The City of Homer routinely monitors your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. The table below shows the results of our monitoring from January 1st to December 31st, 2019, unless otherwise noted. The State requires monitoring for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year.

2019 Water Quality Test Results

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contaminant</th>
<th>Sample Date</th>
<th>Violation Yes/No</th>
<th>Level Detected</th>
<th>Unit of Measure</th>
<th>MCL</th>
<th>MCLG</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Trihalomethanes</td>
<td>2019</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>63.8 LRAA BW</td>
<td>ug/L</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>66.5 LRAA Spilt</td>
<td>Range: 33-130</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Halocarbons</td>
<td>2019</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>37.23 LRAA BW</td>
<td>ug/L</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>48.83 LRAA Spilt</td>
<td>Range: 17.6-94</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Radioactive Contaminants**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contaminant</th>
<th>Sample Date</th>
<th>Violation Yes/No</th>
<th>Level Detected</th>
<th>Unit of Measure</th>
<th>MCL</th>
<th>MCLG</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gross Beta</td>
<td>2013</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>2.4</td>
<td>pCi/L</td>
<td>50</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Radium 226/228</td>
<td>2013</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>0.043</td>
<td>mg/L</td>
<td>50</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gross Alpha</td>
<td>2013</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>0.85</td>
<td>mg/L</td>
<td>15</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Microbiological Contaminants**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contaminant</th>
<th>Sample Date</th>
<th>Violation Yes/No</th>
<th>Level Detected</th>
<th>Unit of Measure</th>
<th>MCL</th>
<th>MCLG</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Turbidity</td>
<td>4/8/19</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>0.13</td>
<td>NTU</td>
<td>0.3</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Inorganic Contaminants**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contaminant</th>
<th>Sample Date</th>
<th>Violation Yes/No</th>
<th>Level Detected</th>
<th>Unit of Measure</th>
<th>MCL</th>
<th>MCLG</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Barium</td>
<td>2011</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>26.5</td>
<td>ug/L</td>
<td>2000</td>
<td>2000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chromium</td>
<td>2011</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>0.453</td>
<td>ug/L</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Thallium</td>
<td>2011</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>0.0839</td>
<td>ug/L</td>
<td>50</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nitrate</td>
<td>2019</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>0.349</td>
<td>mg/L</td>
<td>10</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arsenic</td>
<td>2012</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>0.221</td>
<td>ug/L</td>
<td>10</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lead*</td>
<td>2017</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>0.0077</td>
<td>mg/L</td>
<td>0.15</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Copper*</td>
<td>2017</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>0.16</td>
<td>mg/L</td>
<td>1.3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Units of Measurement**

- Ppm or mg/L
- pCi/L
- NTU

**Definitions**

- **MCL** Maximum Contaminant Level: the highest level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected health risk. MCLs allow for a margin of safety.
- **MCLG** Maximum Contaminant Level Goal: the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected health risk. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

**We do our part to ensure that the water delivered to your home is safe to drink.**

Do any of these situations sound familiar to you?

- When cleaning up after a day of fishing, you leave the hose submerged in the cooler with fish slurry while you let it soak in a disinfected tub?
- You put your garden hose in a fertilizer or pesticide sprayer when you are filling it up for use?
- In all of these examples, a sudden drop in water supply pressure (due to a water main break, high demand from firefighting, or a power outage to a pump) could draw contaminants—chemicals, fertilizer, water and bacteria—back into your pipes and into the public water system. This is called backflow.

Any of these contaminants can cause serious health problems if ingested.

Fortunately, keeping your water safe from these contaminants (and others like them) is easy! Take the following precautions to protect your drinking water:

- **NEVER** Submerge a garden hose in a bucket, sink, tub or anything else. Instead… hold the hose above whatever you are filling.
- **ALWAYS** Keep an air gap between the hose end and the container is the safest and the simplest way of preventing backflow.
- **NEVER** Attach a chemical sprayer to your hose without a backflow-prevention device. The chemicals you use on your lawn or for cleaning are toxic and can be fatal if ingested.
- **ALWAYS** Install an inexpensive backflow-prevention device called a Vacuum Breaker for all threaded faucets around your home (see photo left). They are available at hardware stores and take only a couple minutes to install, be sure to test it afterwards!

**Special Information for Vulnerable Populations**

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as those with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons with organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections.

These people should seek advice from their health care providers. Guidelines on appropriate means to lessen health risk by reducing exposure to contaminants in drinking water are available by calling the EPA/CDC Safe Drinking Water Hotline: 800-426-4791.
We are committed to providing you with a clean and dependable supply of drinking water. We are proud to report that water delivered to our customers meets or exceeds all federal and state standards.

Think Before You Flush!

Three Ps Only!

Only the three Ps belong in the toilet: pee, poop, and toilet paper. Period. Anything else — including wipes — is bad news for the pipes and pumps that carry water and waste from your homes to Wastewater Treatment Facility, where professional operators work hard to clean your used water.

Even products marked “flushable” are not. When in doubt, don’t flush it. Use the trash can.

As coronavirus continues to interrupt our daily lives, it’s up to all of us to help each other out. This includes cooperation between utility workers and the public.

Our water and wastewater operators always work hard to protect our public health and the environment by keeping our systems running smoothly. Let’s help them out by following the “Three P’s Only” when it comes to what goes down the toilet.

Thank you,

What is Household Hazardous Waste?

EPA considers some leftover household products that can catch fire, react, or explode under certain circumstances, or that are corrosive or toxic as household hazardous waste. Products, such as paints, cleaners, oils, batteries, and pesticides can contain hazardous ingredients and require special care when you dispose of them. Check EPA’s web site for more info on HHW.

[https://www.epa.gov/hw/household-hazardous-waste-hhw](https://www.epa.gov/hw/household-hazardous-waste-hhw)

Some Examples of HHW:

Automotive:

- Auto batteries, Antifreeze, Oils/Filter, Tires

Lawn and Garden:

- Fertilizers, Lighter Fluid, Pesticides,
- Aerosol cans, Batteries (non-alkaline), Cleaners, Fluorescent bulbs, Furniture polish, Needles/syringes/lancets, Nail polish
- Driveway sealer, Paint, Paint remover/stripper/thinner, Solvents

Household Items:

- Medications:
  - prescription, over-the-counter or illegal, expired, unused, or unwanted drugs— including prescription drugs for pain, like opioids, ointments, vitamins, samples, even medications for pets.

Please dispose of HHW properly, Properly disposing of waste is not just a personal responsibility; some kinds of waste, usually hazardous, must be properly disposed of according to law set forth by the Environmental Protection Agency. Toxic waste can seep into the ground and contaminate water supplies.

Please do not dispose of HHW in the City Sewer System by flushing down your toilet or sink.

KPB Solid Waste Dept. provide a waste disposal program,

Check out their site at:

[http://www.kpb.us/swd-waste/about-soliddwaste](http://www.kpb.us/swd-waste/about-soliddwaste)

and the Hazardous Waste Program Schedule:


Irresponsible flushing impacts our homes, wastewater infrastructure and wallets.