



Mingus Mapps, Commissioner
Gabriel Solmer, Director

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portlandoregon.gov/water



March 8, 2023

Carrie Gentry
Oregon Health Authority
Drinking Water Services
PO Box 14450
Portland, OR 97293-0450

Subject: Bilateral Compliance Agreement – Annual Outreach Report

Dear Carrie:

This letter and attachment constitute the Portland Water Bureau's (PWB) submission of its Annual Outreach report for the Bilateral Compliance Agreement, Section IV.D.7 (Oregon Health Authority; December 18, 2017). This report covers the period of January – December 2022.

If you have any questions regarding this report, please feel free to contact me at (503) 823-1251 or yone.akagi@portlandoregon.gov.

Sincerely,

Yone Akagi, P.E.
Water Quality Manager

Enclosure

Cc: Ann Levy, Kim Gupta, Scott Bradway



Annual Outreach Report

Bilateral Compliance Agreement

March 8, 2023

Reporting Period: January 1 – December 31, 2022

As part of the Bilateral Compliance Agreement (BCA) Interim Measures, Section IV.D.7 requires that Portland Water Bureau (PWB) report to Oregon Health Authority – Drinking Water Services (OHA) annually on the activities completed under the outreach plan section IV.C.5. The following is a summary of the activities completed as part of the Outreach Plan to Health Care Providers for People Most Vulnerable to *Cryptosporidium* in Drinking Water (Attachment 1) from January 1 through December 31, 2022.

1. Clinician Update

On December 7, 2022, the Tri-County Health Officer for Clackamas, Multnomah and Washington Counties issued a Clinician Update (Attachment 2) to medical providers who care for immuno-compromised patients as well as the infectious disease providers in the tri-county regions. The update contains background on *Cryptosporidium*, diagnosis recommendations, health effects of cryptosporidiosis, laboratory methods, how to register for PWB notification of *Cryptosporidium* detections and encourages patients to sign up at publicalerts.org to receive emergency notices such as drinking water advisories.

2. Delivery of Educational Poster and Flyers

PWB delivered an educational poster (Attachment 3) and flyer (Attachment 4) for immuno-compromised patients developed with OHA and the Tri-county Health Officer. Copies of the poster and flier along with a cover letter (Attachment 5) explaining their purpose and how to request additional copies were mailed to all medical providers that received the provider alert from the Tri-county Health Officer on December 13, 2022.

3. *Cryptosporidium* E-mail List

PWB has developed an e-mail list sign-up (Attachment 6) that allows concerned customers and medical providers to receive notification whenever public notification of *Cryptosporidium* detections occur. This allows those who need and want to know about *Cryptosporidium* detections to be able to receive that information in a timely manner. The availability of the e-mail list was shared in the clinician update and is posted on the PWB website. Approximately 200 customers and providers are signed up to receive notification through the end of this reporting period.

4. Public Notification

To inform the public that their drinking water is not treated for *Cryptosporidium*, the potential associated risk and Portland's plans to treat Bull Run drinking water, the BCA requires the following public notification actions outlined in Section IV.C:

Section IV.C.1 requires PWB to issue a press release and use social media as appropriate to notify the public of *Cryptosporidium* detections at the intake when using the Bull Run as a drinking water source within one business day of validated results when a boil water notice is not deemed necessary. The notice must include the language in Appendix A of the BCA. With OHA approval, press releases may be issued that summarize results from the previous detection that do not exceed seven-day intervals. Table 1 lists the public notification dates (press releases and social media) and delivery timeframe for each *Cryptosporidium* detection in 2022.

Table 1: Public Notification of *Cryptosporidium* Detections

<i>Cryptosporidium</i> Sample Date(s)	Public Notification Date	Delivery (One business day or periodic)
1/4/2022 1/5/2022	1/7/2022	Periodic
1/10/2022 1/11/2022	1/14/2022	Periodic
1/16/2022 1/17/2022 1/19/2022	1/21/2022	Periodic
1/24/2022	1/28/2022	Periodic
1/30/2022 1/31/2022	2/4/2022	Periodic
2/14/2022	2/18/2022	One business day
3/6/2022 3/8/2022 3/9/2022	3/11/2022	One business day
3/16/2022	3/18/2022	Periodic
5/22/22	5/27/2022	One business day
6/12/2022 6/13/2022 6/15/2022	6/17/2022	One business day
6/19/2022 6/21/2022	6/24/2022	Periodic
6/26/2022	7/1/2022	Periodic
7/10/2022	7/15/2022	One business day
11/18/2022	11/23/2022	One business day
11/22/2022 11/25/2022 11/26/2022 11/27/2022	11/30/2022	Periodic
11/28/2022 11/29/2022 11/30/2022	12/6/2022	Periodic
12/4/2022 12/5/2022 12/6/2022 12/7/2022	12/13/2022	Periodic

<i>Cryptosporidium</i> Sample Date(s)	Public Notification Date	Delivery (One business day or periodic)
12/12/2022 12/13/2022 12/14/2022	12/20/2022	Periodic
12/18/2022 12/19/2022 12/20/2022 12/21/2022	12/27/2022	Periodic
12/26/2022 12/27/2022 12/28/2022	1/3/2023	Periodic

For each detection, the public was notified by issuing a press release (Attachment 7) to local media using Flash News. In addition, the press release information is posted on PWB's website blog (Attachment 8) with relevant links to the blog posted on the social media sites Facebook and Twitter (Attachment 9).

