

# City of Meridian Annual **Water** Report

## WHAT'S INSIDE

### Coupons

For Free Water Saving Items

### Important Tips!

For Keeping Hazards Out  
Of Your Drinking Water

### Public Works Week 2015

*Come Celebrate With Us!*





# Thank you

## for choosing the City of Meridian as your place of residence...

We at the Meridian Water Division are working hard to provide safe drinking water for you! Once again, we are very pleased to provide you with this year's Annual Water Quality Report celebrating yet another successful year of supplying drinking water that meets or surpasses state and federal drinking water standards. There are few things as important to us as the availability of clean drinking water. Our commitment to you is to remain vigilant in protecting our precious water resources while delivering the safest, highest quality drinking water at an affordable price.

### Exceptional Service in Every Drop!

It has been a busy and exciting year for us. We have been working hard behind the scenes on numerous system improvements. For example, we completed the construction of a new two million gallon water reservoir to increase water storage capacity in the growing southern portion of town, plus we installed our first, and long awaited, water treatment facility in the central portion of the City- one of several planned.

In this year's report, we will take a look at this new treatment process and explain how it helps us in reducing the naturally present iron and manganese found in our water. These minerals, left untreated, settle in our main lines and, when stirred up, are the cause of discolored water. Also inside are helpful conservation tips and important information on how you can help protect our water, plus information on how to interpret the enclosed 2014 water sample data. There are even some fun activities for our youth and an update of our very busy Boy Scout volunteers.

We hope you enjoy this year's report and find the information helpful and educational. We also invite you to join us for this year's National Public Works Week celebration in June. We have several fun and educational activities planned that include a 3k/5k fun run, Public Works Expo and guided tours of our utility operations. For details and dates see page 5.

Hope to see you there!



Dennis Teller,  
Water Superintendent

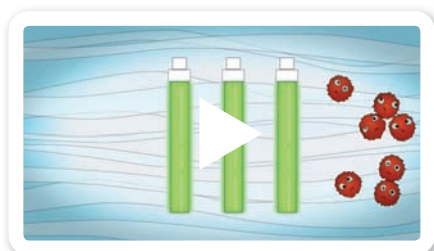
## It Starts at Home

Enjoy our new graphic animation series, "It Starts at Home" and learn how you can positively impact the environment. Visit [meridiancity.org/environmental](http://meridiancity.org/environmental) for the following fun and informative videos. These nationally award-winning educational videos will give you a good insight and behind the scenes understanding of what goes into your Water, Sewer and Solid Waste utilities everyday to ensure you have the necessary services on demand at home and at work.



### Meridian's Water Utility

Learn about Meridian's drinking water sources, treatment, and distribution. Your small actions can conserve the water supply and protect water quality.



### Wastewater Resource Recovery Facility

Take a journey from a typical house, through the collection system to the wastewater facility, and then through each step of the treatment process. You'll learn how your actions impact Meridian's management of the wastewater treatment facility.



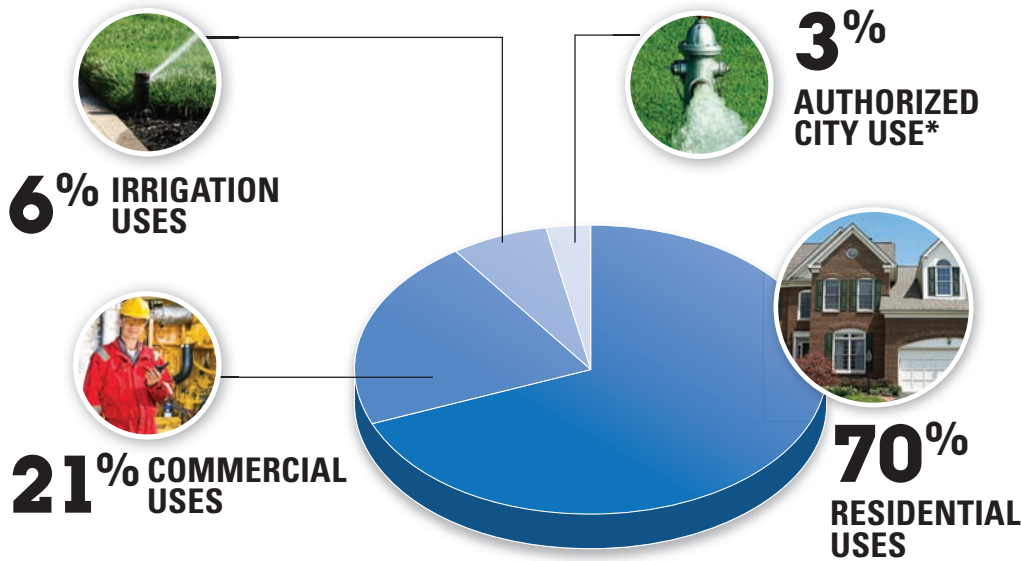
### Solid Waste and Recycling in Meridian

Experience the trash collection and recycling process from the perspective of a typical Meridian household. Learn how Meridian manages waste and the simple actions that can help the environment and save you money.

