

Market Saturday



JOLENE GUZMAN/Itemizer-Observer

Erin Purdie, left, and Tracy Blankenship taste honey at the Coffman Farms booth at the Riverview Farmers Market on Saturday. Warm temperatures brought out customers — and more than a few children who wanted to cool off at the fountain.



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Playing on or near the water was a popular way to pass the time during Saturday's warm temperatures. State official while the weather is warm, the water is cold.

Fireworks: Be considerate of pets, neighbors when using fireworks

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If you are planning to visit Oregon parks, beaches or public forestland over the holiday, it may be best to leave the fireworks at home, as their use is prohibited at those locations.

Oregon law bans possession, use, or sale of fireworks that fly, explode, or travel more than six feet on the ground or 12 inches

into the air. Fireworks commonly called bottle rockets, Roman candles, and firecrackers are illegal in Oregon.

Your best bet in making sure you are following the law is to purchase fireworks at permitted retailers and stands in Oregon.

If you don't, officials may seize illegal fireworks and fine offenders up to \$500 per

violation. You also could be responsible for damages.

"All Oregonians share the responsibility to use only legal fireworks and use them carefully," said Chief Deputy State Fire Marshal Mariana Ruiz-Temple. "And we encourage you to be aware and considerate of neighbors and their pets, before deciding on when and where you choose to light fireworks."

Be safe in the water this summer with these tips

Itemizer-Observer staff report

POLK COUNTY — Pleasant temperatures and a three-day holiday weekend approaching will have plenty of people thinking about spending time on the water this July Fourth.

Oregon State Marine Board (OSMB) and other state agencies are reminding people to stay safe and sober on the water.

OSMB's safe boating tips include:

- Know the rules of the waterway by taking a "safe boating course" or online paddling course.
- Stay sober or have a designated "driver." Just like on land, alcohol or other intoxicants affect judgement, vision, balance and coordination, increasing the chances of an accident. Keep in mind boating under the influence of intoxicants is a crime, subject to loss of boating privileges and a \$6,250 fine.
- Prepare your boat's engine before heading out. Blended fuels require fuel stabilizers for boat engines.
- Be aware of carbon monoxide. Passengers can be exposed to carbon monoxide when hanging on to the back of the boat or swimming platform to body surf or "teak surf." Teak surfing is illegal in Oregon and can lead to carbon monoxide poisoning which could lead to drowning.
- Be courteous on the water.
- Be cautious of waterway obstructions like snags and fallen trees.
- Let friends or family know of your "float

plan" — where you are going and when you plan to return.

• Last, but certainly not least, wear a life jacket even if you consider yourself a strong swimmer. River currents, unseem obstructions and unexpectedly cold water temperatures can lead to accidents. A life jacket is the best defense, according to OSMB.

Tyree Wilde, the warning coordination meteorologist for the National Weather Service in Portland, said water temperatures in local rivers are running about 57 degrees to 65 degrees. Those headed to the beach should keep in mind the ocean is much colder, in the low- to mid-50s.

While hypothermia could take an hour or more to set in based on water temperature, people can run into trouble much sooner.

If the water is cold enough, it can cause an involuntary gasp reflex on contact, causing a swimmer to inhale water. Within 10 minutes what is called "cold water paralysis" can set in, Wilde said. The condition is a symptom of the body trying to preserve its core temperature and pushing blood to vital organs. Muscles in arms and legs lose coordination and being cramping, making it difficult to swim.

"People must exercise caution when visiting area rivers and the ocean this Fourth of July holiday," Wilde said. "Hot weather and cold water just doesn't mix. The best advice is to wear a life jacket and be aware of the risk."

2015 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report (January 1 – December 31, 2015) Luckiamute Domestic Water Cooperative

We're pleased to provide you with this year's Annual Water Quality Report. This report complies with state and federal law, which requires water utilities to provide water quality information to customers every year. We want to keep you informed about the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water.

WE ARE PLEASED TO REPORT THAT LDWC WATER MEETS OR EXCEEDS ALL FEDERAL AND STATE QUALITY AND SAFETY REQUIREMENTS FOR DRINKING.

OUR SOURCE: The System is supplied by four ground water wells located in the American Bottom area between Buena Vista and Independence. Each well casing is sealed to protect from surface water contamination and is located on Cooperative-owned property. The Cooperative is currently on a list to begin a Wellhead Protection Plan to assist us in controlling contamination in and around our source of supply. We encourage our customers to help in our protection of the source by properly disposing of waste products such as unused pesticides, solvents and petroleum-based products. We also have the option of supplying the western portion of the system with water purchased from the city of Falls City water system.

TREATING THE WATER: Effective February 2011, the Cooperative now treats the entire system with sodium Hypochlorite (chlorine) and Sodium Hydroxide to maintain the pH and reduce corrosiveness of the water on homeowner's piping.

PIPES, PUMPS AND RESERVOIRS: In addition to the four well pumps there are eight booster pumps and fourteen storage reservoirs in the system providing water to the elevated areas and the far reaches of the system. Within the 165 square mile service area, 1,061 service connections are served through more than 119 miles of main distribution water line.

