The table below lists all of the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the calendar year of this report (2019). The presence of contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate the water poses a health risk. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table is from testing done in the calendar year of the report. The EPA and/or the State requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. The City of Palmer operates under two waivers for sampling. One is an asbestos waiver; there has never been any piping containing asbestos used within the City, so we are not required to sample for it. We also have a Synthetic Organic Contaminant waiver which eliminates sampling for contaminants that have never been introduced to this area.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contaminant and Type</th>
<th>PCLG or MRLG</th>
<th>MCL or THM</th>
<th>Your Water</th>
<th>Range</th>
<th>Sample Date</th>
<th>Violation Yes or No</th>
<th>Typical Source</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Disinfectants &amp; Disinfectant by-products</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chlorine Residual (ppm)</td>
<td>4.0</td>
<td>4.0</td>
<td>0.67</td>
<td>0.09</td>
<td>2019</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Drinking water disinfectant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TTHM (Total Trihalomethanes) (ppb)</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>2019</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>By-product of drinking water disinfection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HAAS (Total Halocetic Acids) (ppb)</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2019</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>By-product of drinking water disinfection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inorganic Contaminants</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nitrate (measured as Nitrogen) (ppm)</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>0.565</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>2019</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Runoff from fertilizer use, leaching from septic tanks, sewage, erosion of natural deposits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Radioactive Contaminants</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Radon (combined 222Rn &amp; 220Rn) (Bq/L)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>0.319</td>
<td>0.310</td>
<td>2017</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Erosion of natural deposits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inorganic Contaminants</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lead-action level at consumer taps (ppm)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>2019</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Copper-action level at consumer taps (ppm)</td>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>0.169</td>
<td>2019</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Violations and Exceedances:
Failure to take one out of nine total confirm water samples in May 2019. Failure to report one out of nine chlorine residuals in November of 2019.

Important Drinking Water Definitions:
- **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 MCLG as is feasible using the best available treatment technology.
- **TL**: Treatment Technology. A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
- **AT**: Action Level. The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
- **Variances & Exemptions**: variances and exemptions may be granted for a contaminant if it does not pose a significant risk to health.
- **MRLG**: Maximum residual disinfection level goal. The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRLGs do not reflect the benefits of use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.
- **MRL**: Maximum residual disinfection 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.
- **MRV**: Monitored. Not Required.
- **MPL**: State assigned Maximum Permissible Level.

This is your 2019 City of Palmer Annual Water Quality Report. For more information, contact Alycia Anderson at the City of Palmer—745-3400.

How is my drinking water treated?
Your water is treated by disinfection. Disinfection involves the injection of sodium hypochlorite into the water at the treatment facility. Sodium hypochlorite is used to kill dangerous bacteria and microorganisms that may be in the water. Drinking water disinfection is considered to be one of the major public health advances of the 20th century.

Help keep your drinking water safe!
Report any suspicious behavior and activities that you notice around City reservoirs and water wells to the Palmer Police at 745-4811 or Public Works at 745-3400.

Protection of drinking water is everyone’s responsibility!
You can help protect your community’s drinking water source in several ways:

- **Eliminate**: Eliminate excess use of lawn & garden fertilizers and pesticides. They contain hazardous chemicals that can reach your drinking water source.
- **Pick up**: Clean up after your pets.
- **Dispose**: Dispose of chemicals properly; take used motor oil to a recycling center.

Volunteer
Palmer Soil & Water Conservation District is a local organization in Palmer, check them out at www.palmersoilandwater.org. Use EPA’s Adopt Your Watershed to locate groups in your community.

Stay up-to-date!
The City of Palmer has a Facebook page, a Twitter account, and a hotline (761-1350) that we use to share information about events, changes in services, project information, etc. Visit www.palmerak.org for more information.
We are pleased to present this year’s Annual Water Quality Report (Consumer Confidence Report) as required by the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). This report is designed to provide details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to standards set by regulatory agencies. This report is a snapshot of last year’s water quality. We are committed to providing you with information because informed customers are our best allies.

### Do I need to take special precautions?

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immune-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 minimize exposure to lead in drinking water are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

### Water Hardness and Other Test results

The City of Palmer’s Water is classified as Hard on the hardness scale.