## Where Does Meridian's Water Come From?

Most of the water that you use in your home comes from 23 different wells found across the City that draw groundwater from three underground aquifers. An aquifer is a natural, underground layer of rock or sand that yields water. Groundwater is found in the spaces between the rock and sand. The water is drawn up through the wells, disinfected and distributed into our water system through over 460 miles of distribution lines. This system services over 30,500 residential and commercial connections across five pressure zones, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Water Division staff continually monitor and perform water quality tests (over 1,200 last year) in order to ensure water quality within our distribution system is maintained. This ensures all drinking water delivered to you, our customer, meets or exceeds regulatory requirements and is safe to drink. Last year, Meridian used 3.3 billion gallons of water for its commercial and residential needs.

## Where Did Meridian's Water Go?



\*Authorized uses include: street sweeping, water line flushing, treatment facility maintenance and public service maintenance activities.

## Get Involved... 10 easy ways to engage with the City

- 1 Regularly visit the City of Meridian website at [www.meridiancity.org](http://www.meridiancity.org)
- 2 "Like" us on Facebook; "Follow" us on Twitter and Next Door.
- 3 Visit [www.meridiancity.org/register.aspx](http://www.meridiancity.org/register.aspx) to subscribe and receive the City's bi-weekly e-newsletter and other City documents and meeting notices via e-mail.
- 4 Watch weekly Meridian City Council meetings online, live streamed from the City website.
- 5 Read the Mayor's columns in the Valley Times and Meridian Press newspapers.
- 6 Attend Meridian Town Hall meetings, *Coffee with the Mayor* gatherings and other City-sponsored events.
- 7 Volunteer for the City. Find out about available opportunities by contacting our Volunteer Coordinator at 846-7340.
- 8 Consider applying to serve on a City board, commission, committee, or task force. Call 888-4433 to inquire about current vacancies or to put an application on file.
- 9 Participate in City-sponsored organizations such as the Mayor's Anti-Drug Coalition, the Mayor's Youth Advisory Council, or the Faith Ambassador Council.
- 10 Invite someone from the City to speak to your neighborhood association or other civic group on a topic of interest.

## IN THIS YEAR'S REPORT

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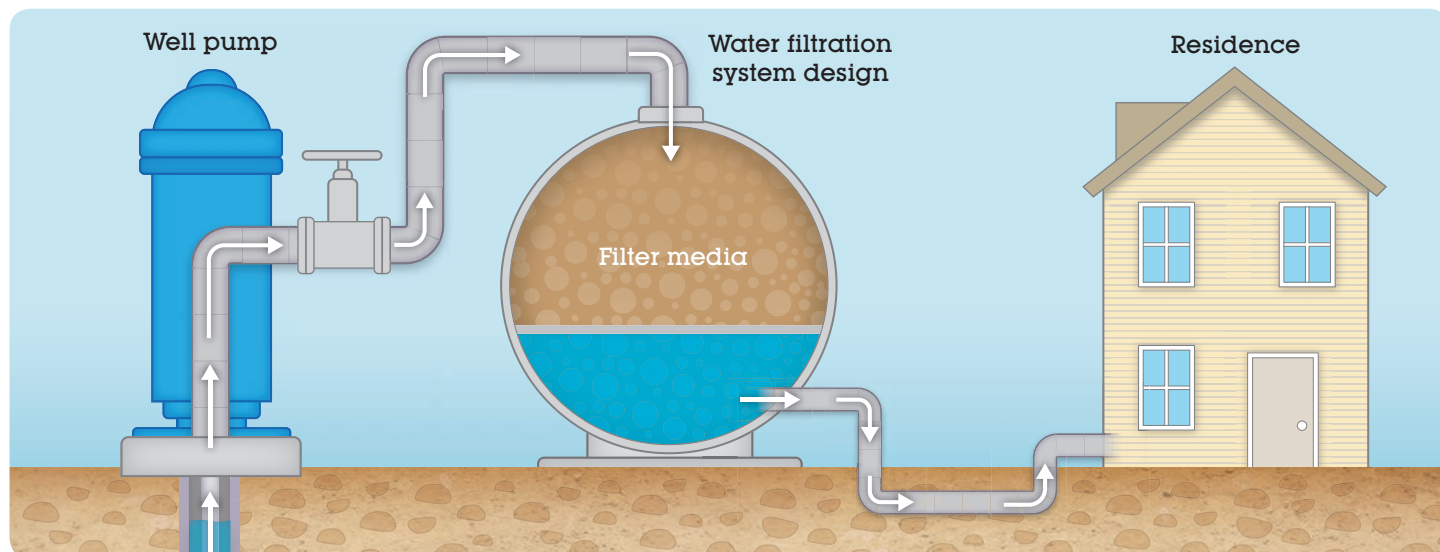
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# Water Filtration Solutions



The City is currently pursuing permanent, long term treatment solutions throughout our system. We've started construction on two new water filtration facilities near the center and northwest areas of town. These facilities are the first of several planned specifically to reduce our waters' iron and manganese levels, the main cause of our discolored water occurrences. Completion of these two facilities is scheduled for later this year.