Section IV.C.2 requires PWB to notify the public, at least quarterly, that it does not treat for *Cryptosporidium* using the language in Appendix A of the BCA. The quarterly public notice may be in the form of a press release and including the language in the Consumer Confidence Report may substitute for the notice during the quarter it is delivered. Table 2 lists the date and manner in which this notification was delivered for each quarter in 2022.

Table 2: Quarterly public notification.

Quarter	Date	Delivery Method
Q1 2022	January 7, 2022	<i>Cryptosporidium</i> Detection Press Release
Q2 2022	May 27, 2022	<i>Cryptosporidium</i> Detection Press Release
Q3 2022	July 1, 2022	<i>Cryptosporidium</i> Detection Press Release
Q4 2022	November 23, 2022	<i>Cryptosporidium</i> Detection Press Release

Section IV.C.3 requires PWB to continually post on its website, linked from the homepage, the language included in the BCA Appendix A. PWB is also required to share this language with other providers who receive water from PWB for posting on their websites as applicable. On PWB's website homepage is a link titled "Information: *Cryptosporidium* and Drinking Water" that goes to the information on the *Cryptosporidium* page (www.portland.gov/water/crypto) (Attachment 10) where the language from Appendix A is posted (Attachment 10). This language was shared with wholesale providers on February 17, 2022 (Attachment 11).

Section IV.C.4 requires PWB to include the information included in the BCA Appendix A in PWB's Consumer Confidence Report and to share this language with wholesale providers. PWB delivered the Consumer Confidence Report to customers on June 1, 2022 with the required language (Attachment 12) and provided the required language to wholesale providers on March 30, 2022 (Attachment 13).

5. Public Health Surveillance

PWB notifies the Tri-county Health Officer of all detections for *Cryptosporidium* from the Bull Run Intake. Additionally, PWB, MCHD and OHA Acute and Communicable Disease Program routinely meet to

review cryptosporidiosis case occurrence, Bull Run monitoring results and water quality data, and discuss other potential issues related to *Cryptosporidium* in drinking water. These meetings are scheduled to occur on a monthly basis, and if there is a need to postpone, information is shared electronically.

6. Proposed Changes to Annual Outreach Plan

No changes to the attached Outreach Plan to Health Care Providers for People Most Vulnerable to *Cryptosporidium* in Drinking Water are being proposed for this year.

Attachments

1. Outreach Plan to Health Care Providers for People Most Vulnerable to *Cryptosporidium* in Drinking Water
2. Clinician Update – sent December 7, 2022
3. Vulnerable Populations Poster
4. Important Information About *Cryptosporidium* in Drinking Water Brochure
5. Letter to Providers
6. Screenshot of *Cryptosporidium* detection alert registration form
7. Example *Cryptosporidium* detection press release
8. Example PWB *Cryptosporidium* detection blog
9. Example *Cryptosporidium* detection social media posts
10. Screenshot of PWB home page and Information on *Cryptosporidium* web page
11. E-mail sent to wholesale providers with the BCA Appendix A language for website
12. PWB 2022 Consumer Confidence Report *Cryptosporidium* Page
13. Wholesale provider CCR memo with BCA Appendix A language

Outreach Plan to Health Care Providers for People Most Vulnerable to *Cryptosporidium* in Drinking Water

Prepared by the
Portland Water Bureau

Submitted to the
Oregon Health Authority
Public Health Division Drinking Water Services

March 14, 2018

REVISED September 13, 2018

Background

On December 18, 2017, the Portland Water Bureau (PWB) and Oregon Health Authority Drinking Water Services (OHA) entered into a Bilateral Compliance Agreement (BCA) outlining a schedule for the construction of drinking water treatment to meet the treatment requirements for *Cryptosporidium* and interim measures to protect public health until treatment is installed.

As part of the requirements of the BCA, section IV.C.5 requires PWB to develop a plan to “conduct outreach to health care providers of people most vulnerable to *Cryptosporidium* (such as people with AIDS, people with inherited diseases that affect the immune system, and cancer and transplant patients who are taking certain immunosuppressive drugs) within the Bull Run service area”.

In February 2017, after several weeks of detections of *Cryptosporidium* from the Bull Run intake, the Multnomah County Health Department (MCHD) issued a clinician update to all clinicians in the Portland tri-county area. The clinician update was used to notify medical providers of the recent detections of *Cryptosporidium*, encouraged all providers to consider cryptosporidiosis in their diagnosis for patients exhibiting possible symptoms and asked providers of immunocompromised patients to review the CDC *Cryptosporidium* information for immunocompromised persons and to consider taking additional precautions.

The clinician update, combined with the other public notification efforts by PWB (press release, website updates etc.) led to an increase in testing for cryptosporidiosis in 2017. An MCHD analysis of this data did not identify any specific vulnerable populations at higher risk of *Cryptosporidium* infection. These detections were not linked to an increase in human *Cryptosporidium* cases, and the public risk of *Cryptosporidium* from the drinking water remains low.

The following Outreach Plan was developed in coordination with MCHD and incorporates revisions from OHA to meet the above-mentioned requirement of the BCA.

Outreach to Vulnerable Populations

On an annual basis until the treatment requirements of the BCA are met, PWB will implement the following six elements to meet the BCA's outreach requirements for those potentially vulnerable to *Cryptosporidium*.

