

# 2020 Water Quality Report

January 1, 2020 - December 31, 2020



**BOZEMAN**<sup>MT</sup>  
Water Treatment Plant

[www.bozeman.net](http://www.bozeman.net)



## **The City of Bozeman is Pleased to Present our 2020 Water Quality Report (also called the Consumer Confidence Report)**

We are proud to report that Bozeman's drinking water meets, or exceeds, all established federal and state water quality standards. The City of Bozeman Water Treatment Plant had zero violations in 2020.

The report informs you about the quality of drinking water and services delivered to residents each day. It contains a list of all *detected* contaminants found in Bozeman's drinking water and information on the water sources. If you have any questions regarding this brochure, please call the City of Bozeman Water Treatment Plant Assistant Superintendent at 406-994-0501. This report is also available at the City of Bozeman website, [www.bozeman.net/waterquality](http://www.bozeman.net/waterquality).

If you are a landlord or property manager, or know someone who is not billed directly, please share this report with your tenants and friends.

The City of Bozeman encourages all citizens to become active in protecting our water sources and to participate

in the decisions affecting Bozeman's drinking water. The Bozeman City Commission meets Tuesday evenings at 6 p.m. at City Hall at 121 North Rouse Avenue.

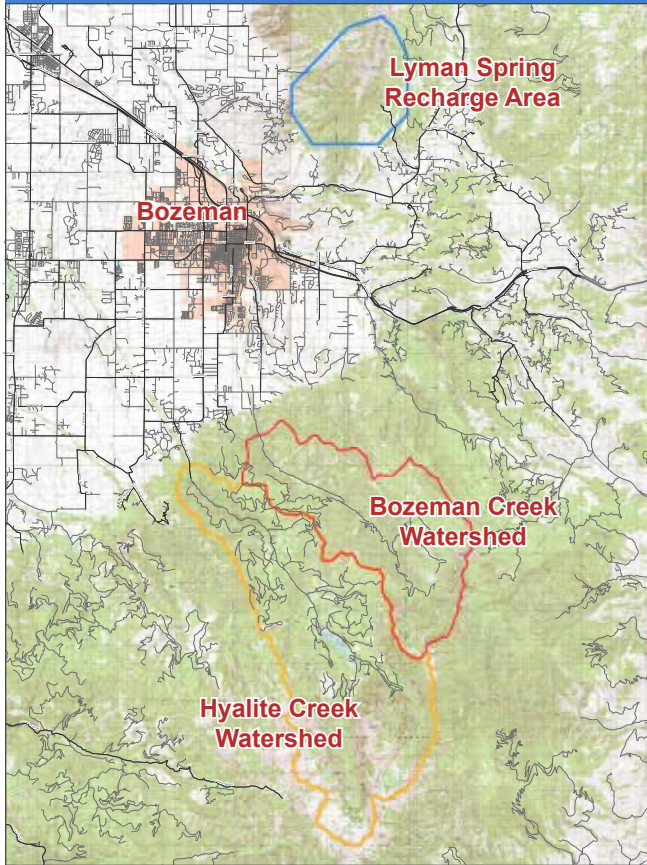


## **Where Does Your Water Come From and How is it Treated?**

The City of Bozeman drinking water is collected from two mountain ranges, and is treated in one of two water treatment plants. These facilities treat raw water supplied by Middle Creek, Middle Creek Reservoir (Hyalite Reservoir), Sourdough Creek, and Lyman Creek. All Middle Creek and Sourdough Creek water is treated at the water treatment plant located on Sourdough Canyon Road south of Bozeman. Lyman Creek water is treated at a plant northeast of town.



## Bozeman Watershed



### Middle Creek and Middle Creek Reservoir

Water from Middle Creek flows into Middle Creek Reservoir (Hyalite Reservoir) where it is stored. The water then flows down Hyalite Creek to the intake and is carried by pipeline to the water treatment plant.

### Sourdough Creek (Bozeman Creek)

Creek water is drawn from the watershed in Sourdough Canyon. No storage reservoir exists here since the breaching of Mystic Lake Dam in 1985. From the intake on Sourdough Creek, the water is carried by pipeline to the water treatment plant where it is mixed with Middle Creek water.

### Sourdough Canyon Water Treatment Plant

A 22 million gallon per day (MGD) microfiltration membrane plant with robust pretreatment treats water from Sourdough and Middle Creek. This plant allows the City to meet increased service demands and comply with Environmental Protection Agency and Montana Department of Environmental Quality regulations.

