

DEFINITIONS / ABBREVIATIONS

In the following table you will find many terms and abbreviations you might not be familiar with so to help you better understand these 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.
- * **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.
- * **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 (MCL)** – the "Maximum Allowed" 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.
- * **Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG)** – 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.
- * **N/A** - not applicable.
- * **pCi/L** - picocuries per liter (a measure of radiation).

MCLs 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.

CONTAMINANTS / SOURCES

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 (800-426-4791).

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 microbiological 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.

In order to ensure the 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. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

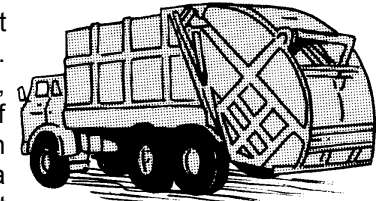
**TOWN OF GARFIELD
PO BOX 218
GARFIELD WA 99130-0218**

**POSTAL PATRON
GARFIELD WA 99130**

TOWN OF GARFIELD SPRING 2011 NEWSLETTER

GARBAGE SERVICE UPGRADE

After much consideration of both employee safety and operating efficiency, and in an effort to lower our ever increasing L&I expense, the town council has chosen to upgrade from a manual only pick-up system for garbage, to a semi-automatic system. As part of that retrofit and upgrade, 65 gallon roller carts will now be the standard. The town will be issuing each residence and business an initial roller cart, unless you currently use a dumpster. These carts will remain the property of the town. A one-time \$15 fee will be charged for the initial carts, with payment spread out over 3 months. Additional carts can requested by a customer for an at-cost deposit, paid in advance. The current at-cost estimate is \$53.35. If you no longer need the additional cart or are moving, the roller cart at-cost deposit you paid at the time will be refunded to you, if the roller cart has not been damaged. Damaged carts will be replaced at-cost to the customer, paid in advance.



As we take possession of the new cans we will be placing them where they need to be for weekly garbage pick up. Please leave have them in that location or return them to that location for scheduled weekly pick-up.

Please remember private garbage cans will no longer be used on the route, so please do not leave them out for garbage pick-up once you receive the new roller cart. After you receive your new roller cart, if you would like your old cans thrown away, leave them out with a note to be thrown away. If you have extra garbage beyond what fits in the new 65 gallon roller carts, you will need to get an additional roller cart from the town. The rate to dump for the 2nd roller cart, when used, will be \$6.00 a week. Garbage and/or bags outside of the cart will not be dumped. If you would like to rent an extra roller cart on a short term basis, you can do so for a fee of \$6.00 each time it's dumped. Remember, for larger quantities, we offer this same rental service with a dumpster, except the cost for the dumpster is \$37 each time dumped.

If you currently have a dumpster and would like to switch to a roller cart, please call Town Hall and indicate your preference.

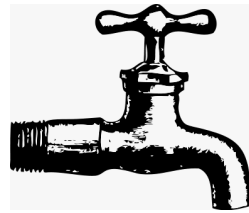
We are very pleased to offer this improved service and appreciate your patience and understand as we implement this upgraded service. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us at (509) 635-1604 or email garfield-town@completebbs.com.

(Clip art from Wisconsin DNR)

Spring Clean-Up Tuesday, April 12th



Please keep metal, wood, TVs and computers separate from other items.
No compostable items. Please take to the compost facility. Thanks!
Any questions, please call 635-1604
or email garfield-town@completebbs.com



TOWN OF GARFIELD

2010 ANNUAL DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT

We're very pleased to provide you with this year's Annual Water Quality Report. We want to keep you informed about the excellent water and services we have provided to you over the past year. Our goal is, and always has been, to provide you a safe and dependable supply of drinking water.

This report is a snapshot of the quality of the water that we provided last year. Included are details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and state standards.

Our water sources are from the two municipal wells sunk about 300 feet into an underground source of water called The Grande Rhonde Aquifer. The town owns the land around these wells and restricts any activity that could contaminate them. After the water comes out of the wells, we add disinfectant to protect you against microbial contaminants.

We have a source water protection plan available from our office that provides more information such as sources of contamination.

We are pleased to report that our drinking water is safe and meets federal and state requirements.