1. Clinician Update

PWB will work with MCHD to issue a clinician update targeted at healthcare providers of immunocompromised patients. The update will also be provided to the medical directors at the regional clinics that care for immunocompromised patients. The update will include:

- Background on *Cryptosporidium* in Bull Run source water and that PWB does not currently treat for *Cryptosporidium*.
- Recommendations for providers to consider cryptosporidiosis diagnosis and to review *Cryptosporidium* information with their patients.
- Information on cryptosporidiosis, including symptoms and health effects.
- Review of strengths and weaknesses of laboratory methods to detect cryptosporidiosis.
- Opportunity for providers to register for a PWB e-mail list to receive updates on *Cryptosporidium* detections.
- Recommendation that providers educate their patients about registering at www.publicalerts.org to receive direct notification in the event additional public health protections are necessary as a result of drinking water contamination.

2. Delivery of Educational Poster and Flyers

The Portland Water Bureau will develop printed posters and flyers targeting people most vulnerable to *Cryptosporidium* based on CDC's guidance for prevention and control of cryptosporidiosis from drinking water. The poster and flyers will be mailed to medical providers identified in task 1 to be displayed and provided directly to patients.

3. *Cryptosporidium* E-mail List

Through the clinician update and on the PWB website, providers of the immunocompromised and their patients will be encouraged and able to sign-up for a notification e-mail list to receive updated information on *Cryptosporidium* detections in water.

4. Public Notification

As agreed to in the BCA, PWB will be using several methods to notify the general public that it does not treat for *Cryptosporidium* as well as timely notification of detections. While these efforts target the general public, they will also contain information on the potential increased risk to immunocompromised persons and serve as outreach to these populations as well. These methods include *Cryptosporidium* detection press releases, minimum of quarterly press-releases when there have been no detections, information in PWB's Consumer Confidence Report, website updates with each detection and the use of social media.

5. Public Health Surveillance

PWB will continue to coordinate with MCHD routinely when there are detections of *Cryptosporidium* in the Bull Run source water as well as annually, to review occurrence of cryptosporidiosis in the Portland region and analysis of the infected populations to identify new populations that may be at greater risk for *Cryptosporidium* infection.

6. Reporting to OHA

As agreed to in the BCA section IV.D.7, PWB will annually provide a report to OHA summarizing the outreach activities performed under the BCA. This report will be submitted on or before March 10 of each year and summarize the activities of the previous calendar year.

From: [Jennifer Vines](#)
To: [TriCounty HIV Providers 2021](#)
Subject: Clinician Update: Cryptosporidium and drinking water
Date: Wednesday, December 7, 2022 2:50:20 PM

Dec 7, 2022

The Portland Water Bureau supplies drinking water to a large portion of the Portland region, but the water is not treated for Cryptosporidium. Since 2017, the Portland Water Bureau has occasionally detected low levels of Cryptosporidium species during routine monitoring from the Bull Run water supply. These detections, most common during the rainy season, have thus far not been linked to an increase in human Cryptosporidium cases and the risk to the general public of Cryptosporidium from the drinking water is considered to be low.

However, certain patient populations, such as those with compromised immune systems, may be at higher risk of protracted illness from Cryptosporidium. The following individuals are at particular risk:

- People living with HIV/AIDS (especially with CD4+ < 50 cells/mm³)
- Individuals with primary immunodeficiencies with impaired T-cell function such as SCID, CD40L deficiency, hyper-IgM syndrome, CD4 lymphopenia
- Patients with hematological malignancies: during chemotherapy or post-bone marrow transplant

As we head into the rainy season and a likely increase in detections of Cryptosporidium in drinking water, please take the following steps in your practice, especially for immunocompromised patients:

1. Review the information on Cryptosporidiosis and the water supply on OHA's website and the CDC website for Cryptosporidium Information for Immunocompromised Persons with relevant patients. Such patients may wish to drink boiled, filtered or commercially bottled water. In the coming weeks, the Portland Water Bureau will be mailing you an informational poster and brochures; we encourage you to display these in your office to educate your patients. These patients should also avoid drinking water from a recreational source (pool, water playground, etc) or other untreated water

(lakes, rivers, shallow wells, etc).

2. Consider cryptosporidiosis in the differential diagnosis for patients experiencing unexplained profuse watery diarrhea of greater than 5 days duration.

a. Cryptosporidium testing often needs to be specifically ordered since it may not be

included in routine ova and parasite stool examination.

b. Because of intermittent oocyst excretion, three stool specimens collected on separate days should be examined.

c. For more information on laboratory testing, please see

<https://www.cdc.gov/dpdx/cryptosporidiosis/>

d. PCR testing methods (Biofire, Nanosphere) may have greater sensitivity and specificity than microscopic detection or screening tests.

More about Cryptosporidium:

Illness from Cryptosporidium infection typically begins 2-10 days after exposure and includes profuse, watery diarrhea, stomach cramps, nausea, fever, and weight loss. For immunocompetent persons, symptoms may last one to two weeks; for immunocompromised persons, especially with CD4 counts $< 200/\mu\text{l}$, symptoms can be chronic and more severe. The infection is typically self-limited in otherwise healthy individuals. Nitazoxanide is FDA-approved for treatment of diarrhea

caused by Cryptosporidium in immunocompetent persons; its effectiveness in immunosuppressed individuals is unclear. Effective treatment with antiretroviral therapy for HIV infection is a mainstay of cryptosporidiosis in this population (see resources below).

Health care providers and clinical laboratories are required to report cases and suspect cases of cryptosporidiosis to local health departments within one working day of identification. Public health will reach out to infected persons and guide them through infection control procedures and advise them when they may return to school, daycare, work as a food handler, health care or day care provider. They will also discuss the recommendation that infected persons refrain swimming in a pool for 2 weeks after symptom resolution.