## Sourdough Creek Treatment Process



Water from Bozeman Creek and Hyalite Creek are mixed together then enter the plant.



The treatment process starts with grit removal and addition of a flocculant. This combines with suspended particles to form "floc". It is mixed at progressively slower speeds.



The flocculated suspended particles and chemical settle out in the sedimentation basin. Inclined plate settlers speed up the settling process. The sludge that is formed is pumped to the solids handling processes.



The water is then pumped through strainers to remove particles and goes to the membranes.



The membranes have 6,350 fibers in each module and 124 modules in each rack. Each fiber has pores in them with a nominal pore size of 0.1 microns.

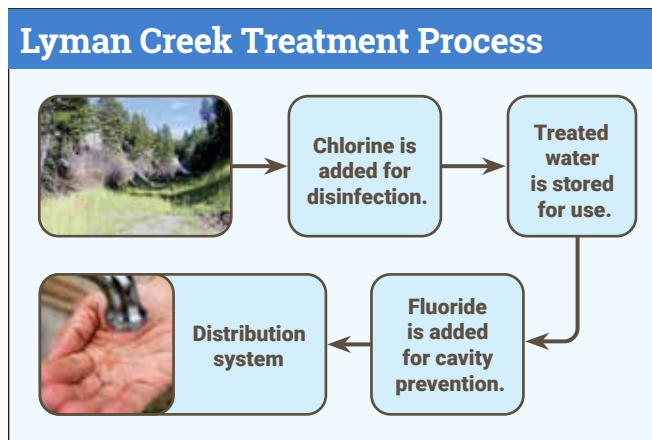
Chlorine is added for disinfection, sodium hydroxide is added for pH adjustment, and fluoride is added prior to going to the distribution system.



Distribution System

The membrane filtration plant consists of grit removal, flocculation and sedimentation to remove larger contaminants. The water then goes through 300 micron strainers to remove more contaminants. Membranes then filter the water through 0.1 micron pores of the membrane fibers. As final steps in the treatment process, sodium hypochlorite is added for disinfection, sodium hydroxide is added for pH adjustment and corrosion control, and fluoride is added for cavity prevention.

Raw water can vary during the year. It is affected by spring runoff, rainstorms, accidental spills, and landslides. The water treatment facility has the capacity to treat these varying conditions, thus provides a very high quality of drinking water to Bozeman consistently.



### Lyman Creek

Located in the southern foothills of the Bridger Mountains, this source is a fully enclosed spring and is classified as a groundwater source. The quality of this water varies little throughout the year. The water is captured underground and flows to the treatment plant via a pipeline.

### Lyman Creek Water Treatment Plant

The water is treated with sodium hypochlorite for disinfection, is stored in a 5 million gallon tank, and fluoride is added as it leaves the tank for cavity prevention. (See Lyman Creek Treatment Process).

## Source Water Assessment

Bozeman’s watersheds are devoid of significant potential sources of contamination. The exception is the transportation corridor along Hyalite Creek, which has a very high susceptibility to contamination by transportation of chemicals, including vehicle fluids, on Hyalite Road.

The City of Bozeman’s Source Water Delineation and Assessment Report is available for viewing at the Bozeman Public Library.

The Sourdough (Bozeman) Creek and Middle (Hyalite) Creek watersheds are very highly recreated areas. Cross country skiers, ice climbers, mountain bikers, hikers, dog walkers, fishermen, and rock climbers all use the watersheds on an almost daily basis.

## What Are Water Contaminates?

The sources of drinking water for tap water and bottled water include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and groundwater. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material. Water can also pick up substances resulting from animal or human activity. Contaminants that may be present in water prior to treatment include:

- **Microbial contaminants** such as viruses and bacteria that can come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural operations, wildlife, and domestic animals.
- **Inorganic contaminants** such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or result from urban storm runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.
- **Pesticides and herbicides** that may come from a variety of sources, such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses.
- **Organic chemical contaminants** including synthetic and volatile organic compounds, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production. These contaminants may also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems.
- **Radioactive contaminants** that can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.



# Bozeman Municipal Watershed Project

The Bozeman Municipal Watershed Project is a cooperative effort between the Custer Gallatin National Forest and the City of Bozeman to maintain a high-quality, predictable water supply for Bozeman residents.

## What is a watershed?

A watershed describes an area of land that contains a network of streams and rivers that all drain into a single body of water. In the Northern Gallatin Range that includes the mountains, valleys, and streams of Bozeman Creek and Hyalite Creek. 80% of Bozeman's drinking water comes from this watershed.