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water quality, please contact Perry Brown at 635-1604 or email us at garfield-town@completebbs.com. We want our customers to be informed about their water quality. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled council meetings. They are held the second and fourth Wednesday of each month at 7:00 PM in Town Hall.

WATER QUALITY DATA

The Town of Garfield routinely monitors for constituents in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. This table shows the results of our monitoring drinking water contaminants for the period January 1, 2010 to December 31, 2010. The state requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because of the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year.

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 stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining or farming.
- Pesticides & herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture & residential uses.
- Radioactive contaminants, which are naturally occurring.
- Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile chemicals, which are by-products of industrial and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff and septic systems.

We, the Town of Garfield Water System, I.D. 27200R, located in Whitman County are required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not your drinking water meets health standards. During August of 2008 we tested for Total Trihalomethanes and Haloacetic Acids with no detectible contaminants. During November of 2010 we did our routine monthly water sampling but the test results were not valid because of the Thanksgiving Holiday Schedule at the lab. Our sample was not received at the lab within the allowable timeframe for a sample and therefore we cannot be sure of the quality of the drinking water during that time. However daily chlorine levels were monitored and found to be acceptable. We have had no unacceptable water sample test results either before or after the November 2010 sampling period. For more information, contact Perry Brown at 635-1604 or garfield-town@completebbs.com.

TEST RESULTS	AL	MCLG	Town Results	# of sites above AL	Sample Date Number Taken	Typical Source of Contaminant
<u>Inorganic Contaminants</u>						
Iron (mg/L) - Secondary Maximum Contaminant (Aesthetic Qualities)	.3	MCL2: .3	.558	One	12/10 1	
Nitrate-N (ppm)	10	10	ND	None	8/10 & 12/10 2	Fertilizer run off, leaching septic tanks, natural deposit erosion
Lead (ppm) - Source	.015	0	ND	None	12/10 1	Household plumbing system corrosion
Lead (ppm) - Distribution System	.015	0	.006	One	7/08 10	
Copper (ppm) - Source	1.3	1.3	ND	None	12/10 1	Household plumbing system corrosion & natural deposit erosion
Copper (ppm) - Distribution System	1.3	1.3	.0526	None	7/08 10	
<u>Synthetic Organic Contaminants</u>						
Total HAA(5) (Haloacetic Acids) (ppb)		n/a	ND	None	8/08 1	Drinking water Disinfection by-product
Total Trihalomethane (ppb)		n/a	ND	None	8/08 1	Drinking water Disinfection by-product
<u>Volatile Organic Contaminants</u>						
<u>Radioactive Contaminants</u>						
Gross Alpha (pCi/L)	15	15	1.03	None	12/09 2	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium 228 (pCi/L)	5	5	ND	None	12/09 2	Erosion of natural deposits

Outdoor Water Conservation Tips

- Sweep sidewalks and driveways rather than spraying them clean with water.
 - Check and fix leaky hoses and faucets. To find out just how much water is being wasted visit the [WaterWiser Drip Calculator](http://www.awwa.org/awwa/waterwiser/dripcalc.cfm) page. <http://www.awwa.org/awwa/waterwiser/dripcalc.cfm>
 - Don't run the hose when washing the car. Instead try using a bucket of soapy water. Use the hose only to rinse.
 - Cover pools and hot tubs when not in use to prevent evaporation.
 - Drain outside spigots to prevent freezing in the winter.
- For more information on outdoor irrigation please visit www.h2ouse.org.

Indoor Water Conservation Tips

- Know where the water shutoff valves are in case an accident happens. Whether leaking pipes or the water heater it helps to know where the shutoff valves are located.
- Insulate water pipes. By insulating pipes you will reduce the amount of water and time it takes for the hot water to reach the faucet.
- Keep drinking water in the refrigerator. This will reduce the amount of water generally wasted when waiting for the cold water to reach the faucet. It will also improve the taste by allowing chlorine and sulfur smelling molecules to evaporate.
- Check and fix leaky faucets. A dripping faucet can waste 15 gals of water per day. Faucets are easy to fix. Visit www.h2ouse.org.