- **Hardness:** 171 mg/L or 9.99 gpg
- **Calcium:** 54.2 mg/L
- **Magnesium:** 61.6 mg/L
- **Sulfate:** 84.0 mg/L
- **Alkalinity:** 79.7 mg/L
- **pH:** 7.46 SU
- **Temperature:** 7.7°C or 45.9°F

### Information About 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. Lead from service lines to your home can be reduced by using fixtures and components containing less lead.

The City of Palmer is responsible for providing high quality drinking water but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components in your residence. 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 at 1-800-426-4791 or at http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

### Water Conservation Tips

If you did know that the average Palmer household uses approximately 150 gallons of water per day, which works out to be ~38 gallons per person per day? There are many low and no-cost ways to conserve water. Small changes can make a big difference — try one today!

- Turn off the faucet while brushing your teeth.
- Only run the washing machine and dishwasher when you have a full load.
- Use low flow shower head and faucet aerators.
- Fix leaks.
- Install a dual flush or low flow toilet or put a conversion kit on the existing toilets.
- Adjust sprinklers so only the yard and garden are being watered. Water during the cooler times of the day to reduce evaporation.

Teach your kids about water conservation to ensure a future generation that values water wisely. Make it a family effort to reduce next month’s water bill.

### Household Leaks

The City of Palmer will notify you when a leak is detected through your water meter to help prevent you from having a high water bill. The most common cause is a leaking toilet. If you need assistance finding the leak an experienced operator will come to your house to help locate it, free of charge!

### Monitoring & Reporting of Compliance Data Violations

Failure to take one of nine total coliform water samples in May 2019. Returned to compliance on June 30, 2019.

Failure to report one out of nine chlorine residuals in November 2019. Returned to compliance on December 31, 2019.

### Where does your water come from?

Your water comes from three different groundwater wells which are numbered 1, 4, and 5. The State of Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) conducted source water assessments for wells 1 and 4. Wells 4 and 5 are located at 99° 14’ 140” W 149° 05’ 795”.

Well 1 is located at 11971 E. Scott Road (latitude +61°36.466 and longitude -149° 08’ 979”). The production of water is primarily through alternating operation of wells 4 and 5; though they are capable of simultaneous operation if required. Wells 4 and 5 provide 90% of your water. Well 1 runs as needed and supplies 10% of your water. The source water assessment may be obtained by calling Public Works at 745-3400.

The well heads received a susceptibility of low and the well aquifer received susceptibility ratings ranging from low to very high depending on the well. Combining these scores produces an overall susceptibility of low to medium for the sources. In addition, this water system has received a vulnerability rating of medium for bacteria/viruses, medium to high for nitrates/nitrites, low to high for volatile organic chemicals, low to high for heavy metals, other organic chemicals, and for synthetic organic chemicals.

### Annual Hydrant Testing and Flushing

Every spring and fall the City tests and flushes all 525 fire hydrants. This is done twice a year to ensure proper operation for fire protection but also improve water quality. Flushing helps remove sediments from the main line that can affect taste, clarity and/or color. During flushing the water in the area may be discolored for a short time. This occurs because the high flow stirs up minerals and sediment that have settled at the bottom of the pipe. While this can be off putting to customers it is normal and there are no health risks associated with the discolored water. If this occurs at your residence, run all water faucets on cold for a few minutes until it clears up.

### Should I be worried about arsenic in my water?

No. While other communities in the Mat-Su Valley experience issues with arsenic in their water supplies, the City has never detected any level of arsenic in the water.

Your water was tested in 2017 and no arsenic was detected.

Arsenic testing occurs once in a three year period, so your water will be tested again between 2020 and 2022.

### Water Hardness Scale

| Degree of Hardness | Grains per Gallon | mg/L  
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Soft</td>
<td>&lt;1.0</td>
<td>&lt;17.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Slightly Hard</td>
<td>1.0-3.5</td>
<td>17.1-60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moderately Hard</td>
<td>3.5-7.0</td>
<td>60-120</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hard</td>
<td>7.0-10.5</td>
<td>120-180</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Very Hard</td>
<td>&gt;10.5</td>
<td>&gt;180</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Why are contaminants in my drinking water?

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). The sources of most 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 from humans or animals, microbial contaminants, agricultural operations, wildlife, inorganic contaminants, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, pesticides and herbicides, or organic chemical contaminants. 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. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

### Household Tip: Get awesome vehicle decals near your water supply will greatly help in protecting your water supply.

### Monitoring & Reporting of Compliance Data Violations

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