## Where does our water come from?

100% of the City of Bozeman's municipal water comes from our National Forest land—80% from Hyalite and Bozeman Creeks and 20% from Lyman Creek in the Bridger Range.

The Northern end of the Gallatin Range not only provides the Bozeman community with its drinking water, it also is the most visited portion of the Custer Gallatin National Forest. In peak summer months, thousands of people hike, bike, fish, and more in Hyalite and Bozeman Creek each day.

## What are threats to our watershed?

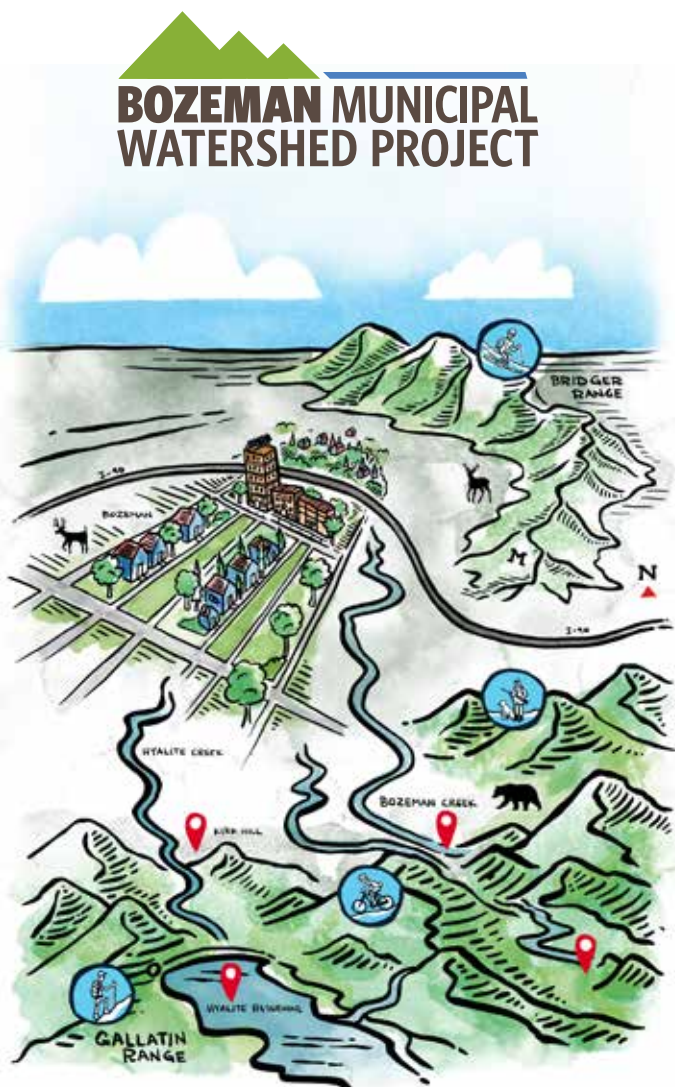
According to three different watershed assessments, ash and sediment from a severe wildland fire pose the most immediate threat to our municipal water supply.

The City of Bozeman water treatment plant has a peak capacity of 22 million gallons per day. If a severe wildland fire impacts our drinking water infrastructure we will only have about 2-3 days of treated water available for indoor use only.

## How are we protecting our watershed?

We are using prescribed burning, thinning, and timber harvest to reduce wildland fuels which will reduce the risk of severe and extensive wildfire in the lower portions of Hyalite and Bozeman creeks. This work will also help to decrease the amount of debris that could clog our waterways and limit the amount of sediment and ash from entering our water treatment plant. While this project and work will not eliminate fire starts in our watershed, the project will reduce fire severity near the municipal water intakes and treatment areas and protect our water quality for Bozeman's growing population.

Both the City of Bozeman and the Custer Gallatin National Forest will be in clear and constant communication with the public before and during fuel reduction activities. Any temporary trail or road closures will be posted well in advance and the work will be performed as expeditiously as possible. [www.bznwatershed.com](http://www.bznwatershed.com)



## 2020 Test Results

Listed in the tables on the following pages are all the contaminants *detected* in Bozeman's drinking water after treatment during the 2020 calendar year. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the State of Montana Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) require monitoring of over 80 contaminants. There is also additional information frequently requested in the Additional Water Quality Information Tables.

### Definitions:

**Action Level (AL):** The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment, or other requirements, which a water system must follow. Ninety percent of samples must be at, or below, this level. Lead and copper are measured at the 90th percentile.

