Camano Cooperative Water & Power Co.
Water Quality Report
2020

Consumer Confidence Report for the Year 2020

We're pleased to present to you the 2020 Annual Water Quality Report. This report is designed to inform you about the quality of the water that was provided in 2020. Included are details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and state standards. Your drinking water is highly regulated by the EPA and is tested regularly. We believe the information provides a valuable service to our customers.

Our mission "*To deliver safe, affordable and reliable drinking water to the shareholders of the Cooperative while supporting responsible stewardship and protection of our water resources and meeting applicable federal, state and local mandates for the operation of a water company*".

Who We Are……

Camano Cooperative Water & Power Co. is a water utility of 588 shareholders, 550 of which are active connections. Our Board of Trustees consists of 7 members working with Reichhardt & Ebe Engineering and Water & Wastewater Services, a certified water manager, and 3 part-time office personnel, to bring you quality water. Any member of this water utility is welcome to attend our regularly scheduled meeting the third Thursday of every month at 6:30 pm, usually held at the Cooperative's maintenance building on Gary Lane (please call two days in advance if you plan to attend). Currently, due to Covid restrictions, all meetings are held online. If you have any questions or concerns regarding this water utility, your water, or this report we will be happy to answer them at 360-387-7363. **In case of emergency, please call Water & Wastewater Services, our water system manager, at 1-800-895-8821 or after regular hours at 1-360-630-0970.**

Camano Cooperative Water & Power Co.'s water source consists of two wells; the Weston well located on Hagen Road and the Lost Meadows well located on Gary Lane. Booster pump stations are at the Monticello tank, Conklin Drive and the Jim Brennick Reservoir & Pumphouse at Forrest Way. After the water is drawn from the wells we add disinfectant (chlorine) to protect against microbial contaminants.

Presence of Contaminants in Drinking Water

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA's 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 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 and residential uses.
- -Radioactive contaminants, which are naturally occurring.
- -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 storm water runoff and septic systems.

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. We treat our water according to EPA's regulations.

Presence of Contaminants Continued….

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-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 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).

Water Quality Data

The table below is a list of the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the 2020 calendar year. The presence of these contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table is from testing done January 1 through December 31, 2020. The state requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year. Some of the data, though representative of the water quality, is more than one year old.

Terminology

MCLG (Maximum Contaminant Level Goal): the level of a contaminant allowed in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLG's allow for a margin of safety.
MCL (Maximum Contaminant Level): the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCL's are set as close to the MCLG's as feasible using the best available treatment technology.
AL (Action Level): the concentration of a contaminant which, when exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
ND (Not Detected)
ppm (parts per million or milligrams per liter (mg/L)): about the same as ½ an aspirin tablet dissolved in a bathtub full (50 gallons of water)
ppb (parts per billion or micrograms per liter): about the same as 1 dissolved aspirin tablet in a 100,000 gallon swimming pool.

Inorganic Contaminants	MCL	MCLG	Camano Co-op Water	Range of Detections	Sample Date	Violation	Typical Sources of Contaminant
Arsenic (ppb) Lost Meadows (12 mo. Avg , taken mthly)	10	0	8.2	5.4-12.4	2020 (Monthly)	NO	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards
Arsenic (ppb) Weston (Required every 9 yrs.)	10	0	4.0	4	2013	NO	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards
Nitrate (ppm)	10	10	0.32	0.1-0.5	2020	NO	Runoff from fertilizer use.
Lead & Copper	**MCL**	**MCLG**	**Camano Co-op 90th Percentile**	**Total # Samples / # Exceeding AL**	**Sample Date**	**Violation**	**Typical Sources of Contaminant**
Lead (ppb)	15	0	2.0	10 / 0	2018	NO	Corrosion of household plumbing systems.
Copper (ppm)	1.3	1.3	0.543	10 / 1	2018	NO	Corrosion of household plumbing systems.
Disinfection Byproducts	**MCL**	**MCLG**	**Camano Co-op Water**	**Range of Detections**	**Sample Date**	**Violation**	**Typical Sources of Contaminant**
Total Trihalomethanes (ppb)	80	N/A	40.4	40.4	2020	NO	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Haloacetic Acids (ppb)	60	0	ND	0	2020	NO	By-product of drinking water disinfection

Additional Information for 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. Camano Cooperative Water & Power Company 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 http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

Additional Information for Arsenic: While your drinking water meets EPA's standard for arsenic, it does contain low levels of arsenic. EPA's standard balances the current understanding of arsenic's possible health effects against the cost of removing arsenic from drinking water. EPA continues to research the health effects of low levels of arsenic which is a mineral known to cause cancer in humans at high concentrations and is linked to other health effects such as skin damage and circulatory problems. The table shows that our system is in compliance with regulatory requirements for arsenic levels. The EPA has determined that your water **IS SAFE** at these levels.

Coliform Monitoring: Every month our system is tested for Fecal Coliform Bacteria, all water samples came back from the lab with a good report.

Additional Information

Why does the taste and odor of my water sometimes differ? Water naturally varies in taste and odor at different times of the year. Taste and odor problems can also come from new or old pipelines, plumbing fixtures or changes in water quality. Customers may notice changes during severe winter storms, when reservoirs are low, or during hot weather. Water & Wastewater Services closely monitors such changes to ensure they do not affect the safety of the water.

Security – We all need to be careful! While Washington State's Division of Drinking Water has never been lax regarding this issue, they have implemented more stringent guidelines to ensure all what can is being done to protect your water quality. Topics of focus include: Emergency Response, Sanitary Surveys, Operator Certifications, Cross-connection and Enforcement. Camano Cooperative Water & Power Company wholly supports the DOH in these efforts and continues to do all that can be done to maintain good quality water.

IMPORTANT WATER CONSERVATION TIPS:

Bathroom:

- Check toilets for leaks. Drop food coloring or a leak-detection tablet in the toilet tank. If color appears in the bowl there is a leak requiring immediate attention.
- Reduce the water level per flush by installing a water displacement device in the toilet tank. A plastic bottle, weighted with water or sand works well. Never use a brick.
- Install water-saving showerheads or flow restrictors, which are available at local hardware stores and other retail outlets.
- Check faucets and pipes for leaks. A small drip from a worn washer can waste 20 or more gallons a day. Larger leaks waste even more.

Kitchen & Laundry:

- Turn the dishwasher and washing machines on only when full.
- Buy and install a faucet aerator.

Lawn & Garden:

- Water only when needed. Frequency depends on the type of plants and soil conditions.
- Water the lawn in the evening when evaporation is less likely to occur. Avoid watering during the heat of the day or when windy. Use a broom, not a hose when cleaning driveways and walkways.

Water Use Efficiency (WUE)

The Cooperative's WUE goals focus primarily on water loss as it continues higher than the required 10%. We did however have a 7% reduction in 2020. We continue replacing older meters with more efficient meters. We replaced and repaired leaks due to aging infrastructure and will continuing replacing older pipe throughout the franchise as funds become available. The shareholders are helping by reporting possible leaks however we still have high water losses and continue pursuing possible causes. Protection of our water resources remains in the forefront.

Our goal of 2% reduction in usage over 5 years was put into effect in 2018. In 2020 we saw a decrease of almost 5% over 2018. For the last quarter of 2020 87% of members used less than 160 gallons per day. The Cooperative actively promotes conservation by encouraging efficient water use through informational brochures, conservation tips in bill inserts, use of high efficiency appliances, and by adoption of household conservation measures.