinking water quality for the period of January 1st to December 31st, 2009. Your water utility is committed to supplying safe water that meets or surpasses state and federal standards and achieves the highest standards of customer service.

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immune-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 providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by cryptosporidium and other microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

VERA WATER & POWER 2010 ANNUAL DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT

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

Parameter	Unit of Measure	MCL	MCLG	Highest Detected Level Pump Stations 1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	33	Likely Source of Contamination
Microbiology														
300 Tests were taken during this reporting period														
Total Coliform Bacteria				**No Constituents Detected**										
Fecal Coliform and E. Coli				**No Constituents Detected**										
Inorganic Chemicals														
29 Inorganic Chemicals have been tested for in **2009**														
Nitrates - Tested for in **2010**	**ppm**	10	10	.6	.5	1.0	2.0	.7	.4		.5	.5	.6	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Synthetic Organic Compounds														
86 Synthetic Organic Chemicals had been tested for in **2007**				**No Constituents Detected**										Testing will be in 2012 - 2013
Volatile Organic Compounds														
62 Volatile Organic Chemicals have been tested for in **2009**				**No Constituents Detected**										Testing will be in 2012
Lead & Copper														
32 Homes were tested in 2010 for Lead and Copper which is regulated at the customer's tap.				**Action levels not exceeded**										Samples were taken in 2010 and met monitoring requirements.

Abbreviations

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

YOUR WATER UTILITY

VERA WATER & POWER

System I.D. 914505

Mailing Address:
Vera Water & Power
PO Box 630
Spokane Valley, WA 99037
PH: (509) 924-3800
Contact Person:
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.

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 2.66 billion gallons of water to its customers in 2010 which was slightly less than the total amounts pumped in 2009 Of the 2.66 billion gallons of water pumped, the District reported approximately 177 million gallons in leakage last year which represents 7% 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.

Please contact Todd Henry, Director of Operations at 509-924-3800, if you have any questions regarding the water that we serve you, our customers.

PROTECTING YOUR WATER QUALITY

This report is a snapshot of the quality of the water that Vera provided to our customers for 2010. Our goal is to supply you with clean, dependable water of the highest standard. We hope to inform you about the quality of your drinking water that we deliver to you every day. Any contaminants, if detected within the past five years, are listed as they compare to WA State Department of Health Drinking Water Division standards. There are many regulations and requirements for testing the water we provide you at the sources, for several different organic and nonorganic chemicals as well as any bacterial presence such as coliform bacteria.

Testing for various contaminant levels is completed on schedules that vary from annually and up to every three to five years, as in lead and copper. Testing for bacteria in our water system is completed on a regular monthly basis at over 25 sites throughout the District.

We have historically tested satisfactory for many years, but during October of 2010, water samples for the presence of coliform showed positive. Given the time of year and that the coliform presence was non-fecal and organic in nature, it indicated that the positive results were produced by grass, vegetation or dirt being introduced into the water system during the fall when sprinkler systems are being blown out.

This type of event is known as "back-flow or cross connection." It occurs when contaminant material is blown back into a water system beginning a series of events that lead to coliform bacteria growing and contaminating the water. This type of contamination requires the system to be disinfected with the most common type of disinfection by use of chlorine.

In Vera's case, we worked with WA State Department of Health, Drinking Water Division, to take steps to flush and chlorinate the water for follow up samples which were clear. Although clear, given the time of year when most customers are turning off their sprinkler systems and having them blown out to prevent freeze ups as a precaution, we added chlorine to Vera's water system for two weeks. Our system has tested pure since then.

Protecting your drinking water is a public health issue. The primary way to prevent introducing contamination into Vera's water system is through back-flow prevention. Cross-connection control is one of the most important barriers in the multi-protection steps for protecting your drinking water. You help us reduce the chances of cross-connection or "backflow" as it is also commonly referred to, by practicing a few easy steps.

Installing a backflow device on your sprinkler system helps prevent contamination from entering Vera's system during blowout at the end of the watering season. You can address this with your local certified landscaping or irrigation contractor. We have more information for you on this important topic. Please contact us for additional information at 509-924-3800 or visit our website *verawaterand power.com* for related links.