Options for additional notifications:

Providers who wish to receive updates on Cryptosporidium detections from

the Bull Run can register at www.portlandoregon.gov/water/cryptoupdate. This website can also be shared with patients who would benefit from this information.

In addition, providers can direct immunosuppressed patients to subscribe to emergency notifications at www.publicalerts.org to receive timely notification if additional public health protections are recommended as a result of Cryptosporidium detections.

For additional information:

- About case reporting, lab testing, or patient education, contact your local Health Department communicable disease program

- Clackamas County: 503-655-8411
- Multnomah County: 503-988-3406
- Washington County: 503-846-3594

- About Bull Run drinking water, contact the Portland Water Bureau Water Quality Line 503-823-7525

- CDC information on Cryptosporidium

http://www.cdc.gov/parasites/crypto/gen_info/infect.html

- HIV.gov Clinical Info resources

- Adults and adolescents: [https://clinicalinfo.hiv.gov/en/guidelines/hiv-clinical-guidelines-](https://clinicalinfo.hiv.gov/en/guidelines/hiv-clinical-guidelines-adult-and-adolescent-opportunistic-infections/whats-new)

[guidelines-adult-and-adolescent-opportunistic-infections/whats-new](https://clinicalinfo.hiv.gov/en/guidelines/hiv-clinical-guidelines-adult-and-adolescent-opportunistic-infections/whats-new)

- Children: [https://clinicalinfo.hiv.gov/en/guidelines/hiv-clinical-guidelines-](https://clinicalinfo.hiv.gov/en/guidelines/hiv-clinical-guidelines-pediatric-opportunistic-infections/cryptosporidiosis?view=full)

[pediatric-](https://clinicalinfo.hiv.gov/en/guidelines/hiv-clinical-guidelines-pediatric-opportunistic-infections/cryptosporidiosis?view=full)

[opportunistic-infections/cryptosporidiosis?view=full](https://clinicalinfo.hiv.gov/en/guidelines/hiv-clinical-guidelines-pediatric-opportunistic-infections/cryptosporidiosis?view=full)

- American Academy of Pediatrics. Committee on Infectious Diseases. Red Book :

Report of the Committee on Infectious Diseases. Elk Grove Village, IL :American

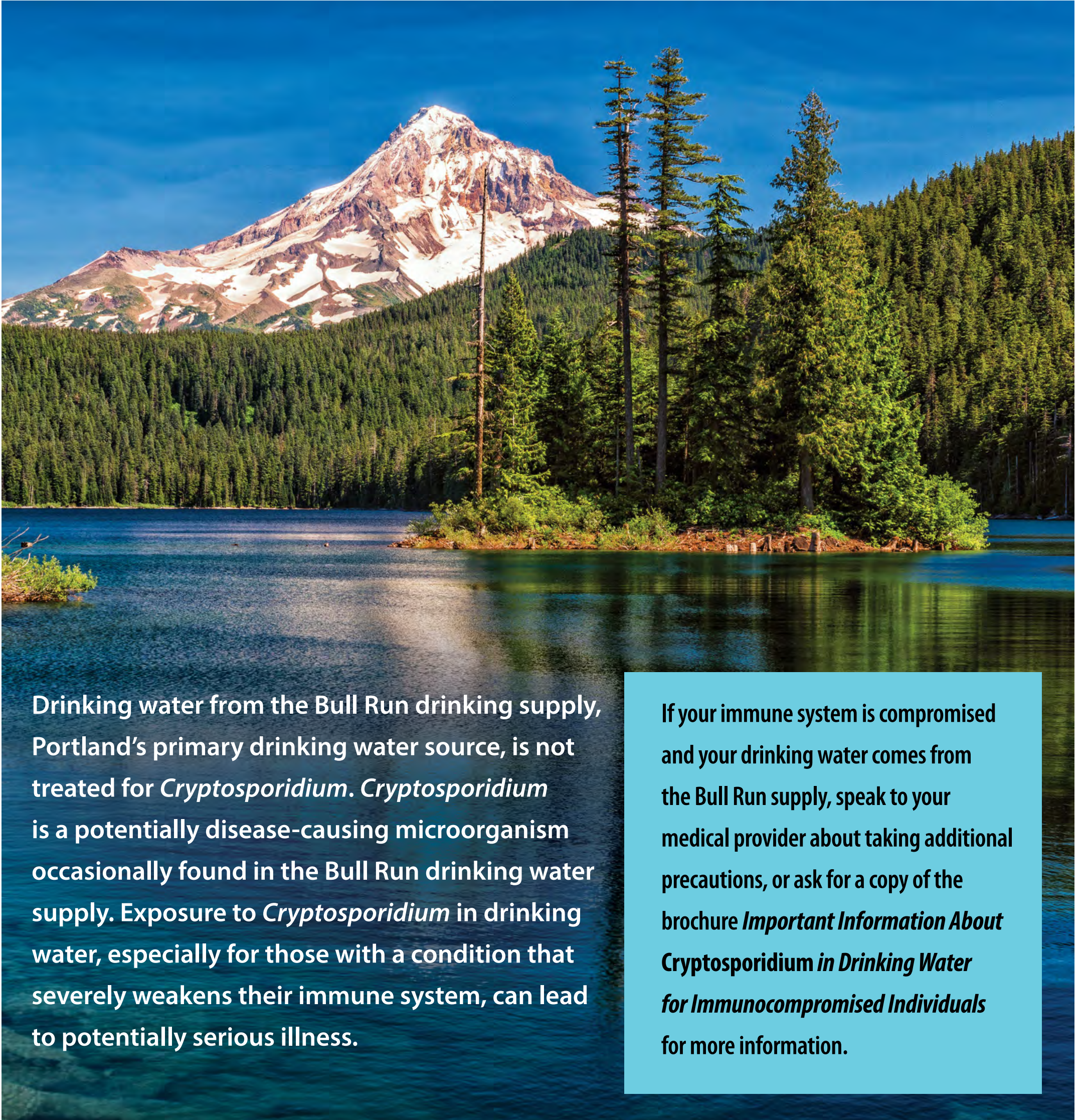
Academy of Pediatrics, 2021.

