

The Connection

City of Chubbuck Newsletter

Vol. 5 Issue 6

June 2010

Message from the Mayor:

Thanks to those who participated in the Chubbuck city clean up activity on May 22nd. The Chamber of Commerce rescheduled their projects for the 19th of June. They will have a breakfast that morning, followed by clean up projects and the Riverfest in the afternoon. We will not be duplicating our clean up activities that day, but I encourage your participation in a worthwhile community event. We will continue with branch chipping on Monday's through June. Call the Public Works at 237-2430, if you would like to participate. So many of you do so much year-round to help make the city and its neighborhoods look terrific.

As we come to the end of another school year, I congratulate those involved with education in our community. From the students and teachers to the parents and administration, we feel the city is very well served. Again, we ask that you be aware of the increased likelihood of children being outdoors in our neighborhoods and use additional caution.

Responsible pet ownership is always encouraged. Please comply with the ordinances that protect you, your neighborhood and your pets. Our animal control personnel can be a great resource for information.

Much of this month's newsletter is the publication of our "Annual Drinking Water Quality Report". We used to publish this in the newspaper; we are now required to mail it to all of our water users. Although much of it is technical, we hope you will find it informative. You can see from this report what an effort it is to provide water that meets all the mandated requirements. As our water department says: "Water is free; we pay for pressure and purity."

Summer weather encourages outdoor activities. We hope you will take this opportunity to get to know your neighbors and neighborhoods. Even though the city is not growing as rapidly as it was, we are enjoying more new folks in our city every week. Have and safe and happy summer as you continue to make Chubbuck a great place to live and do business.

Mayor England

A Note from Our Police Department

Spring is here, and the Chubbuck Police Department would like remind our residents of the importance of property maintenance. City codes require Chubbuck citizens to maintain their properties by keeping them reasonably free of weeds, garbage, abandoned vehicles or other blighting influences.

Street parking is always a concern. Code allows only one registered vehicle per residence to be legally parked on the street longer than 24 hours. Trailers are not allowed to be parked on city streets for longer than 24 hours at a time, and it is considered to be abandoned by law if not moved within 24 hours of parking, even if the trailer is registered or attached to a vehicle (Ord: 08-12-020). Non-compliance with parking directions can result in a misdemeanor.

Warm weather brings visitors to our parks and creates a parking problem in the Co-tant Park area. This taxes the patience of park visitors and local residents. Please remember that parking on Victor, parts of Bonanza and Teton streets is restricted to resident-only parking with a permit.

Parking in violation of this restriction may cost you \$10 per offense. We have unhappy visitors every year who park in violation of the posted areas, but we feel that our first obligation is to those who live in the affected areas.

If you have questions or concerns you may clarify these codes by going to <http://www.cityofchubbuck.us/cpd/codeenforcement.aspx> or by calling 237-7172 asking for Code Enforcement. Have a great spring and summer!

TAX REMINDER

Bannock County is no longer mailing 2nd half property tax reminders. Please remember that taxes are due by June 20, 2010. For questions, call the Bannock County Treasurers Office at 236-7220.

Chubbuck Days Parade & Festival Saturday, August 14

If you or your organization are interested in participating, please get a sign up sheet.

For Parade call
221-5855

For Festival call
237-2430



Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

City of Chubbuck - June 2010

The City of Chubbuck is pleased to present its Water Quality Report for 2010. We are pleased to report that our drinking water meets, or exceeds all federal and state drinking water standards. This report contains important information about the quality of your drinking water. We are required to prepare and distribute this Consumer Confidence Report. It is part of the requirements of the 1996 amendments to the Safe Drinking Water Act. The City is committed to providing safe drinking water to its customers.

The City has attempted to make this report informative and readable. This report shows our water quality and what it means. If you have questions about the report or your drinking water, please call the Chubbuck Public Works offices at (208) 237-2430, and further assistance will be provided. If you would like to have input on how your drinking wa-

ter is provided, you may either call the number above or attend the City Council meetings. The Chubbuck City Council meets at 7:30 P.M. every second and fourth Tuesday of the month. The meetings are held in the City Offices located at 5160 Yellowstone Ave. Please feel free to participate in these meetings.

Your drinking water comes from three wells drilled into the Lower Portneuf River Aquifer. They are located throughout the city. This water is very high quality and is disinfected with chlorine before delivery to your home. Well No. 4 does have a special treatment system. It is described below.

The only man-caused contaminant in the water is Tetrachloroethylene (PCE or PERC). The source of PCE contamination is unknown at this time. We are able to treat the water using an air stripping process to re-

move high concentrations of PCE. The state has completed an assessment of our source water, and the City is pleased to report that our drinking water meets or exceeds all federal and state drinking water standards.

