

# VERA WATER & POWER 2013 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										Likely Source of Contamination
				Pump Stations										
				1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	33	
<b>Microbiology</b>														
324 Tests were taken during this reporting period														
Total Coliform Bacteria - 6 sample sites had total coliform present														
Fecal Coliform and E. Coli - 0 sample sites had fecal coliform & E coli present														
<b>Inorganic Chemicals</b>														
29 Inorganic Chemicals have been tested for in 2012 - Well No. 3														
Nitrates -	ppm	10	10	.75	.74	1.0	2.4	1.3	.6	.65	.58	.8		Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage, erosion or natural deposits
<b>Synthetic Organic Compounds</b>														
86 Synthetic Organic Chemicals have been tested for in 2007														
No Constituents Detected														
<b>Volatile Organic Compound</b>														
62 Volatile Organic Chemicals have been tested for in 2013 - Well No 4														
Gross Alpha and Radium 228 levels have been tested for in 2013 - Well No 4														
Action levels not exceeded														
Erosions of natural deposits														
<b>Lead &amp; Copper</b>														
30 homes were tested in 2013 for Lead & Copper which is regulated at the customer's tap.														
Action levels not exceeded														
Leaching/corrosion of household plumbing systems														
<b>Abbreviations</b>														
ND = Not Detected ppm = part per million ppb = parts per billion AL = Action Level - concentrations of a constituent which exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements.														

In Washington State, lead in drinking water comes primarily from materials and components used in household plumbing. The more time water has been sitting in pipes, the more dissolved metals, such as lead, it may contain. Elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially in pregnant women and young children. To help reduce potential exposure to lead: for any drinking water tap that has not been used for 6 hours or more, flush water through the tap until the water is noticeable colder before using water for drinking or cooking, or general cleaning. Only use water from the cold-water tap for drinking, cooking, and especially for making baby formula. Hot water is likely to contain higher levels of lead. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in your drinking water is available from EPA's *Safe Drinking Water Hotline* at 800-426-4791 or online at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the Dept. of Health and EPA prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and the WA State department of Agriculture regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that must provide the same protection for public health.

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.

### GALLONS PUMPED BY VERA WATER & POWER

Vera Water & Power pumped 3.6 billion gallons of water to its customers in 2013. Of the 3.6 billion gallons of water pumped, the District reported approximately 500 million gallons in leakage last year which represents 15% 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 not met this requirement this year. 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 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 safe, reliable 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.

### IMPORTANT MESSAGE TO OUR CUSTOMERS

This report is provided to all of our customers. It describes your drinking water quality for the period of January 1st to December 31st, 2013. 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. As of December 18, 2013, Vera has been chlorinating our water full-time.

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 people who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, as well as 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 is a Member of the Spokane Aquifer Joint Board



Working together for pure water!

### YOUR WATER UTILITY

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.

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.

**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.