## How Our Water Treatment Works

Water is pumped out of the ground and into a pressurized treatment vessel. (See above illustration.) This water is then filtered through a special media that removes the iron and manganese molecules that cause brown water. This filtered water is then disinfected and sent into the water distribution system and to your home.

Additionally, we are exploring alternative treatment techniques to increase our options and provide the optimal treatment process for each of our unique water sources. Of course, these studies and construction of such complicated treatment facilities take time and resources. We appreciate your patience as we strive to improve the quality of the water delivered to your home.

## Flushing Program...

Occasionally you may notice that your water is slightly discolored or brownish in appearance. This color is caused when a disinfectant (chlorine) mixes with water containing iron or manganese. This chemical reaction causes the minerals to form into solids and settle on the bottom of the water lines. During increased water flows, such as flowing hydrants, these deposits can be stirred up and carried to homes in the form of brown water. Although this water may have some color, it is not harmful and is safe for consumption.

As part of an on-going water quality program, the Water Division runs a routine year-round flushing program. Flushing protects all the water within the system by clearing out all of the buildup of these sediments within the

system to minimize occurrences of discolored water. We actively flush the entire water system twice annually and at random points monthly throughout the year. As a convenience, we have enclosed a flushing schedule and map on page 3 for our 2016 City-wide Spring Flushing event.

During the scheduled flushing times, please check your water prior to washing clothes to prevent discolored water from potentially damaging your laundry. If you do encounter brown water, run your **cold** water taps for several minutes and it should clear up. Also, try to avoid running dishwashers during these brown water times to prevent getting unwanted stains.

We do our best to notify you prior to flushing events by sending out flyers



Operations staff exercise and demonstrate flushing a fire hydrant for a crowd at Public Works Expo

and email notifications to customers who have provided us an email address.

If you would like to be notified of flushing in your area, please contact us at 208-888-5242 or e-mail [water@meridiancity.org](mailto:water@meridiancity.org) and let us know you want to be added to our flushing notice list.

# Flushing Schedule 2016

March 7th through April 8th

## Flushing schedule

Meridian conducts routine and non routine flushing continuously throughout the year; we send out email notifications of these flushing activities 24 hours prior to work being done. If you would like to be added to our list of contacts please email us at [water@meridiancity.org](mailto:water@meridiancity.org) and request to be added to our "flushing notice list".

Our Annual Water Line Flushing consists of two separate flushing "Events" beginning March 7th.