WATER QUALITY STANDARDS: The federal Safe Drinking Water Act of 1972, 1986 and 1996 amendments were developed to ensure the quality and safety of the nation's drinking water. The federal government, through the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), has the authority to regulate public water systems to protect public health. The EPA sets national drinking water standards and establishes drinking water testing methods. The Department of Human Services, Drinking Water Program (DHS-DWP) administers the drinking water regulations for EPA in our state. Luckiamute Domestic Water Cooperative routinely monitors for contaminants in your drinking water as required. A contaminant is defined as any substance in water; however, not all contaminants are harmful. Some contaminants are of concern only if they are detected above certain levels. In order to be in compliance with EPA regulations, Luckiamute Domestic Water Cooperative drinking water must have contaminant levels at or below all drinking water quality standards.

This report shows the results and what it means for our monitoring period of January 1st to December 31st, 2015. If you have any questions about this report or your water utility, please contact Adam Morales, Superintendent, at 503-838-2075. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled meetings. They are held on the second Monday of each month beginning at 7:00 p.m. at the Cooperative office, at 8585 Suver Rd., Monmouth, Oregon.

As water travels over the land and underground, it can pick up substances or contaminants such as microbes, inorganic and organic chemicals, and radioactive substances. All drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. It's important to remember that the presence of these contaminants does not necessarily pose a health risk.

To help you better understand testing terms we've provided the following definitions:

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 dollars.

Parts per billion (ppb) or Micrograms per liter – one part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000 dollars.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal – The "Goal" (MCLG) is 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.

Action Level (AL) – the concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

Maximum Contaminant Level – The "Maximum Allowed" (MCL) is the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

Million Fibers per Liter – (MF/L) The measure for Asbestos sampling.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL) – 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.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG) – The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

TEST RESULTS

Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Unit Measurement	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Microbiological Contaminants					
1. Total Coliform Bacteria	N	ND	mg/L	Presence of coliform bacteria in less than 1% of monthly samples	Naturally present in the environment
Inorganic Contaminants					
2. Nitrate (as Nitrogen)	N	EP-A 2.7 EP-B—6.0	mg/L mg/L	10 10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage, erosion of natural deposits
Disinfection By-product Monitoring					
3. Trihalomethanes Haloacetic Acids	N N	.0120 .0230	mg/l mg/l	0.08 0.06	Trihalomethanes and Haloacetic Acids are by-products of treating the water with Chlorine

In 2015 there were 36 samples taken – with 3 samples taken each month. We did **not** have a positive coliform sample for all of 2015.

Microbiological Contaminants:

(1) Total Coliform. Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially-harmful, bacteria may be present.

Inorganic Contaminants:

(2) Nitrate: Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 10 ppm is a health risk for infants of less than six months of age. Nitrate levels may rise quickly for short periods of time because of rainfall or agricultural activity. If you are caring for an infant you should ask advice from your health care provider. Infants below the age of six months who drink water containing nitrate in excess of the MCL could become seriously ill and, if untreated, may die. Symptoms include shortness of breath and blue-baby syndrome. LDWC collected five Nitrate samples in 2015 and the highest Nitrate sample obtained was 6.0. at source EP-B. Luckiamute Domestic Water Cooperative is on yearly testing for Nitrates at source EP-A and quarterly monitoring at source EP-B.

Disinfection By-product Monitoring

(3) Trihalomethanes and Haloacetic Acids: Trihalomethanes and Haloacetic Acids are by-products of treating the water with Chlorine.

Lead and Copper Test Results						
Substance	Units	Action Level (AL)	90th Percentile	Homes Exceeding Action Level	Complies	Source of Contaminate
Copper	Ppm	1.3500 mg/l	1.317 mg/l	1	Yes	Corrosion of household plumbing
Lead	Ppb	.0153 mg/l	.0030 mg/l	0	Yes	Corrosion of household plumbing

Copper - Copper is an essential nutrient, but some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over a relatively short amount of time could experience gastrointestinal distress. Some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over many years could suffer liver or kidney damage. People with Wilson's disease should consult their personal doctor.

Lead - If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily for materials and components associated with service line and home plumbing. Luckiamute Domestic Water Cooperative 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. The 90th percentile is the highest result found in 90% of the samples when they are listed in order from the lowest to the highest results. EPA requires testing for lead and copper at customers' taps most likely to contain these substances based on when the house was built. The EPA determined that if the sample results exceeded the Action Level (AL), the Cooperative must take action in reducing the risk of leaching of lead and/or copper. As you can see by the table above, your water was well below the action level for lead and copper on our last round of testing in 2015. Our next testing is scheduled for 2016.

As you can see by the information provided, we had no violations in our system. In addition, our engineer developed a Corrosion Control Program which we began implementing in February 2011 when we switched over to chlorination of the entire system.

We're proud that your drinking water meets or exceeds all Federal and State requirements. We have learned through our monitoring and testing that some contaminants have been detected. The EPA has determined that your water IS SAFE at these levels.

All sources of drinking water are subject to potential contamination by substances that are naturally occurring or man-made. These substances can be microbes, inorganic or organic chemicals and radioactive substances. 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 the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

MCL's 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 the described health effect.

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, 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 microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791). Please call our office if you have questions.

We at Luckiamute Domestic Water Cooperative are dedicated to providing top quality water to every tap. We ask that all our customers help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community, our way of life and our children's future.