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This email was encrypted for your privacy and security

Are You At Risk from *Cryptosporidium* in Drinking Water?



Drinking water from the Bull Run drinking supply, Portland's primary drinking water source, is not treated for *Cryptosporidium*. *Cryptosporidium* is a potentially disease-causing microorganism occasionally found in the Bull Run drinking water supply. Exposure to *Cryptosporidium* in drinking water, especially for those with a condition that severely weakens their immune system, can lead to potentially serious illness.

If your immune system is compromised and your drinking water comes from the Bull Run supply, speak to your medical provider about taking additional precautions, or ask for a copy of the brochure *Important Information About Cryptosporidium in Drinking Water for Immunocompromised Individuals* for more information.

The Portland Water Bureau and Burlington, City of Gresham, City of Sandy, City of Tualatin, Green Valley, GNR, Hideaway Hills, Lake Grove, Lorna Portland Water, Lusted, Palatine Hill, Pleasant Home, Raleigh, Rockwood, Skyview Acres, Tualatin Valley, Two Rivers, Valley View and West Slope Water Districts receive all or part of their drinking water supply from the Bull Run. Contact your drinking water provider to find out if your drinking water comes from the Bull Run. To find your drinking water provider, visit www.regionalh2o.org.

www.portlandoregon.gov/water/crypto



The Bull Run Watershed



The Bull Run Watershed is a highly protected unfiltered drinking water source. It is the largest drinking water source in the state of Oregon and provides drinking water to all of Portland and many surrounding communities. *Cryptosporidium*, a potentially disease-causing microorganism, is occasionally found in the Bull Run drinking water supply. Exposure to *Cryptosporidium* in drinking water, especially for those with a condition that severely weakens their immune system, can lead to potentially serious illness.

The Portland Water Bureau and Burlington, City of Gresham, City of Sandy, City of Tualatin, Green Valley, GNR, Hideaway Hills, Lake Grove, Lorna Portland Water, Lusted, Palatine Hill, Pleasant Home, Raleigh, Rockwood, Skyview Acres, Tualatin Valley, Two Rivers, Valley View and West Slope Water Districts receive all or part of their drinking water supply from the Bull Run. Contact your drinking water provider to find out if your drinking water comes from the Bull Run. To find your drinking water provider, visit www.regionalh2o.org.

www.portlandoregon.gov/water/crypto



Portland Water Bureau

1120 SW Fifth Avenue, Room 600
Portland, OR 97204 (Mailing Only)
503-823-7404

Amanda Fritz, Commissioner
Michael Stuhr, P.E., Director

Water Quality Line

8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., Monday – Friday
503-823-7525

WBWaterLine@portlandoregon.gov

Please contact us for translation or interpretation, or for accommodations for people with disabilities.

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www.portlandoregon.gov/water/access
503-823-7432 (TTY: 503-823-6868, Relay Service: 711)

 Printed on recycled paper

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT

Cryptosporidium in Drinking Water

for Immunocompromised Individuals

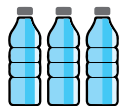


Protecting Yourself from *Cryptosporidium* in Drinking Water



The Bull Run drinking water supply is not currently treated for *Cryptosporidium*. If you get your drinking water from Portland, or Portland provides drinking water to your provider, you cannot be sure that your drinking water does not contain *Cryptosporidium*. As a result, if you have a condition that compromises your immune system you may wish to avoid drinking tap water. This includes water and ice from a refrigerator and drinks made at a soda fountain, which are usually made with tap water.

Protective Measures to Consider



Safe commercially bottled water

Water labeled with any of the following messages has been processed by a method effective against *Cryptosporidium*: reverse osmosis, distilled, filtered through an absolute 1 micron or smaller filter, or "One micron absolute".



Boiling water before consuming

Boiling is the best extra measure to ensure that your water is free of *Cryptosporidium* and other microbes. Heating water at a rolling boil for 1-minute kills *Cryptosporidium* and other microbes. After the boiled water cools, put it in a clean bottle or pitcher with a lid and store it in the refrigerator. Use the water for drinking, cooking, or making ice.



Filtering your tap water

Many, but not all, available home water filters remove *Cryptosporidium*. Filters that have the words "reverse osmosis" on the label protect against *Cryptosporidium*, as do filters with "absolute 1 micron." Also look for the words "cyst reduction" or "cyst removal" for a tested filter that works against *Cryptosporidium*. The wording should indicate that the filter is listed and labeled to NSF/ANSI standard 53 or 58 by an ANSI accredited certification organization.

Filters collect microorganisms from your water, so someone who is not immunocompromised should change the filter cartridges for you; if you do it yourself, wear gloves and wash your hands well with soap and water afterwards. Filters may not remove *Cryptosporidium* as well as boiling does because filters may sometimes have manufacturing flaws that allow small numbers of *Cryptosporidium* parasites to get past the filter. Poor filter maintenance or failure to replace filter cartridges as recommended by the manufacturer can also cause your filter to fail.