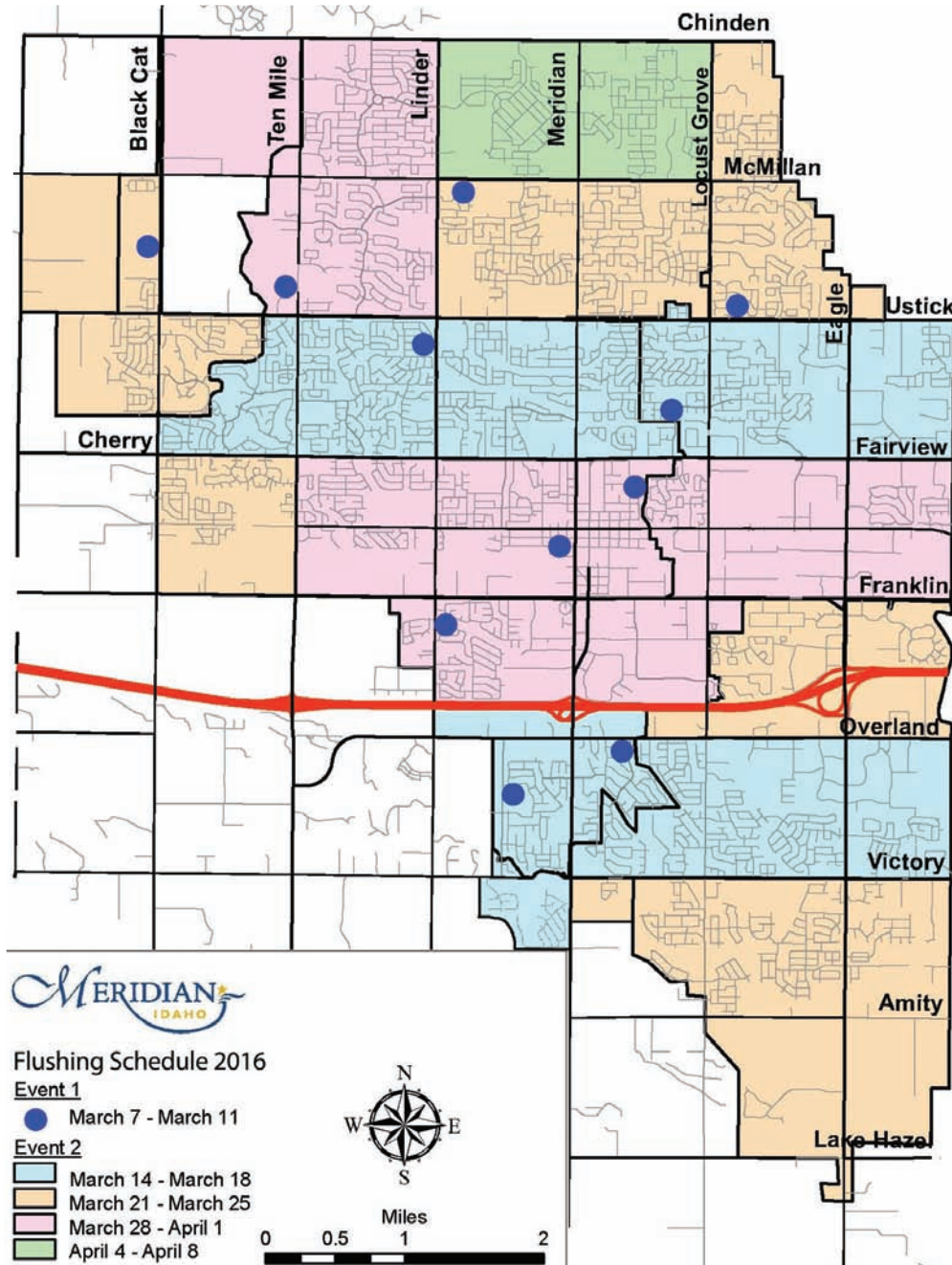
### Event 1

is comprised of system wide transmission line flushing as marked on the map with a blue dot. This event can potentially affect a 1 mile area around the flushing point. Event 1 starts on March 7th and ends on March 11th.

### Event 2

is comprised of targeted Fire Hydrant flushing within subdivisions. These areas are color coded areas on the map and show when we are scheduled to be in your area. Fire Hydrant flushing can affect a quarter mile area around the flushing point. This event begins on March 14th and ends on April 8th.

If you have questions, please call 208-888-5242 or email [water@meridiancity.org](mailto:water@meridiancity.org).



## Helpful Tips During Our Flushing Events

Your tap water may temporarily appear red, brown or blackish in color. If this occurs, simply run your cold water faucets in your bathtubs at full stream for a few minutes until the water runs clear.

- To avoid any unwanted sediment build up in your hot water heater, you should always clear your lines using cold water taps like outside faucets, sinks and tubs.
- During this flushing period, you should check your clothes washers and icemakers for any sediment before using. These sediments are harmless and do not pose a health risk.
- If your faucets seem to be clogged or running slowly, simply remove the screens and rinse out.
- The water pressure inside your home may also fluctuate at times. This is only temporary and regular water pressure will resume once this flushing period is complete.



# Public Works

*please Join Us*

## ***Expo!***

Meridian City Hall  
Wednesday, June 3rd

.....

## ***Go With the Flow***

Facilities Tour  
Thursday, June 4th

.....

## ***Poop Scoot***

3K/5K Run/Walk  
Saturday, June 6th

# Week 2015

Community Begins Here: June 1 - June 6



Public Works Expo



3k/5K Poop Scoot Run



Water and Wastewater Facilities tour



Meet Hydro!



Enjoy kid's activities



Public Works Week is a nationwide celebration of Public Works programs and activities highlighting what we do behind the scenes to provide our citizens with critical services that afford us the high quality of life we have come to appreciate in Meridian.

This year we have several events planned to say thanks for all of your support over the past year. We hope to see you there!

## Monday, June 1

**4pm - 6pm Open House and Ribbon Cutting Ceremony** at Wastewater Resource Recovery Facility

## Tuesday, June 2

**6pm**  
Proclamation at City Council Meeting

## Wednesday, June 3

**4pm - 7pm EXPO** at City Hall

- FREE Hot Dogs & Popcorn
- Mini Heavy Equipment Rodeo
- Fire Hydrant Flushing Demo
- Live Pipe Cleaning Demo
- Kids Activities
- Large Equipment Show
- Interactive Educational Displays
- Meet & Greet Public Works Staff
- Free Fun For Everyone!