The City routinely monitors for constituents in your drinking water. Benchmark testing has also been done for additional constituents. This is done in accordance with State and Federal laws. All drinking water, including bottled water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some constituents. It is important to remember that the presence of these constituents does not necessarily pose a health risk. More information about contaminants and health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791 or <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/hotline/>.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised 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 people, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally-occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

Contaminants that may be present in source water before we treat it include:

Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.

Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial, or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.

Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses.

Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems.

Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.



Annual Drinking Water Quality Report continued

Chubbuck treats ALL of its water with chlorine. Low doses of chlorine help protect our customers from potentially hazardous microorganisms that get into the water. We also add chlorine to meet regulatory mandates for safe drinking water.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

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 drinking 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 <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

Infants and young children are typically more vulnerable to lead in drinking water than the general population. It is possible that lead levels at your home may be higher than other homes in the community as a result of materials used in your home's water. You may wish to have your water tested and flush your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using tap water. Additional information is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 10 ppm is a health risk for infants of less than six months of age. High nitrate levels in drinking water can cause blue baby syndrome. Nitrate levels may rise quickly for short periods of time because of rainfall or agricultural activity. If caring for an infant, you should ask advice from your health care provider.



Lead Informational Statement (Health effects and ways to reduce exposure)

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 Chubbuck is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components.

**Environmental Protection Agency
Safe Drinking Water Hotline
1-800-426-4791**

or <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/hotline/>

The table on Page 3 shows the results of our water quality monitoring for the period January 1, 2009 to December 31, 2009. The state allows us to monitor for some contaminants less than once per year, because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. Some of our data, though representative, are more than one year old. We have included test results for only those constituents found in our drinking water. Most constituents tested for were not found. In the table, you will find many terms and abbreviations you might not be familiar with. To help you better understand these terms, we have provided the following definitions:

- ◆ **Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL):** The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water.
- ◆ **Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG):** The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLG's allow for a margin of safety.
- ◆ **Non-Detects (ND):** Laboratory analysis indicates that the constituent is not present.
- ◆ **Parts per Million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/l):** one part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in \$10,000.
- ◆ **Parts per Billion (ppb) or Micrograms per liter (ug/l):** one part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2000 years or a single penny in \$10,000,000.
- ◆ **Picocuries per liter (pCi/L):** a measure of radioactivity in water.
- ◆ **Million fibers per liter (MFL):** a measure of the presence of asbestos fibers that are longer than 10 micrometers.
- ◆ **Action Level:** the concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.



Contaminant	Violation (Y/N)	MCL	MCLG	Lowest Level Detected:	Highest Level Detected:	Date Tested (mm/yy):	Likely Source of Contamination
Microbiological Contaminants							
1. Total Coliform Bacteria	N	0	0	0	0	10 samples/month	Naturally present in the environment.
2. Fecal Coliform and E. coli	N	0	0	0	0	Tested only when Total Coliform detected	Human and animal fecal waste.
Radioactive Contaminants							
3. Beta/photon emitters (only required for systems with populations of 100,000 and over)	N	50 pCi/l	0 pCi/l	5.0	9.2	08/01	Decay of natural man-made deposits.
4. Gross Alpha Activity (Alpha emitters)	N	15 pCi/l	0 pCi/l	2.6	4.3	07/03	Erosion of natural deposits.
5. Radium 226/228 combined (pCi/l)	N	5 pCi/L	0 pCi/L	0.0	0.4	07/03	Erosion of natural deposits.
Inorganic Contaminants							
6. Copper	N	1.3 ppm	1.3 ppm		0.38	09/09	Corrosion of household plumbing systems. Erosion of natural deposits. Leaching from wood preservatives.
7. Lead	N	15 ppb	0		9.0	09/09	Corrosion of household plumbing systems. Erosion of natural deposits.
8. Nitrate	N	10 ppm	10 ppm	3.87	6.30	10/09	Runoff from fertilizer use. Leaching from septic tanks, sewage. Erosion of natural deposits.
Volatile Organic Contaminants							
9. Tetrachloroethylene	N	5 ppb	0 ppb	ND	0.0198	10/09	Discharge from factories and dry cleaners.
Disinfection Byproducts							
10. Total Trihalomethanes (THM's)	N	80 ppb	N/A	ND	3.8	09/09	By-product of drinking water disinfection using chlorination.
11. Haloacetic Acid Group 5	N	60 ppb	N/A	ND	ND	09/09	By-product of drinking water disinfection using chlorination
12. Chlorine Residual	N	4.0 ppm	N/A	Running annual average 0.29 ppm	0.346 ppm	10 samples/month	