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

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

**Maximum Residual Disinfection Level (MRDL):** The highest level of disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants (4.0 mg/l).

**Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG):** The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLG's do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contamination (4.0 mg/l).

**Nephelometric Turbidity Units (NTU):** Level of turbidity in filtered water.

**ppm:** parts per million

**ppb:** parts per billion

**pCi/L:** Picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity).

**Treatment Technique (TT):** Required process intended to reduce the level of contaminant in drinking water.

**Running Annual Average (RRA):** Average of the results for the most recent four quarters.

**Locational Running Annual Average (LRAA):** Average of the results for a location for the most recent four quarters.

**UCMR4:** Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule #4. Sampled at each WTP entry point to the system and in the distribution system Disinfection Byproduct (DBP) sample sites.

## 2020 System Test Results

| CONTAMINANT              | LOCATION            | MIN   | MAX                      | DETECTED LEVEL OR AVERAGE | UNITS |
|--------------------------|---------------------|-------|--------------------------|---------------------------|-------|
| Trihalomethanes (THMs)   |                     |       |                          |                           |       |
|                          | DBP1                | 10.00 | 27.00                    | 20.00                     | ppb   |
|                          | DBP4                | 15.00 | 32.00                    | 25.00                     | ppb   |
| Haloacetic Acids (HAA5s) |                     |       |                          |                           |       |
|                          | DBP1                | 9.90  | 18.00                    | 14.48                     | ppb   |
|                          | DBP4                | 14.00 | 19.00                    | 16.25                     | ppb   |
| Lead*                    | Distribution System |       | Zero Sites exceeded A.L. | 5.0 (90th percentile)     | ppb   |
| Copper*                  | Distribution System |       | Zero Sites exceeded A.L. | 0.067 (90th percentile)   | ppm   |
| Total Coliform           | Distribution System |       | 623                      | 1 positive sample         |       |

| MCL               | AL  | MCLG | TYPICAL CONTAMINANT SOURCE   |
|-------------------|-----|------|--|
| 80                |     |      | By-product of drinking water chlorination                            |
|                   |     |      |  |
| 60                |     |      | By-product of drinking water chlorination                            |
|                   |     |      |  |
|                   | 15  | 0    | Erosion of natural deposits; corrosion of household plumbing systems |
|                   | 1.3 | 0    | Erosion of natural deposits; corrosion of household plumbing systems |
| <5% of samples/mo |     | 0    | Naturally present in the environment                                 |

\*Lead has not been detected in Bozeman's source water. This sampling was done in August of 2018 in accordance with EPA regulations. Lead and Copper are regulated over the entire distribution system (not by source), so these results were not repeated for the Lyman source. 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 Bozeman 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 (1-800-426-4791) or at [www.epa.gov/safewater/lead](http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead).

# 2020 Sourdough Test Results

|                                 | LOCATION            | MIN   | MAX   | DETECTED LEVEL OR AVERAGE | UNITS |
|---------------------------------|---------------------|-------|-------|---------------------------|-------|
| <b>SOURDOUGH</b>                |                     |       |       |                           |       |
| Native Fluoride                 | Plant Influent      | 0.00  | 0.20  | 0.07                      | ppm   |
| 1st Service Fluoride            | Distribution System | 0.20  | 0.68  | 0.55                      | ppm   |
| Turbidity **                    | Plant Effluent      | 0.013 | 0.034 | 0.018                     | NTU   |
| Radium***<br>(Combined 226/228) | Entry Point 502     |       |       | 0.6 (+/-1.0)              | pCi/L |
| Gross Alpha***                  | Entry Point 502     |       |       | 2.0 (+/-1.7)              | pCi/L |
| Uranium***                      | Entry Point 502     |       |       | 0.0004                    | mg/L  |
| <b>UCMR4</b>                    |                     |       |       |                           |       |
| HAA5                            | DBP1                | 13.5  | 20.7  | 17.1                      | ppb   |
| HAA6Br                          | DBP1                | 0.86  | 1.21  | 1.04                      | ppb   |
| HAA9                            | DBP1                | 14.36 | 21.91 | 18.14                     | ppb   |
| HAA5                            | DBP4                | 15.1  | 23.0  | 19.05                     | ppb   |
| HAA6Br                          | DBP4                | 0.91  | 1.09  | 1.00                      | ppb   |
| HAA9                            | DBP4                | 16.01 | 24.09 | 20.05                     | ppb   |
| Manganese                       | Entry Point 502     | <0.40 | 0.64  | 0.32                      | ppb   |