## Thursday, June 4

**5:30pm - 8:30pm**  
**"Go with the Flow"**  
Facility Tour  
(Limited availability - call now to reserve your space)

**LOCATION:** Meridian City Hall  
33 E Broadway, Meridian

This tour will enable you to experience a wide range of Public Works operations including:

- Drinking from an Artesian Well
- Touring inside the Water Tower
- Touring Water Reservoir & Pump Station
- Touring the Waste Water Treatment Plant

Learn what your Public Works Department does daily to provide you with essential City Services.  
• First come, First Served...

- Space is limited and you must Pre-Register.
- To register please contact Dean Stacy [dstacy@meridiancity.org](mailto:dstacy@meridiancity.org)
- For more info, call 898-5500

## Saturday, June 6

**8:30am** (Registration begins at 7:30am)  
**Poop Scoot**  
**3K Walk / 5K Run**

**LOCATION:** 8th Street Park  
2235 NW 8th Street, Meridian

- Check-in starts at 7:30 a.m. at the 8th Street Park.
- Finish line is at the Wastewater Treatment Plant.

**Entry Fee:** Canned food for the Meridian Food Bank.  
Shuttle service available at the end of the race.  
Great fun for the entire family!  
Register online @ <http://meridiancity.org/pww2015/>



# Meridian's Kid's Stop!

## Celebrate your Scouts!

This year, the City of Meridian was pleased to host 9 Eagle Scout volunteers and assist them in completing their Scout projects. They were responsible for coordinating volunteers and painting the City's fire hydrants in selected areas and subdivisions. During the 2014 calendar year, these Scouts were able to paint 1,041 fire hydrants. This equates to 1/5th of the City's total fire hydrants! Please join us in recognizing these young leaders in our community: Jacob Ashley, Harrison Cleveland, Dallin Johnston, Steven Goodale, Evan Skinner, Kyle Wilhelmsen, Austin Jones, Brandon Christensen and Bryan Ralphs. If you are a Scout or know one looking for a project, please contact our Water Division at [water@meridiancity.org](mailto:water@meridiancity.org) for more information.



## WORD SEARCH. Find and circle the words on the left in the puzzle.

CONSERVATION	B	P	N	D	K	Q	J	R	O	Q	Q	A	K	N	D	J	X	L
SPRINKLER	A	S	H	O	W	E	R	N	R	E	M	B	S	K	U	Z	K	K
RAIN	X	H	I	D	A	I	O	J	I	Z	B	U	L	U	G	W	N	X
WATER	F	B	D	R	R	R	N	S	D	M	F	M	F	V	A	I	V	Z
LEAKS	R	C	A	O	E	R	C	H	P	N	L	Q	I	Q	R	Q	Y	H
GARDEN	E	L	B	P	F	I	L	C	B	R	D	E	Q	D	D	S	L	H
TOILET	G	I	H	L	R	G	A	O	H	L	I	F	A	L	E	W	X	J
DROPLET	U	N	E	E	E	A	H	N	R	H	S	N	J	K	N	G	Q	B
CLEAN	L	C	I	T	S	T	N	S	W	D	H	F	K	Y	S	E	R	Z
SINK	A	J	O	X	H	I	U	E	P	V	W	D	C	L	E	A	N	B
SHOWER	T	N	W	H	I	O	H	R	H	L	A	W	T	X	E	N	R	K
HYDRO	I	U	L	Y	N	N	U	V	F	S	S	W	A	T	E	R	F	H
DISHWASHER	O	V	T	D	G	C	M	A	F	I	H	Q	R	N	O	L	S	Y
IRRIGATION	N	X	V	R	U	W	R	T	P	N	E	K	F	W	R	B	Z	D
REFRESHING	Y	B	X	O	Z	L	A	I	Q	K	R	V	X	O	K	P	R	R
HYDRATE	M	G	O	A	J	J	I	O	I	T	O	I	L	E	T	X	T	A
DRINK	W	J	H	R	H	I	N	N	J	B	U	D	W	L	N	E	Z	T
REGULATION	R	L	Y	Q	I	E	K	C	A	E	O	V	K	L	Q	T	B	E



# Hydro's seek and find

**Seek and find the objects below to help you see how important water is to us!**

- ☐ Hose
- ☐ Glass of water
- ☐ Water bottle
- ☐ Fish
- ☐ Frog
- ☐ Bucket
- ☐ Innertube
- ☐ Drinking fountain
- ☐ 5 Hydro water drops
- ☐ Shower head
- ☐ Fire hydrant
- ☐ Ice cube tray
- ☐ Snowflake
- ☐ Outdoor faucet
- ☐ Sprinkler

Answers on page 12

# Conservation and You



## Did you Know? Outdoor water conservation efforts can pay off – especially as we head into spring and summer.

Lawn irrigation accounts for nearly half of homeowner water usage. Most residences in the City of Meridian use pressurized irrigation to water their lawns during the summer and do not water with City Drinking Water, however, conservation is still a good idea to practice when watering your lawn. The greatest waste of water is watering too much, too often. In the Treasure Valley, top area lawn care companies, researchers and agronomists agree that our established lawns need about one inch of water per week depending on the grass, soil properties, and weather conditions. To know if you are under-watering or over-watering, you can take the “Tuna Can Test.” (see below).

