

A vertical graphic on the left side of the page shows a dynamic splash of water. It features a large, elongated water droplet at the top, followed by a smaller one, and then a complex, multi-lobed splash at the bottom. The water is rendered in various shades of blue, with highlights and shadows that give it a three-dimensional appearance. The background of the splash is a light blue gradient.

**McDermitt Water & Sewer District  
2020 Annual Consumer Confidence Report**

We are pleased to present to you this year's Annual Water Quality Report. This report is designed to inform you about the quality water and services we deliver to you every day. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand 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. Our water source is supplied by two wells located off Pioneer Road in the vicinity of the Community Hall.

This report shows our water quality and what it means.

#### CONTACT INFORMATION:

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact Karen Bannister with Humboldt County at 775-623-6300. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility.

McDermitt Water & Sewer District routinely monitors for constituents in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. This table shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1st to December 31st, 2020. As water travels over the land or 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 constituents. It's important to remember that the presence of these constituents does not necessarily pose a health risk.

#### DEFINITIONS:

In this table you will find many terms and abbreviations you might not be familiar with. 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.

Parts per trillion (ppt) or Nanograms per liter (nanograms/l) - one part per trillion corresponds to one minute in 2,000,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000,000.

Parts per quadrillion (ppq) or Picograms per liter (picograms/l) - one part per quadrillion corresponds to one minute in 2,000,000,000 years or one penny in \$10,000,000,000,000.

Picocuries per liter (pCi/L) - picocuries per liter is a measure of the radioactivity in water.

Millirems per year (mrem/yr) - measure of radiation absorbed by the body.

Million Fibers per Liter (MFL) - million fibers per liter is a measure of the presence of asbestos fibers that are longer than 10 micrometers.

Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU) - nephelometric turbidity unit is a measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.

Variations & Exemptions (V&E) - State or EPA permission not to meet an MCL or a treatment technique under certain conditions. (Only systems with a variance or exemption are REQUIRED to include this definition. In addition, it is REQUIRED to provide an explanation of the reasons for the variance or exemption, date issued, status or remediation.)

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

Treatment Technique (TT) - (mandatory language) A treatment technique is a required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) - (mandatory language) 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.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG) - (mandatory language) 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.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL) - (mandatory language) 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) - (mandatory language) 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.

<b>Contaminants</b>							
Contaminant	Level Detected	Range of Detection	Unit of Measure	MCL	MCLG	Violation	Likely Source
<b>Inorganic Chemicals</b>							
Arsenic Collection Dates: 01/9/20-12/10/20	15	12-15	ppb	10		Y	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
Barium Collection Dates: 04/19/18	0.11	0.11	mg/L	2	2	N	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Copper Collection Dates: 07/25/18-09/28/18	0.042	0.003-0.069	mg/L	1.3	1.3	N	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits and leaching from wood preservatives.
Fluoride Collection Dates: 04/19/18	0.25	0.25	mg/L	2	4	N	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Lead Collection Dates: 07/25/18-09/28/18	4	ND-4	ppb	15	15	N	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits and leaching from wood preservatives.
Nickel Collection Dates: 04/19/18	0.004	0.004	Mg/L	0.1	0.1	N	Erosion of natural deposits.
Nitrate Collection Dates: 05/07/20	2.3	1.4-2.3	mg/L	10	10	N	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
<b>Radionuclides</b>							
Alpha Particles Collection Dates: 07/13/16	0.938	0.938	pCi/L	15		N	Decay of natural and man-made deposits
Beta Particles and Photon Emitters Collection Dates: 07/13/16	5.56	5.56	pCi/L	50		N	Decay of natural and man-made deposits.
Radium 226 Collection Dates: 07/13/16	0.0718	0.0718	pCi/L	5		N	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium 228 Collection Dates: 07/13/16	0.633	0.633	pCi/L	5		N	Erosion of natural deposits
<b>Secondary Contaminants</b>							
Aluminum Collection Date: 04/19/18-07/12/18	0.38	ND-0.38	mg/L	0.2		N	Erosion of natural deposits; residual from surface water treatment processes
Chloride Collection Date: 04/19/18	100	100	mg/L	400		N	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence
Color Collection Date: 04/19/18	5	5	cu	15		N	Naturally-occurring organic materials
Iron Collection Date: 04/19/18	0.49	0.49	mg/L	0.6		N	Leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
Magnesium Collection Date: 04/19/18	14	14	mg/L	150		N	
Manganese Collection Date: 04/19/18	0.015	0.015	mg/L	0.1		N	Leaching from natural deposits
pH Collection Date: 04/19/18	8.24	8.24	pH	8.5		N	
Sodium Collection Dates: 04/19/18	35	35	mg/L	200	20	N	Erosion of natural deposits
Sulfate Collection Date: 04/19/18	48	48	mg/L	500		N	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
TDS Collection Date: 04/19/18	470	470	mg/L	1000		N	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits

Zinc	0.02	0.02	mg/l	5	5	N	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
Collection Date:	04/19/18						

#### HEALTH EFFECTS:

Some people who drink water containing arsenic in excess of the MCL over many years could experience skin damage or problems with their circulatory system, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

#### EXPLANATIONS:

As stated in the quarterly Public Notifications, the newer well placed into service has continued to see rising arsenic levels which exceed the EPA's MCL.