Using a home distiller

You can remove *Cryptosporidium* and other microorganisms from your water with a home distiller. If you use one, you need to carefully store your water. After purification, put the water in a clean bottle or pitcher with a lid and store it in the refrigerator.

Water bottles and ice trays should be cleaned with soap and water before use when being used to store boiled, filtered or distilled water.

How the Portland Water Bureau is Protecting Public Health

After a series of low level detections of *Cryptosporidium* in the Bull Run drinking water supply during January – March of 2017, the Portland Water Bureau began work to construct a drinking water filtration plant for the Bull Run supply. The new treatment plant is estimated to be operational by September 2027. The new Bull Run filtration plant will remove *Cryptosporidium*, make the water system more reliable, and provide consistent, excellent water to customers.

While the filtration plant is being constructed, the Portland Water Bureau will continue to take efforts to ensure public health protection. These efforts include:

- Maintain the existing protections for the Bull Run Watershed to minimize sources of *Cryptosporidium*.
- Continued monitoring of the Bull Run supply for *Cryptosporidium*.
- Work with public health officials to monitor for potential cases of cryptosporidiosis from drinking water.
- Notify the public to take extra precautions if *Cryptosporidium* in drinking water poses a risk to public health.

Additional Information

General Information on *Cryptosporidium* and preventive measures:

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention:

www.cdc.gov/parasites/crypto/gen_info/prevent_ic.html

Information on drinking water safety and quality:

Portland Water Bureau Water Quality Line:

503-823-7525

wbwaterline@portlandoregon.gov

www.portlandoregon.gov/water/crypto

To receive updates on *Cryptosporidium* detections from the Bull Run, register at

www.portlandoregon.gov/water/cryptoupdate



Mingus Mapps, Commissioner
Gabriel Solmer, Director

1120 SW Fifth Avenue, Room 405
Portland, Oregon 97204-1926
Information: 503-823-7404
portlandoregon.gov/water



December, 2022

Dear Provider,

You recently received a Clinician Update about *Cryptosporidium* and Drinking Water from the Tri-County Health Officer. The advisory, informing you that water from the Portland Water Bureau is not treated for *Cryptosporidium*, also stated that the Portland Water Bureau would be mailing informational posters and brochures that can be displayed in your office as an additional resource to your patients.


Enclosed please find posters and brochures that we encourage you to display in your office. If you would like additional copies of either of these, please contact the Portland Water Bureau Water Quality Line at 503-823-7525 or wewaterline@portlandoregon.gov. If you have additional questions about *Cryptosporidium* or patient education, please contact your local Health Department communicable disease program:

- Clackamas County: 503-655-8411
- Multnomah County: 503-988-3406
- Washington County: 503-846-3594

Thank you for your support and assistance in educating your patients about this issue,

Scott Bradway
Water Quality Information Manager
Portland Water Bureau

Attachment 6. Screenshot of *Cryptosporidium* detection alert registration form

The CITY OF PORTLAND Oregon

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Portland Water Bureau
From forest to faucet, we deliver the best drinking water in the world.

CUSTOMER SERVICE: 503-823-7770
GENERAL INFORMATION: 503-823-7404

MORE CONTACT INFO

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[What We Do](#) [Water Quality](#) [Information on Cryptosporidium](#) [Sign-Up for Portland Water Bureau Cryptosporidium Updates](#)

Edit Description

Portland Water Bureau Cryptosporidium Updates Sign-Up * Required Field

The Portland Water Bureau is in the process of constructing a new treatment facility that will remove *Cryptosporidium* from Bull Run drinking water. The new treatment facility will be completed by September, 2027. Until that time, customers and medical providers who wish to receive an e-mail notification when the Portland Water Bureau detects *Cryptosporidium* can enter their contact information below. This information will not be shared and will only be used to communicate about project developments and drinking water safety. You may opt out at anytime. Visit www.portlandoregon.gov/water/crypto for more information on *Cryptosporidium* and Portland's drinking water.

Please enter your contact information below.

Name*	<input type="text"/>
Email*	<input type="text"/>
ZIP Code*	<input type="text"/>
I am a	<input type="radio"/> Customer <input type="radio"/> Medical provider

Submit



Media Release

Portland Water Bureau

For Immediate Release

Dec. 20, 2022

For more information, contact Public Information at 503-823-8064.

***Cryptosporidium* Monitoring Update: Detections from routine monitoring in the Bull Run. Customers do not need to take any additional precautions at this time.**

Since 2017, the Portland Water Bureau has detected low levels of *Cryptosporidium* from routine monitoring of source water. The Portland Water Bureau received results from ongoing monitoring from the Bull Run Watershed intake for *Cryptosporidium*, a potentially disease-causing microorganism. In the 50 liters sampled each day from Dec. 11 to Dec. 14, two *Cryptosporidium* oocysts were detected in the samples collected on Dec. 12 and Dec. 13, three oocysts were detected in the sample collected on Dec. 14. *Cryptosporidium* was not detected in the sample collected on Dec. 11. Prior to these detections, *Cryptosporidium* was last detected from the Bull Run Watershed intake on Dec. 7, 2022.