## Taking the “Tuna Can Test”!

The “Tuna Can Test” will help you visually see the volume of an inch of water, and how long it takes for the can to fill up with water.



### Determining Average Depth of Cans

Can #1	1/2 inch
Can #2	1/4 inch
Can #3	1/2 inch
Can #4	1/4 inch

**TOTAL** 1 1/2 inches

**Average** 1 1/2 inches / 4 cans = 3/8 inch (approx.)

**Watering time** → 20 minutes

### HERE ARE THE STEPS:

- 1 Place some (3 or more) flat-bottomed cans, such as tuna cans or pet food cans, randomly throughout your lawn. Rain gauges may also be used. Place some cans close to the manual (hose-fed) sprinkler or pressurized sprinkler head and others several feet away.
- 2 Turn on your manual sprinkler or irrigation system for 15 minutes.
- 3 Measure and record the depth of water in each can with a ruler. Determine the average depth of water for all of the cans combined. See above example.
- 4 Refer to the example and lawn watering depth chart at right to determine the number of minutes you should water each week. If your soils are clay or compacted and will not soak up all the water in one session, you can split your watering time into two sessions. Hot, dry summer days may require more water.

### Lawn watering depth chart

Average depth in test can	Minutes to water once each week in		
	Spring	Summer	Fall
1/8	60	120	48
1/4	30	60	24
3/8	20	40	16
1/2	15	30	12
5/8	12	24	9.5
3/4	10	20	8
1.0	8	16	6.5
1-1/8	6	13	5





## Here are some more outdoor water conservation tips:



**The Earlier, the Better.** The best time to water is generally between 4 a.m. to 9 a.m., allowing the water to penetrate the soil. The roots will then reach vertically into the soil to get to the water, building a deep root system.



**Position the Sprinklers Correctly.** Adjust your sprinklers so they're watering your lawn and garden, and not the street or sidewalk.



**Set It, Don't Forget it!** Whether you have a manual or automatic system, be sure to adjust your watering schedules throughout the irrigation season. Also, adding a shut-off nozzle to your garden hose can save 5 to 7 gallons each minute your hose is on.



**Consider Replacing Some Turf Area** Low water use plants and ornamental grasses are easier to maintain than turf, look beautiful, and require far less water.



**Group Plants by Watering Needs.** Creating "watering zones" in your garden will allow you to give each plant the water it requires — not too much or too little.



**Adjust Your Mower to a Higher Setting.** Whether you are grasscycling or bagging your grass clippings, a taller lawn provides shade to the roots and helps retain soil moisture, so your lawn requires less water.



**Apply the Amount of Water Your Soil Can Absorb.** Water thoroughly, but infrequently. If run off or puddling occurs, break longer watering sessions into several short sessions allowing water to soak into the soil between each session.

## CONSERVATION COUPONS

Bring this coupon to our annual Public Works Week Expo on June 3rd.

Help save water in your household and receive a free water savings item.



### Bathroom Sink Aerator

1 gallon per minute flow rate saves 55% more water and energy.



### Kitchen Sink Aerator

1.5 gallon per minute flow rate equals 32% water and energy savings.



### Water Saver Shower Head

1.5 gallon per minute high pressure flow, oversized spray head.



### Shower Timer

5 minute shower timer helps reduce time spent in shower and saves water and energy consumption. Suction cup installation and easy to use.

If you have questions about water conservation, visit our website, [www.meridiancity.org/environmental](http://www.meridiancity.org/environmental), for more information.

# Water Quality in Your Neighborhood

If you are installing or have a water softener, aquarium or pool that may require certain water quality data for operation or setup, please use this chart and map in assisting your setup or operating needs. Just roughly locate where you are on the map and use the corresponding chart to answer your water quality needs. If you have additional water quality questions, please feel free to contact our office at 208-888-5242 or email us at: [water@meridiancity.org](mailto:water@meridiancity.org). We would be glad to assist you.

	Zone 2	Zone 3	Zone 4
HARDNESS*	4.3 Grains per Gallon	6.6 Grains per Gallon	7.9 Grains per Gallon
IRON	0.83 PPM	0.67 PPM	0.15 PPM
SODIUM	16 PPM	27 PPM	94 PPM
TDS**	134 PPM	94 PPM	359 PPM

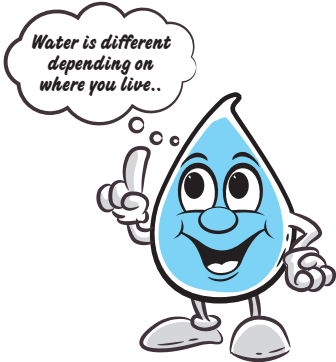
Figures on this Chart are the average levels of minerals from wells that contribute to each zone.



