

**City of Albany**  
**Public Works Department**  
333 Broadalbin Street SW  
Albany, OR 97321

**PRSR STD**  
**U.S. POSTAGE**  
**PAID**  
**PERMIT NO. 178**  
**SALEM, OR**  
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## **POSTAL CUSTOMER**

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### **CITIES OF ALBANY, MILLERSBURG AND DUMBECK LANE WATER DISTRICT** **JOINT CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT**

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## **Drinking Water Quality in 2008**

The cities of Albany, Millersburg and Dumbeck Lane Water District provided our water customers with safe, clean and adequate drinking water, by meeting and exceeding all state and federal requirements in 2008. We take great pride in safeguarding this valuable resource for our customers by monitoring the water quality and utilizing treatment techniques to ensure its safety. Please read this report to stay informed about the quality of your drinking water.

### **Important Health Information**



Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not indicate that water poses a health risk. Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons undergoing chemotherapy, or who have undergone organ transplants, persons with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk for infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. Guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of

infection by microbial contaminants are available from the federal Environmental Protection Agency Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1 800 426-4791.

For more information, visit the Environmental Protection Agency's web site at [www.epa.gov/safewater](http://www.epa.gov/safewater)

## Water Quality Monitoring Results for 2008

Regulated Contaminants	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Detected Level*	Range	Major Sources/ Sample Date	Violation ?
<b>Synthetic Organic Contaminants</b> Some people who drink water containing Di (2-ethylhexyl) phthalate in excess of the MCL over many years may have problems with their liver or experience reproductive difficulties and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.							
Di (2-ethylhexyl) phthalate	ppb	400	400	n/a	0.620 - 2.400	Discharge from rubber and chemical factories 2008	No
<b>Disinfection Byproducts</b> The detected levels equal the average for disinfectant byproducts. The range is determined by individual tests at single sites. TTHMs and HAA5s are potential carcinogens, if they exceed the MCL, and may cause liver, spleen, kidney and central nervous system problems.							
TTHMs (Total Trihalo-methanes)	ppb	80	n/a	24.1 (avg.)	19.8 - 33.2	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection/ Feb 8, 2008	No
				31.5 (avg.)	25.8 - 41.8	Apr 1, 2008	No
				36.5 (avg.)	23.5 - 45.1	Jul 1, 2008	No
				42.4 (avg.)	39.2 - 50.4	Oct 7, 2008	No
HAA5s (Total Haloacetic Acid)	ppb	60	n/a	23.5 (avg.)	20.4 - 25.9	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection/ Feb 8, 2008	No
				31.8 (avg.)	28.5 - 42.4	Apr 1, 2008	No
				29.7 (avg.)	23.7 - 36.0	Jul 1, 2008	No
				24.8 (avg.)	17.7 - 34.3	Oct 7, 2008	No
Total Organic Carbon (TOC)	ppm	TT**	n/a	0.900 (avg.)	0.719 - 1.08	Naturally present in the environment/ Jan 18, 2008	No
				0.826 (avg.)	0.800 - 0.852	Feb 22, 2008	No
				1.007 (avg.)	0.983 - 1.030	Mar 21, 2008	No
				0.758 (avg.)	0.538 - 0.977	Apr 25, 2008	No
				0.689 (avg.)	0.687 - 0.690	May 13, 2008	No
				0.771 (avg.)	0.732 - 0.809	Jun 10, 2008	No
				0.721 (avg.)	0.515 - 0.927	Jun 17, 2008	No
				0.779 (avg.)	0.761 - 0.796	Jul 8, 2008	No
				0.741 (avg.)	0.727 - 0.755	Aug 12, 2008	No
				0.676 (avg.)	0.508 - 0.799	Sep 5, 2008	No
Total Chlorine Residual	ppm	4** MRDL	4** MRDLG		0.12 - 0.56	Samples taken daily; Disinfection used to control microbes	No
<b>Turbidity</b> Turbidity is monitored as a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filtration system. 100% of our monthly samples met the turbidity limits for our filtration technology. Turbidity has no health effects however it can interfere with disinfection, provide a medium for microbial growth and may indicate the presence of disease-causing organisms.							
	NTU	TT	n/a	n/a	0.01 - 0.39	Soil runoff/2008	No
<b>Unregulated Contaminates</b>							
Sodium	ppm	n/a	n/a	5.6	n/a	Added to water during treatment; Erosion of natural deposits	No
<b>Inorganic Contaminants (Regulated)</b>							
<b>Minerals</b> The water treatment plant tests for fluoride every 10 hours. Some people who drink water containing fluoride in excess of the MCL over many years could get bone disease, including pain and tenderness of the bones. Children may get mottled teeth.							
Fluoride	ppm	4	4	1.22	0 - 1.22	Additive which promotes strong teeth; Erosion of natural deposits	No
<b>Lead</b> Compliance is determined by 90% of the samples having lead levels less than or equal to 15 ppb.							
<b>Copper</b> Compliance is determined by 90% of the samples having copper levels less than or equal to 1.3 mg/L							
	Unit	Test Date	Goal	Action Level	90th Percentile	Source	
Lead	ppb	June 2008	0	15	0.0107	Corrosion of household and building plumbing	No
Copper	ppm	June 2008	1.3	1.3	Not Detected	Corrosion of household and building plumbing	No