| <b>ADDITIONAL WATER QUALITY INFORMATION</b> |                |       |        |       |        |
|---|----------------|-------|--------|-------|--------|
| Alkalinity                                  | Plant Effluent | 60.80 | 100.00 | 86.28 | ppm    |
| Chloride                                    | Plant Effluent | 0.40  | 2.56   | 0.93  | ppm    |
| Free Chlorine                               | Plant Effluent | 0.55  | 1.16   | 0.80  | ppm    |
| Calcium Hardness                            | Plant Effluent | 39.20 | 73.20  | 56.33 | ppm    |
| Calcium                                     | Plant Effluent | 15.68 | 29.28  | 22.53 | ppm    |
| Magnesium Hardness                          | Plant Effluent | 18.00 | 36.40  | 27.47 | ppm    |
| Magnesium                                   | Plant Effluent | 4.40  | 8.89   | 6.71  | ppm    |
| Total Hardness                              | Plant Effluent | 58.80 | 109.60 | 83.80 | ppm    |
| Total Hardness (Grains)                     | Plant Effluent | 3.43  | 6.40   | 4.89  | Grains |
| pH  | Plant Effluent | 8.01  | 8.81   | 8.52  | SU     |
| Sodium                                      | Plant Effluent | 3.34  | 7.77   | 5.73  | ppm    |
| Sulfate                                     | Plant Effluent | 1.00  | 4.00   | 2.42  | ppm    |
| Iron  | Plant Effluent | 0.000 | 0.030  | 0.015 | ppm    |
| Total Dissolved Solids                      | Plant Effluent | 67.40 | 113.50 | 90.57 | ppm    |
| Dissolved Oxygen                            | Plant Effluent | 8.80  | 13.80  | 10.93 | ppm    |
| Aluminum                                    | Plant Effluent | 0.000 | 0.013  | 0.002 | ppm    |
| Phosphorus                                  | Plant Effluent | 0.017 | 0.300  | 0.149 | ppm    |
| UV254 (Organics)                            | Plant Effluent | 83.90 | 99.10  | 94.81 | %T     |

\*\*\*last collected in 2018 per EPA regulations

| MCL                             | AL | MCLG    | TYPICAL CONTAMINANT SOURCE  |
|---------------------------------|----|---------|---|
| 4                               |    | 4       | Erosion of natural deposits   |
| 4                               |    | 4       | Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth |
| TT= 1 NTU<br>TT= 95% < 0.15 NTU |    |         | Natural result of soil runoff   |
| 5 pCi/L                         |    | 0 pCi/L | Erosion of natural deposits   |
| 15 pCi/L                        |    | 0 pCi/L | Erosion of natural deposits   |
| 0.03 mg/L                       |    | 0 pCi/L | Erosion of natural deposits   |
| 60                              |    |         | By-product of drinking water chlorination                               |
|                                 |    |         | By-product of drinking water chlorination                               |
|                                 |    |         | By-product of drinking water chlorination                               |
| 60                              |    |         | By-product of drinking water chlorination                               |
|                                 |    |         | By-product of drinking water chlorination                               |
|                                 |    |         | By-product of drinking water chlorination                               |
| 50                              |    |         | Erosion of natural deposits   |

|          |
|----------|
| NA       |
| 250      |
| 4 (MRDL) |
| NA       |
| NA       |
| NA       |
| NA       |
| NA       |
| 6.5-9.3  |
| 20       |
| 500      |
| 0.3      |
| 500      |
| NA       |
| 0.20     |
|          |
| NA       |

\*\*Turbidity has no health effects. However, turbidity can interfere with disinfection and provide a medium for microbial growth. The City of Bozeman's filtered water must be less than, or equal to 0.15 NTU in at least 95% of monthly measurements, and it can never exceed 1 NTU. The single highest measurement was 0.034 NTU. Bozeman's average daily turbidity was 0.018 NTU.