## TERMS EXPLAINED

**\*Hardness:** Dissolved calcium and magnesium, which may cause deposits on fixtures and dishes. Our average water hardness is 106 ppm or 6.16 grains per gallon. According to the National Research Council, hard water generally contributes a small amount toward total human dietary needs of calcium and magnesium.

**\*\* TDS: Total Dissolved Solids:** Classified as secondary contaminant by the Environmental Protection Agency with a suggested maximum of 500 ppm. Concerns with secondary standards relate to aesthetic or cosmetic quality of the water rather than health concerns. TDS can give water a murky appearance and detract from the taste and quality of the water.





# Protecting Our Water

Every time you turn on the faucet, you expect a flow of high quality, clean drinking water. Unfortunately, clean drinking water is something we all take for granted, but we shouldn't. We all need to do our part to protect our water supplies to ensure that our communities and homes have the clean water we expect each and every day.

## Did you know? Common hazards in and around your house can contaminate your drinking water as well as your neighbors.

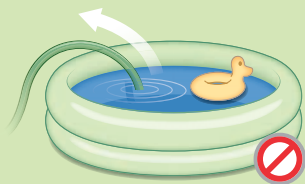
These hazards are known as cross-connections and can result in contaminated water backflowing into your home's drinking supply without your knowledge. If your home's water supply becomes contaminated, your neighbors' water is at risk as well. That's because contaminated water from inside your house can backflow into the public water system and into the drinking water of those around you. Normally this wouldn't happen, but if the public water system loses pressure, backflow from your house can occur.

The City's Public Works Department, through its Backflow Prevention Program, goes to great lengths to protect the water entering your home. However, we need your help to protect the water on your home's property.



## Here are some ways, you can create a cross-connection at home. Over half of the Nation's cross-connections involve unprotected garden hoses.

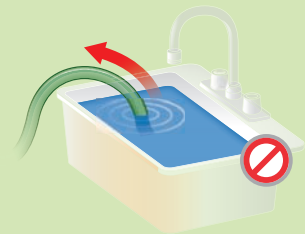
Protect your home from cross-connection by avoiding the following:



Putting the garden hose in a swimming pool to fill it



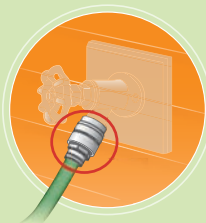
Putting the garden hose in a pet's bucket



Putting the garden hose down the drain to flush out debris when it's backed up



Connecting your garden hose to a plant fertilizer or bug spray unit



Vacuum breaker

To protect against these common cross-connections, check to see if you have air vacuum breakers installed on each of your hose bibs. They prevent water from getting back into the drinking water system.

These simple devices are inexpensive and can be purchased from your local hardware store. They are easy to install; you just screw them on.

If you would like more information on how you can protect your home or have any questions, please contact us at:

**Meridian Water Division**  
2235 NW 8th Street  
Meridian, ID 83646

Phone: (208) 888-5242  
Fax: (208) 884-1159  
[water@meridiancity.org](mailto:water@meridiancity.org)  
[backflow@meridiancity.org](mailto:backflow@meridiancity.org)



## Informational Facts About Drinking Water from the EPA

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 at: **1-800-426-4791** or <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/hotline/>.

In order to ensure your tap water is safe to drink, the EPA prescribed regulations which 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. Contaminants that may be present in source water BEFORE we treat it include:

**Microbial contaminants**, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.

**Inorganic Contaminants**, such as salt and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial, or domestic water 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.

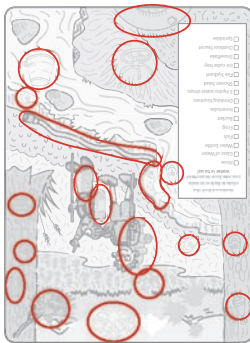
**Radioactive contaminants**, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activity.

### SPECIAL HEALTH 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 and Prevention (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 at **1-800-426-4791** or <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/hotline/>.

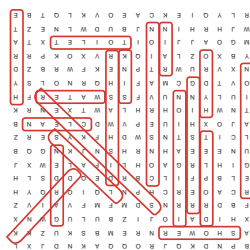


## Lead - What You Should Know.

The City of Meridian, along with the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality and the USEPA, are concerned about the lead in your drinking water. In 2009, the City of Meridian completed a sampling event for this contaminant and is pleased to report that the results did not exceed the allowable MCL. Even though there was no detectable lead in any of Meridian's water sources, lead is a serious contaminant that can be found in the water of some homes.

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.

The City of Meridian is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in private 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>.



