The City’s Clarifier and Ultra Violet Light disinfection project was started in September, 2007 and was completed in April, 2008. This has ensured the uninterrupted supply of safe drinking water to the public.

We are pleased to present to you this year’s Annual Quality Water Report. In accordance with the Safe Drinking Water Act, 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 safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water, and want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources.

The City of Bandon uses water from two sources, Ferry Creek and Geiger Creek. During 2013 we treated 206 million gallons of water.

Water treatment is the process of cleaning the water. The City of Bandon’s Water Treatment Plant uses a four-step process to treat the water. In the first step alum (aluminum sulfate) is added to the untreated water to make particles like dirt, sediment and other substances in the water coagulate, or stick together. These particles clump together into larger particles called “floc.” In the second step, the water enters the settling tank, or sedimentation basin. The floc particles are heavier than water so they settle to the bottom of the tank. During the third step, the water flows through the sand and charcoal filters. In the final step, chlorine is added to the water to kill any germs and to keep it safe in the distribution system as it travels to your tap. With the new plant on line the City has installed a chlorine generator which produces our own chlorine on site and it is not classified as a hazardous material.

The City of Bandon routinely monitors for components in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. The following table in this report shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1 to December 31, 2013. All drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some components. It’s important to remember that the presence of these components does not necessarily pose a health risk.

In the table, you will find many terms and abbreviations you might not be familiar with. To help you better understand those terms we are providing the following definitions:

Non-Detects (ND) - laboratory analysis indicates that the component 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 one penny in $10,000,000,000,000.
Millirems per year (mrem/yr) - measure of radiation absorbed by the body.
Picocuries per liter (pCi/L) - picocuries per liter is a measure of the radioactivity in water.
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, will appear as just enough cloudiness to be noticeable to the average person.
Action Level - the concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
Maximum Contaminant Level - 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.
Nephelometric Turbidity Unit Goal - 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. MCL’s are set at stringent levels. To understand the possible health effects described for many regulated components, 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 City of Bandon tests its water for a total of 91 compounds. No contaminants were found, except insignificant amounts of a few items, as shown in the table below. As you can see, our system had no violations. We’re proud that your drinking water meets or exceeds all Federal and State requirements. We have learned through our monitoring and testing that some components have been detected. The EPA has determined that your water IS SAFE at these levels. 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 what 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). 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 (1-800-426-4791).

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