The Bull Run watershed is Portland's primary source of drinking water. The Portland Water Bureau does not currently treat for *Cryptosporidium*, but is required to do so under drinking water regulations. Portland is working to install filtration by September 2027 under a compliance schedule with the Oregon Health Authority. In the meantime, Portland Water Bureau is implementing interim measures such as watershed protection and additional monitoring to protect public health. Consultation with public health officials has concluded that at this time, customers do not need to take any additional precautions.

Exposure to *Cryptosporidium* can cause cryptosporidiosis, a serious illness. Symptoms can include diarrhea, vomiting, fever and stomach pain. People with healthy immune systems recover without medical treatment. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), people with severely weakened immune systems are at risk for more serious disease. Symptoms may be more severe and could lead to serious or life-threatening illness. Examples of people with weakened immune systems include those with AIDS, those with inherited diseases that affect the immune system, and cancer and transplant patients who are taking certain immunosuppressive drugs.

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Подробиці · Tichikin Poraus · अधिक सूचना

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Attachment 7. Example *Cryptosporidium* detection press release

The Environmental Protection Agency has estimated that a small percentage of the population could experience gastro-intestinal illness from *Cryptosporidium* and advises that customers who are immunocompromised and receive their drinking water from the Bull Run Watershed consult with their healthcare professional about the safety of drinking the tap water. The Portland Water Bureau and Burlington, City of Gresham, City of Sandy, City of Tualatin, Green Valley, GNR, Hideaway Hills, Lake Grove, Lorna Domestic Water, Lusted, Palatine Hill, Pleasant Home, Raleigh, Rockwood, Skyview Acres, Tualatin Valley, Two Rivers, Valley View and West Slope Water Districts receive all or part of their drinking water supply from Bull Run. To learn if your drinking water comes from Bull Run, please contact your local drinking water provider.

The public and the media are encouraged to view all sampling results posted to the City's website at portland.gov/water/cryptoresults. The bureau will notify the media and public immediately should further test results indicate a risk to public health and precautions are necessary.

Customers with questions regarding water quality can call the Water Quality Line at 503-823-7525.

About the Portland Water Bureau

The Portland Water Bureau serves water to almost a million people in the Portland area. Portland's water system includes two great water sources, 53 tanks and reservoirs, and 2,200 miles of pipes. With 600 employees working on everything from water treatment to customer service, the Water Bureau is committed to serving excellent water every minute of every day.



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Cryptosporidium Monitoring Update

News Article

Detections from routine monitoring in the Bull Run. Customers do not need to take any additional precautions at this time.

Published: December 20, 2022 9:00 am

Since 2017, the Portland Water Bureau has detected low levels of *Cryptosporidium* from routine monitoring of source water. The Portland Water Bureau received results from ongoing monitoring from the Bull Run Watershed intake for *Cryptosporidium*, a potentially disease-causing microorganism. In the 50 liters sampled each day from Dec. 11 to Dec. 14, two *Cryptosporidium* oocysts were detected in the samples collected on Dec. 12 and Dec. 13, three oocysts were detected in the sample collected on Dec. 14. *Cryptosporidium* was not detected in the sample collected on Dec. 11. Prior to these detections, *Cryptosporidium* was last detected from the Bull Run Watershed intake on Dec. 7, 2022.

The Bull Run watershed is Portland's primary source of drinking water. The Portland Water Bureau does not currently treat for *Cryptosporidium*, but is required to do so under drinking water regulations. Portland is working to install filtration by September 2027 under a compliance schedule with the Oregon Health Authority. In the meantime, Portland Water Bureau is implementing interim measures such as watershed protection and additional monitoring to protect public health. Consultation with public health officials has concluded that at this time, customers do not need to take any additional precautions.

Exposure to *Cryptosporidium* can cause cryptosporidiosis, a serious illness. Symptoms can include diarrhea, vomiting, fever and stomach pain. People with healthy immune systems recover without medical treatment. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), people with severely weakened immune systems are at risk for more serious disease. Symptoms may be more severe and could lead to serious or life-threatening illness. Examples of people with weakened immune systems include those with AIDS, those with inherited diseases that affect the immune system, and cancer and transplant patients who are taking certain immunosuppressive drugs.

The Environmental Protection Agency has estimated that a small percentage of the population could experience gastro-intestinal illness from *Cryptosporidium* and advises that customers who are immunocompromised and receive their drinking water from the Bull Run Watershed consult with their healthcare professional about the safety of drinking the tap water. The Portland Water Bureau and Burlington, City of Gresham, City of Sandy, City of Tualatin, Green Valley, GNR, Hideaway Hills, Lake Grove, Lorna Domestic Water, Lusted, Palatine Hill, Pleasant Home, Raleigh, Rockwood, Skyview Acres, Tualatin Valley, Two Rivers, Valley View and West Slope Water Districts receive all or part of their drinking water supply from Bull Run. To learn if your drinking water comes from Bull Run, please contact your local drinking water provider.

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Portland Water Bureau

December 20, 2022 · 🌐

Since 2017, the Portland Water Bureau has detected low levels of *Cryptosporidium* from routine monitoring. Periodic low level *Cryptosporidium* detections may continue through the rainy season.

Consultation with public health officials has concluded that customers do not need to take any additional precautions at this time. People who are severely immune-compromised—such as people who have had an organ transplant, HIV/AIDS, or cancer treatment—should consult with their health care providers about the safety of drinking tap water.

Read the update at: bit.ly/3jdOcwn

December 20, 2022:

Cryptosporidium Monitoring Update

In the 50 liters sampled each day from Dec. 11 to Dec. 14, two *Cryptosporidium* oocysts were detected in the samples collected on Dec. 12 and Dec. 13, three oocysts were detected in the sample collected on Dec. 14. *Cryptosporidium* was not detected in the sample collected on Dec. 11.

