2017 Victoria Estates Consumer Confidence Report

Annual Water Quality Report for Victoria Estates' Public Water System (PWSID# AK2224167)

June 2018

Your Water Quality!

This Annual Water Quality Report is designed to provide details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to standards set by Alaska and US regulatory agencies. This report is a snapshot of 2017 (Jan. 1 to Dec. 31, 2017) water quality for Victoria Estates' Public Water System as required by the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). We are committed to providing all Victoria Estates' residents and property owners with a safe and dependable water supply year round and to providing you with information about your Public Water System.

Do I need to take special precautions?

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/Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Water Drinking Hotline (800-426-4791).

Where does Victoria Estates' water come from?

Victoria Estates' Public Water System gets its water from two groundwater wells located on Tract A of Victoria Estates subdivision. Water is pumped from our groundwater wells into a 5000 gallon atmospheric storage holding tank located inside VEHOA 's well-house and then pressure pumped out into the VEHOA water distribution system to each individual property within the subdivision.

Source Water Assessment and its availability for your review

Victoria Estates' Public Water System (PWSID# AK2224167) located in Mat-Su Borough is a Community Public Water System consisting of two active groundwater wells (Well #2 -WL002 and Well #3-WL003). The Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation's (ADEC) Source Water Assessment (completed in 2003) for these two Groundwater Wells shows the following:

* Aquifer Susceptibility is **HIGH**;
* Well-heads or Surface Intakes are LOW for potential contaminants;
* Overall vulnerability to potential contaminants for both Well #2 and Well #3 are:
    * LOW for Volatile Organic Chemicals, Synthetic Organic Chemicals, and other Organic Chemicals;
    * MEDIUM for Bacteria, Viruses, Nitrates, and Nitrites;
    * **HIGH** for Inorganic substances and Heavy Metals.

For further information regarding Victoria Estates' source water assessment contact Victoria Estates Homeowners' Association, or the Alaska Resources Library and Information Services (ARLIS) located at 3211 Providence Drive, Room 111, Anchorage, AK 99508; phone #907-269-4791, or 907-269-7549. You may also access the public source water executive summary data at the ADEC website: http://dec.alaska.gov/eh/dw/dwp/complete.aspx.

Why are there contaminants in my drinking water?

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 water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791). Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health.

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: microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, that 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 storm-water runoff, industrial, or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming; pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm-water runoff, and residential uses; organic Chemical Contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban storm-water runoff, and septic systems; and radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities. In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems.

Water Conservation Tips

Did you know that the average U.S. household uses approximately 400 gallons of water per day or 100 gallons per person per day? Luckily, there are many low-cost and no-cost ways to conserve water. Small changes can make a big difference - try one today and soon it will become second nature.

- Take short showers - a 5 minute shower uses 4 to 5 gallons of water compared to up to 50 gallons for a bath.
- Shut off water while brushing your teeth, washing your hair and shaving and save up to 500 gallons a month.
- Use a water-efficient showerhead. They're inexpensive, easy to install, and can save you up to 750 gallons a month.
- Run your clothes washer and dishwasher only when they are full. You can save up to 1,000 gallons a month.
- Fix leaky toilets and faucets. Faucet washers are inexpensive and take only a few minutes to replace. To check your toilet for a leak, place a few drops of food coloring in the tank and wait. If it seeps into the toilet bowl without flushing, you have a leak. Fixing it or replacing it with a new, more efficient model can save up to 1,000 gallons a month.
- Adjust sprinklers so only your lawn is watered. Apply water only as fast as the soil can absorb it and during the cooler parts of the day to reduce evaporation.
- Water plants only when necessary.
- Teach your kids about water conservation to ensure a future generation that will understand how to use water wisely.
- Visit www.epa.gov/watersense for more information.