McDermitt Water System has contracted Farr West Engineering who has completed construction on an arsenic treatment plant. This will remove arsenic to provide safe drinking water with arsenic levels below the MCL. We are awaiting final commissioning on the project.

McDermitt Water System has contracted with Shadow Mountain to supply water for drinking and cooking to customers who request it until the treatment system is operating. Requests for bottled water delivery can be made directly to Karen Bannister of Humboldt County by calling 775-623-6300, but should also be sent to the Bureau of Safe Drinking Water for tracking. Please send request for bottled water delivery to the attention Mr. David Shaw, BSDW, 901 South Stewart Street, Suite 4001 Carson City, NV 89701.

During the 2020 calendar year, McDermitt Water System was required to include an explanation of the violation(s) in the table below and the steps taken to resolve the violation(s) with this report.

Type	Category	Analyte	Compliance Period
MCL, AVERAGE	MCL	ARSENIC	1/1/2020-12/31/2020

We routinely monitor for the presence of drinking water contaminants. Samples taken between January 2020 and December 2020 show a Running Annual Average (RAA) of 13.6 parts per billion and that our system exceeded the standard or maximum contaminant level (MCL), for arsenic. The standard for arsenic is 10 parts per billion. Consecutive samples taken during the 4th Quarter on 10/15/2020, 11/5/2020 and 12/10/2020 were 13, 15, and 14 parts per billion, respectively.

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua de beber. Tradúzcalo ó hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

MCLs are set at very stringent levels. The MCLs are set such that out of every 10,000 or 1,000,000 people (depends upon how the MCL was developed) drinking 2 liters of water every day for a lifetime, only 1 of those people may experience the described health effect.

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.

The table below lists the contaminant we did not properly test for, how often we are supposed to sample (frequency) and how many samples we are supposed to take, how many samples we took, and when samples should have been taken.

Contaminant	Required Sampling Frequency	Number of Required Samples	Number of Valid Samples Taken	When Samples Should Have Been Taken
Chlorine	Monthly	1	0	May 01, 2020 – May 31, 2020

With the exception of this missing sample, routine sampling for Chlorine has occurred consistently and suggest levels are within recommended limits.

In January of 2020, we had three samples return positive for 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 found in more samples than allowed and this was a warning of potential problems. Corrective actions have been taken which included maintenance to valves and seals, chlorination of the storage tank, and the distribution system was flushed with good chlorine residual results at all flushing points.

In our continuing efforts to maintain a safe and dependable water supply it may be necessary to make improvements in your water system. The costs of these improvements may be reflected in the rate structure. Rate adjustments may be necessary in order to address these improvements. Thank you for allowing us to continue providing your family with clean, quality water this year.

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).

While your water meets the EPA's standard for Lead, *if present at elevated levels* this contaminant 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. Your Water System 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 drinking 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>.

The state has completed an assessment of our source water.

McDermitt water system was required to provide arsenic treatment by January 23, 2015 to be in compliance with the safe drinking water requirements. This project is not yet completed, therefore, the water system is not in compliance with all state and federal requirements. However, as stated above, McDermitt has contracted with Farr West Engineering and is working towards a resolution. The development of plans and specifications have been completed and submitted to the Bureau of Safe Drinking Water for review. Once reviewed and recommendations are incorporated, the project will be publicly advertised to solicit bids from contractors for construction of the facility improvements. This project has an estimated final completion date of October 2020.

The water system operates two wells to supply drinking water to the water users. One of the wells is an emergency well and is not included in this assessment. Routine safe drinking water monitoring has detected elevated levels of natural occurring arsenic. The aquifer is considered to have a high vulnerability for arsenic contamination. Due to an abandoned unplugged well up-gradient from two wells, the system is considered moderately vulnerable to VOC, IOC, SOC and microbiological contamination. Portions of the distribution system have been constructed using asbestos cement pipe (ACP). The water system is considered to have a moderate vulnerability for asbestos fibers in the area the ACP has been installed. We routinely monitor for Asbestos and none has been detected in the water supply.

Please call our office if you have questions. We at McDermitt Water & Sewer District work around the clock to provide 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.