

# **2019 Annual Drinking Water Report**

River Rock County Water & Sewer District

265 North River Rock • Belgrade, MT 59714 • Tel. 406.581.7644

River Rock Subdivision

PWSID# MT0004082

We are very pleased to provide you with this year's Annual Quality Water Report. We want to keep you informed about the excellent water and services we have delivered to you over the past year. Our goal is and always has been, to provide to you a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. This report shows our water quality and what it means.

River Rock Subdivision routinely monitors for constituents in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. The table on the next page shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1st to December 31st, 2017. Our sampling frequency complies with EPA and State drinking water regulations. Our system had **no** violations in our monitoring for the period of **January 1<sup>st</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2019.**

In the table below, you will find many terms and abbreviations that may not be familiar to you. To help you better understand these terms we've provided the following definitions and information:

- *Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) - The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water.*
- *CFU/100mL – In microbiology, colony-forming unit (CFU) is a measure of viable bacterial numbers. Unlike direct microscopic counts where all bacteria, dead and living, are counted, CFU measures only viable bacteria.*
- *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 - one part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000.*

All sources of drinking water are subject to potential contamination by constituents that are naturally occurring or man-made. 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 constituents, 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.

The Total Coliform Rule requires water systems to meet a stricter limit for coliform bacteria. Coliform bacteria presence in water can be an indication of disease-causing bacteria. When coliform bacteria are found, special follow-up tests are done to determine if harmful bacteria are present in the water supply. If this limit is exceeded, the water supplier must notify the public. To comply with the stricter regulation, we have selected proper sampling sites and have complied with repeat monitoring.

Water Source: Groundwater						
Test Results						
Contaminant	Violation (Y/N)	Sample Date	Highest Level Detected	Unit Measurement	MCL	Possible Source of Contamination
<b>Microbiological Contaminants</b>						
Total Coliform Bacteria <sup>1</sup>	N	Monthly	0	CFU/100mL	Presence of coliform bacteria in 5% of monthly samples	Naturally present in the environment, sewage leaks, runoff from livestock areas
Fecal ( <i>E. coli</i> )	N	Monthly	0	CFU/100mL		
<b>Inorganic Contaminants</b>						
Nitrate +Nitrite (as Nitrogen)	N	11/25/19	2.07	ppm	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
<b>Lead and Copper</b>						
Lead <sup>2</sup>	N	9/26/18	3.1	ppb	Allowed amount 15 ppb	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits
Copper	N	9/26/18	0.228	ppm	Allowed amount 1.3 ppm	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives

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 (1-800-426-4791).

<sup>1</sup> 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. Coliforms were not found in our drinking water.

<sup>2</sup> Lead & Copper – 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. River Rock County Water and Sewer District 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>.