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## Understanding This Report

This report contains valuable information for our water users. The word "*contaminant*" is used throughout this report to describe anything detected in the drinking water supply. This term is commonly used in the drinking water industry and should not necessarily invite concern, as all drinking water contains trace amounts of minerals and other substances. The purpose of this report is to provide you with an understanding and perspective, enabling you to make informed decisions about your drinking water. *Maximum Contaminant Levels* or MCLs are set at very stringent levels. To understand the possible health effects described for many regulated contaminants, 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 a direct health effect. The only exception to this would be if coliform or nitrates were found to exceed the MCL. Units used to measure contaminants in drinking water are parts per million (ppm) or parts per billion (ppb). To gain perspective on this measurement, consider the following: one ppm is one second out of 12 days or one penny in \$10,000. One ppb is one second out of 32 years or one penny in \$10,000,000.

### Definitions used in the Monitoring Results Table

**AL:** Action Level; Concentration of a contaminant, when exceeded, triggers treatment for the water system to follow.

**MCL:** Maximum Contaminant Level; The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

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

**MRDL:** Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level; The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants (e.g. chlorine, chloramines, chlorine dioxide).

**MRDLG:** Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal; The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health.

**NTU:** Nephelometric Turbidity Unit; The measure of the cloudiness of the water. We measure it because it is a good indicator of water quality and turbidity can interfere with disinfection.

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

**ppb:** Unit of measurement; parts per billion or micrograms per liter.

**ppm:** Unit of measurement; parts per million or milligrams per liter.

**Range:** The lowest amount (minimum) of a contaminant detected and the highest amount (maximum) detected during a sample period.

**\*Detected Level:** Refers to the highest level detected, unless otherwise indicated.

**\*\*** Not all contaminants have Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs) or Goals (MCLGs). Some have Treatment Techniques (TT) levels, Action Levels (AL), or Maximum Residual Disinfectant Levels (MRDLs) or Goals (MRDLGs).



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## Violations

Was late in reporting routine coliform samples in January 2008  
and Inorganic Chemicals in 2008

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## Your Drinking Water Supply

Albany takes its water from the Santiam River and it goes through one of the two water treatment plants: Vine Street and Albany-Millersburg. The water distribution system consists of five storage reservoirs and we maintain about 190 miles of pipeline that serves most areas of the cities of Albany, Millersburg and the Dumbeck Lane Water District. In 2008, we completed two pipe replacement projects: Madison Street and Thurston Street from 12th Avenue to Queen Avenue; and, in the 5th Avenue and Chicago Street area.

### Public Participation

The Albany Public Works Department invites all interested citizens to join them at City Council meetings held at the City Hall, 333 Broadalbin Street SW on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month at 7:15 pm. Contact Jim Young, Public Works Superintendent at 541 917-7609 or email [Jim.Young@cityofalbany.net](mailto:Jim.Young@cityofalbany.net).

**Dumbeck Lane Water District's** contact is Rod Lavedure and he can be reached at 541 619-6314.

## The Effect of Lead in Drinking Water

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 City of Albany is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot 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 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 exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at [www.epa.gov/safewater/lead](http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead).

### Conservation Tips:

- ◆ Never pour water down the drain when you can find another use for it, such as watering plants.
- ◆ Teach your children to turn off faucets tightly after each use.
- ◆ Detect and repair all leaks in your irrigation system.



## Cross Connection Control and Backflow

One of the measures we take to ensure the safety of your drinking water is to implement a cross connection control program to prevent used water from returning back into the water supply. Connections between the drinking water piping and any plumbing fixture, tank, receptor, equipment or device through which it may be possible for used water or other substances to enter back into the water supply are called "cross connections". The condition when water reverses its flow from its normal intended direction is called "backflow".

Some examples of cross connections are: lawn irrigation systems, automatic pool fillers, ponds filled with a hose and hydronic heating systems. These types of cross connections require mechanical units to be installed to prevent water from flowing backwards.

As a water customer, you are responsible to maintain your own plumbing system according to the plumbing code and other state regulations. Plumbing permits help maintain the safety of our drinking water from these cross connections, thus protecting our health and minimizing your liability in the event of a backflow. It is the plumbing permit process that assists in making sure these installations are done in a safe, correct manner and the benefit is that they protect you, your family and your investment.

Additional Contact Information: State of Oregon, Drinking Water Program 971 673-0405