Cross-Connection Control

A cross-connection is an unprotected or improper connection to a public water distribution system that may cause contamination or pollution to enter the system. All PWSs are responsible for enforcing cross-connection control regulations and insuring that no contaminants can, under any flow conditions, enter the distribution systems. Cross-connections may exist with: underground lawn sprinkler systems, boilers/ radiant heaters (water heaters not included), pools or hot tubs, or decorative ponds, or water hoses just to name a few items that could cause cross-connection contaminations. Check all of your water devices to make sure they are all connected properly and that all have backflow regulators to avoid contamination to our water system. Disconnect water hoses or any other water device from your water source when not in use.

Source Water Protection Tips

Protection of drinking water is everyone's responsibility. You can help protect your drinking water source by:

- Keeping your personally owned private septic system properly maintained to reduce leaching to VEHOA's water source. Do not flush unused medications.
- Picking up your pet's litter/waste after your pets. Dispose of pet waste properly.
- Eliminating excess use of lawn and garden fertilizers and pesticides - they contain hazardous chemicals that can reach your drinking water source.
- Disposing of chemicals properly - take unused medications to take-back locations - take used motor oil to a waste disposal center.
- Volunteering to join the community efforts to stop Alaska Department of Transportation (DOT) from building a highway run-off and storm-water infiltration pond next to VEHOA's Well Protection Zone that could contaminate VEHOA's Public Water System groundwater wells.
- Organizing a drain protection project for our community. Remind folks "Dump No Waste - Protect Your Water."
- Producing and distributing an informational flyer for households to remind residents that storm-water and all other local drainages dump directly into our local water source.

Additional Information for Lead

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. Victoria Estates' Public 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 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.

Water Quality Data Table

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The table below lists all of the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the calendar year 2017. Although many more contaminants were tested, only those substances listed below were found in your water. All sources of drinking water contain some naturally occurring contaminants. At low levels, these substances are generally not harmful in our drinking water. Removing all contaminants would be extremely expensive, and in most cases, would not provide increased protection of public health. A few naturally occurring minerals may actually improve the taste of drinking water and have nutritional value at low levels. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table is from testing done in the calendar year of the report.

The EPA or the State requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not vary significantly from year to year, or the Victoria Estates' Public Water System is not considered vulnerable to this type of contamination. As such, some of our data, though representative, may be more than one year old. In this table you will find terms and abbreviations that might not be familiar to you. To help better understand these terms, we have provided the definitions in the table on page 4 of this report.

Contaminants	MCLG or MRDLG	MCL, TT, or MRDL	Detect In Your Water	Range Low	Range High	Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
Inorganic Contaminants								
Nitrate [measured as Nitrogen] (ppm)	10	10	1.37	NA	NA	2017	No	Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Runoff from fertilizer use; Erosion of natural deposits

Contaminants	MCLG	AL	Your Water	Sample Date	# Samples Exceeding AL	Exceeds AL	Typical Source
Inorganic Contaminants							
Copper - action level at consumer taps (ppm)	1.3	1.3	.371	2016	0	No 0 /10 samples exceeded AL	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Inorganic Contaminants							
Lead - action level at consumer taps (ppb)	0	15	1.53	2016	0	No 0 /10 samples exceeded AL	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits

Undetected Contaminants

The following contaminants were monitored for, but not detected, in your water.

Radioactive Contaminants	MCLG or MRDLG	MCL, TT, or MRDL	Your Water	Violation	Typical Source
Alpha emitters (pCi/L)	0	15	ND	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium (combined 226/228) (pCi/L)	0	5	ND	No	Erosion of natural deposits

Unit Descriptions	
Term	**Definition**
ppm	parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/L)
ppb	parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (_g/L)
pCi/L	picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)
NA	Not applicable
ND	Not detected

Important Drinking Water Definitions	
Term	**Definition**
MCLG	Maximum Contaminant Level Goal: 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	Maximum Contaminant Level: 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.
AL	Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.
MRDLG	Maximum residual disinfection level goal. 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.
MRDL	Maximum residual disinfectant level. 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.

How can I get involved?

To become involved in decisions regarding Victoria Estates' Public Water System contact any VEHOA Board of Directors member. Remember to attend and participate in the annual Victoria Estates Homeowners' Association membership meeting in January of each year.

For more information please contact:

Victoria Estates' Board of Directors
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