

Annual Water Quality Report 2024

The Petersburg Water Utility is pleased to present to you this year’s Annual Water Quality Report. This report is designed to inform you about the quality of water and services we deliver to you every day. Our constant goal is to provide you with a dependable supply of high quality 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 comes from two surface water sources, Cabin Creek (primary) and City Creek (backup). As of September 29, 2009 the Borough has been using Cabin Creek as the primary water source. The Cabin Creek Watershed holds 215 million gallons of water and the City Creek Watershed holds 52 million gallons of water. We have a Watershed Management Program available at our office that provides more information such as potential sources of contamination. Source Water Assessments were performed by the State of Alaska on our two watersheds in 2003 and are also available at our office.

We are pleased to report that our drinking water is safe and meets both Federal and State requirements. We want our customers to be informed about their water utility, so if you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact Chris Cotta at 907-772-5422.

Monitoring Your Drinking Water

The Petersburg Water Utility routinely monitors for constituents in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. In 2024, thousands of separate tests were conducted on water samples taken throughout our treatment and distribution systems. The tables contained in this report show the results of our monitoring for the period January 1<sup>st</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024. 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. Drinking water, including bottled water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some constituents. The presence of these constituents does not necessarily pose 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 (800-426-4791).

Waivers

Petersburg received a waiver for the 2023-2025 sampling cycle for Synthetic Organic Chemicals (SOCs)

Customer Information

Some utility customers buy bottled water to avoid chlorinated water. Tap water can be de-chlorinated at home by filling a container (preferably glass) that is lightly covered and leaving it on the counter overnight before putting it in the refrigerator to cool for drinking.

PWU’s mission is to provide high quality water to our customers. It is a pleasure to serve you and to keep you informed about the quality of your drinking water. Comments and questions are always welcome; contact Mike Bell, Operations Supervisor, at 907-772-4760. Landlords, businesses and schools are encouraged to share this report with their tenants, employees and students who may not otherwise receive a report. Additional copies are available free of charge.

Vulnerability

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 micro-organisms, such as cryptosporidium and giardia, are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

Information Statement about Lead in Drinking Water

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. Petersburg Water Utility 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](http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead)

PWU’s Lead Service Line Inventory was completed in 2024. All lines were identified as Non-Lead. ADEC and PWU staff reviewed available historical service line information, as well as new information provided by customers and staff that showed there were not lead, galvanized requiring replacement (galvanized pipe that has been downstream of lead pipe) or unknown service lines. This information can viewed at <https://ak-lsli-adec.hub.arcgis.com>

Acronym/Abbreviation Definition

AL	Action Level—The concentration of a contaminant which if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
AVG	Average
PWU	Petersburg Water Utility
CDC	Center of Disease Control and Prevention
DEC	Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation
EPA	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
MCL	Maximum Contaminant Level– The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCL’s are set as close to the MCLG’s as feasible using the best available treatment technology.
MCLG	Maximum Contaminant Level Goal– The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLG’s allow for a margin of safety.
MRDL	Maximum Residual Disinfection Level
MRDLG	Maximum Residual Disinfection Level Goal
MRL	Method Reporting Limit
NTU	Nephelometric Turbidity Units
PPM	Parts per million or milligrams per liter
MGD	Million Gallons per Day
PPB	Parts per billion or micrograms per liter
Turbidity	Suspended material or cloudiness
TT	Treatment Technique– A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
pCi/L	Radioactivity Concentration Unit



Petersburg Borough

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Water Utility

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2024 Annual Treated Drinking Water Quality Report						
Analyte	System in Violation	Detected Level	MCL Goal	Units	MCL	Sources of Analyte
Inorganic						
Gross Alpha (2015)	NO	0.000	0	pCi/L	15	Radioactivity caused by Alpha particle emission
Radium 226 (2015)	NO	0.091	0	pCi/L	5	Natural occurring radioactive element
Radium 228 (2015)	NO	0.103	0	pCi/L	5	Natural occurring radioactive element
Barium (2010)	NO	5.99	2,000	Ppb	2,000	Erosion from natural deposits
Copper (2024)	NO	24	1300	Ppb	1300 (AL)	Corrosion of household plumbing systems. No sites above action level
Fluoride	NO	0.6—0.8 0.70Avg.	4	Ppm	4	Fluoride is added to the water to promote dental health. Erosion from natural deposits.
Selenium (2010)	NO	<MRL	50	Ppb	50	Erosion from natural deposits
Lead (2024)	NO	3.5	0	Ppb	15 (AL)	Corrosion of household plumbing systems. No sites above action level.
Nitrate/Nitrite	NO	<.028	10	Ppm	10	Surface run off containing vegetation or agricultural pollutants
Disinfection by-Products						
Chloroform	NO	62.0 max	N/A	Ppb	Not Regulated	Disinfection by-product
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)	NO	16.48-62.78 36.23 avg	N/A	Ppb	80	Disinfection by- products
Total Haloacetic Ac-ids	NO	13.00-32.00 20.53 avg	N/A	Ppb	60	Disinfection by-product
Total Organic Carbon	NO	70.3 - 78.7% removal  75.25% avg	35% to 45% removal (TT)	TT	35% to 45% removal (TT)	Naturally present in the environment. TOC provides a medium for the formation of disinfection by products.
Turbidity	NO	0.29 NTU (Highest) 100% of samples <MCL	N/A	NTU	95% of samples under 0.3(TT)	Soil run off. Turbidity has no health effects but can interfere with disinfection and provide a medium for microbial growth.
Disinfectants						
Chemical		PWU	MRDLG	Units	MRDL	Sources
Chlorine	NO	.40-.80 0.63 avg	4.0	Ppm	4.0	Water additive to control Microbes