# 2020 Lyman Creek Test Results

|                                 | LOCATION        | MIN  | MAX  | DETECTED LEVEL OR AVERAGE | UNITS |
|---------------------------------|-----------------|------|------|---------------------------|-------|
| <b>LYMAN CREEK</b>              |                 |      |      |                           |       |
| Native Fluoride                 | Plant Influent  | 0.09 | 0.30 | 0.18                      | ppm   |
| Nitrate + Nitrite               | Entry Point 504 |      |      | 0.15                      | ppm   |
| Fluoride                        | Entry Point 504 | 0.28 | 0.76 | 0.54                      | ppm   |
| Radium***<br>(Combined 226/228) | Entry Point 504 |      |      | 0.7 (+/-1.1)              | pCi/L |
| Gross Alpha***                  | Entry Point 504 |      |      | 3.1 (+/-2.5)              | pCi/L |
| Uranium***                      | Entry Point 504 |      |      | 0.0007                    | mg/L  |

| <b>ADDITIONAL WATER QUALITY INFORMATION</b> |                |        |         |        |        |
|---|----------------|--------|---------|--------|--------|
| Alkalinity                                  | Plant Effluent | 127.00 | 164.00  | 139.08 | ppm    |
| Chloride                                    | Plant Effluent | 0.18   | 1.13    | 0.57   | ppm    |
| Free Chlorine                               | Plant Effluent | 0.47   | 0.63    | 0.54   | ppm    |
| Calcium Hardness                            | Plant Effluent | 98.00  | 122.00  | 104.50 | ppm    |
| Calcium                                     | Plant Effluent | 39.20  | 48.80   | 41.80  | ppm    |
| Magnesium Hardness                          | Plant Effluent | 48.00  | 75.00   | 61.75  | ppm    |
| Magnesium                                   | Plant Effluent | 11.72  | 18.31   | 15.08  | ppm    |
| Total Hardness                              | Plant Effluent | 158.00 | 178.00  | 166.25 | ppm    |
| Total Hardness (Grains)                     | Plant Effluent | 9.23   | 10.40   | 9.71   | Grains |
| pH  | Plant Effluent | 7.44   | 8.17    | 7.86   | SU     |
| Sodium                                      | Plant Effluent | 0.90   | 3.12    | 1.41   | ppm    |
| Sulfate                                     | Plant Effluent | 9.00   | 13.00   | 11.42  | ppm    |
| Iron  | Plant Effluent | 0.00   | 0.02    | 0.01   | ppm    |
| Total Dissolved Solids                      | Plant Effluent | 141.00 | 154.70  | 149.20 | ppm    |
| Turbidity (in NTU)                          | Plant Effluent | 0.02   | 0.13    | 0.03   | NTU    |
| Dissolved Oxygen                            | Plant Effluent | 6.70   | 8.70    | 7.93   | ppm    |
| Aluminum                                    | Plant Effluent | 0.000  | 0.004   | 0.001  | ppm    |
| Phosphorus                                  | Plant Effluent | 0.040  | 0.190   | 0.099  | ppm    |
| UV254 (Organics)                            | Plant Effluent | 98.500 | 100.300 | 99.467 | %T     |

\*\*\*last collected in 2018 per EPA regulations

| MCL                                | AL | MCLG           | TYPICAL CONTAMINANT SOURCE  |
|------------------------------------|----|----------------|---|
| 4 ppm                              |    | 4 ppm          | Erosion of natural deposits   |
| Nitrate -10 ppm<br>Nitrite - 1 ppm |    | 10 ppm<br>1ppm | Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks; sewage; erosion of natural deposits |
| 4 ppm                              |    | 4 ppm          | Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth                     |
| 5 pCi/L                            |    | 0 pCi/L        | Erosion of natural deposits   |
| 15 pCi/L                           |    | 0 pCi/L        | Erosion of natural deposits   |
| 0.03 mg/L                          |    | 0 pCi/L        | Erosion of natural deposits   |

|          |  |       |  |
|----------|--|-------|--|
| NA       |  |       |  |
| 250      |  |       |  |
| 4 (MRDL) |  | 4 ppm |  |
| NA       |  |       |  |
| NA       |  |       |  |
| NA       |  |       |  |
| NA       |  |       |  |
| 6.5-9.3  |  |       |  |
| 20       |  |       |  |
| 500      |  |       |  |
| 0.3      |  |       |  |
| 500      |  |       |  |
| <1.0     |  |       |  |
| NA       |  |       |  |
| 0.20     |  |       |  |
| NA       |  |       |  |





## Water and Your Health

All 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. Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the public in general. 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, and infants can be particularly at risk of infections from contaminants. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers.

More information about contaminants and potential health effects, or to receive a copy of the EPA and the US Center for Disease Control guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and microbiological contaminants, can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 800-426-4791.

### For More Information

Jac Miller, Assistant Superintendent  
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406-994-0501 • jacmiller@bozeman.net  
[www.bozeman.net](http://www.bozeman.net)

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