**Kids Stop Answers**



# Water Quality Data

PWS ID # ID4010097

We routinely monitor for contaminants in your drinking water according to federal, state, and local standards. The State of Idaho requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are generally stable, not expected to vary from year to year, or the system is not considered vulnerable to this type of contamination. Therefore, some of our data, though representative, may be more than one year old. These tables show the results of monitoring for the period of January 1st to December 31, 2014, unless otherwise noted. For more information about this report, or for any questions relating to your drinking water, please contact us at [water@meridiancity.org](mailto:water@meridiancity.org).

## INORGANIC CONTAMINANTS

Contaminant	Violation (Y/N)	MCL	MCLG	Lo Level Detected	Hi Level Detected	Test Date	Likely Source of Contamination
Arsenic	N	10	N/A	ND	.003	Sept 2014	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; runoff from glass and electronics production wastes.
Barium	N	2	2	ND	0.13	Dec 2014	Discharge of drillings wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits.
Fluoride	N	4	4	0.12	0.56	Sept 2014	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth: discharge from fertilizer & aluminum factories.
Nitrate (as Nitrogen)	N	10	10	ND	4.5	Nov 2014	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits.

Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 10 ppm is a health risk for infants of less than six month of age. High nitrate levels in drinking water can cause blue baby syndrome. Nitrate levels may rise quickly for short periods of time because of rainfall or agricultural activity. If you are caring for an infant, you should ask advice from your health care provider.

## RADIONUCLIDES

Gross Alpha	N	15	15	ND	16	Sept 2014	Erosion of natural deposits.
Combined Radium	N	5	5	ND	1.5	Oct 2014	
Uranium	N	30	30	ND	23	Sept 2014	

Well 20b Second Quarter Uranium was unable to be taken due to maintenance and repair activities.

## LEAD AND COPPER

Contaminant	Violation Y/N	90th Percentile	Action Level	MCLG	# of sites above Action Level	Test Date	Likely Source of Contamination
Lead	N	5	15	0	0	Jul 2012	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits.
Copper	N	0.16	1.30	1.30	0	Jul 2012	

## DISINFECTANT BY-PRODUCTS

Contaminant	Violation (Y/N)	MCL	Chlorine Annual Average	Hi Level Detected	Test Date	Likely Source of Contamination
HAA	N	60	0.30	ND	Oct 2014	By-product of drinking water chlorination.
THM (total)	N	80	0.30	0.006	June 2014	
CHLORINE	N	4	0.30	0.49	Aug 2014	Water Additive used to control microbes.

## BACTERIA

Contaminant	Violation Y/N	MCL	MCLG	Highest % positive in a month	Total # positive	Likely Source of Contamination
Total Coliform	N	>5%	0	0	0	Naturally present in the environment.

## DEFINITIONS TO HELP YOU UNDERSTAND THE ABBREVIATIONS USED IN THIS REPORT

**(AL) Action Level:** The concentration of a contaminant that, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a community water system shall follow.

**(HAA) Haloacetic Acids:** By-products created when disinfectants used to treat water react with organic and inorganic material in source water.

**(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.

**(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 a margin of safety.

**Primary Standards:** Federal drinking water regulations for substances that are health related. Water suppliers must meet all primary drinking water standards.

**Secondary Standards:** Federal drinking water measurements for substances that do not have an impact on health. These reflect aesthetic qualities such as taste, odor and appearance. Secondary standards are recommendations, not mandates.

**(THM) Trihalomethanes,** chemical compounds that can be formed when water is disinfected with chlorine.



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*"If there is magic on the planet,  
it is contained in water."  
– Loren Eiseley*

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[www.meridiancity.org](http://www.meridiancity.org)

## Share This Important Information

If other people, such as tenants, residents, patients, students, or employees, receive water from you, it is important that you provide this Water Quality Report to them by posting it in a conspicuous location or by direct mail or hand delivery.

For more copies or to receive this Water Quality Report in electronic format, please contact the Meridian Water Division at 208-888-5242 or email us at: [water@meridiancity.org](mailto:water@meridiancity.org).

## Additional Information and Links

Meridian Water Division After Hours Emergency ..... 208-888-5242  
Meridian Water Division..... [www.meridiancity.org/water](http://www.meridiancity.org/water), 208-888-5242  
Meridian Backflow Prevention Program ..... [backflow@meridiancity.org](mailto:backflow@meridiancity.org), 208-888-5242  
Meridian Environmental Division ..... [www.meridiancity.org/environmental](http://www.meridiancity.org/environmental), 208-489-0351  
Idaho Department of Environmental Quality ..... [www.deq.idaho.gov](http://www.deq.idaho.gov), 208-373-0550  
US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)..... [www.epa.gov/safewater](http://www.epa.gov/safewater)  
Safe Drinking Water Hotline ..... 800-426-4791  
American Water Works Association ..... [www.drinktap.org](http://www.drinktap.org)

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## Mayor

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## Council Members

Keith Bird	Joe Borton
Charlie Rountree	Luke Cavener
David Zaremba	Genesis Milam