Prior to these detections, *Cryptosporidium* was last detected from the Bull Run Watershed intake on Dec. 7, 2022.



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Portland Water Bureau

@portlandwater

People who are severely immune-compromised—such as people who have had an organ transplant, HIV/AIDS, or cancer treatment—should consult with their health care providers about the safety of drinking tap water. Read the update at:

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Portland Water Bureau @portlandwater · Dec 20, 2022

@PortlandWater received results from ongoing monitoring for *Cryptosporidium*. Since 2017, the Portland Water Bureau has detected low levels of *Cryptosporidium* from routine monitoring. Periodic low level *Cryptosporidium* detections may continue through the rainy season.



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Portland Water Bureau @portlandwater · Dec 20, 2022

Consultation with public health officials has concluded that customers do not need to take any additional precautions at this time.



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
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Water

Bureau/Office

The City of Portland Water Bureau serves water to nearly a quarter of all Oregonians. We're committed to great water sources, public health, community relationships, and planning ahead. Our mission is to serve excellent water every minute of every day.


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Information on *Cryptosporidium* web page.

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Cryptosporidium and drinking water

Information



Find *Cryptosporidium* test results and learn how we're changing our water treatment to address *Cryptosporidium*. If you have a condition that puts you at greater risk from *Cryptosporidium* in drinking water, find out how you can reduce your risk.

On this page

- [Information about *Cryptosporidium*](#)
- [Is Portland's drinking water safe to drink?](#)
- [How the Water Bureau is protecting public health](#)
- [Protecting yourself from *Cryptosporidium* in drinking water](#)
- [How *Cryptosporidium* gets in the water](#)
- [Portland's *Cryptosporidium* reports](#)

Information about *Cryptosporidium*

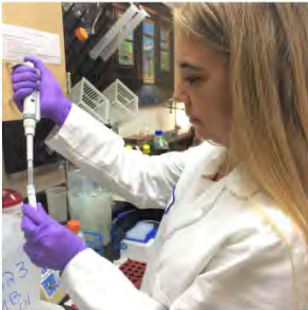
Unfiltered surface water sources, such as the Bull Run Watershed, are [required to be treated for *Cryptosporidium*](#). *Cryptosporidium* is a potentially disease-causing microorganism found in many surface waters in the U.S. From 2012 to 2017, the Water Bureau was granted a variance to these requirements by the Oregon Health Authority (OHA). This variance was revoked in December 2017 due to a series of low-level detections for *Cryptosporidium* in early 2017. We entered into a [Bilateral Compliance Agreement with OHA](#) that is in effect from December 2017 to 2027, when the new filtration facility will be operational.

As a result, the Portland Water Bureau does not currently treat for *Cryptosporidium*, but is required to do so under the drinking water regulations. Portland is working to [install filtration by 2027](#) under a compliance schedule with Oregon Health Authority. In the meantime, the Water Bureau is implementing interim measures such as watershed protection and additional monitoring to protect public health. Consultation with public health officials has concluded that at this time, customers do not need to take any additional precautions.

Exposure to *Cryptosporidium* can cause cryptosporidiosis, a serious illness. Symptoms can include diarrhea, vomiting, fever, and stomach pain. People with healthy immune systems recover without medical treatment. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), people with severely weakened immune systems are at risk for more serious disease. Symptoms may be more severe and could lead to serious life-threatening illness. Examples of people with weakened immune systems include those with AIDS, those with inherited diseases that affect the immune system, and cancer and transplant patients who are taking certain immunosuppressive drugs.

The Environmental Protection Agency has estimated that a small percentage of the population could experience gastrointestinal illness from *Cryptosporidium* and advises that customers who are immunocompromised and receive their drinking water from the Bull Run Watershed consult with their health care professional about the safety of drinking the tap water.

Several [Portland-area drinking water providers](#) receive their water from Bull Run. To learn if your drinking water comes from Bull Run, please contact your local drinking water provider.



Water quality

- [2021 Drinking water quality report](#)
- [Test results](#)
- [Cryptosporidium](#)**
- [Lead](#)
- [Test your water for lead](#)
- [Hydrant flushing](#)
- [Water quality in large buildings](#)

Contact

Water Quality Line

Ask questions about the quality of your water.

✉ WBWaterLine@portlandoregon.gov

📞 503-823-7525

Related

- [Sign up for *Cryptosporidium* detection notifications](#)
- [About the Bull Run Filtration Project](#)
- [Drinking water test results](#)
- [Report drinking water quality or pressure concerns](#)
- [Filtering or treating drinking water at home](#)

Topics

- [Environment](#)
- [Water, stormwater, and sewer](#)

Attachment 11. E-mail sent to wholesale providers with BCA Appendix A language for website

From: [Bradway, Scott](#)
To: [WB Water Providers - Water Quality Information](#); [WB Water Quality](#); [WB Public Info](#)
Subject: Cryptosporidium detected from the Bull Run intake
Date: Thursday, February 17, 2022 12:52:52 PM
Attachments: [Website Language for Cryptosporidium.docx](#)

All,

We wanted to let you know that in the 50 liters sampled each day from Feb. 13 to Feb. 16, two *Cryptosporidium* oocysts were detected in the sample collected on Feb. 14. *Cryptosporidium* was not detected in the samples collected on Feb. 13, Feb. 15 or Feb. 16. Prior to these detections, *Cryptosporidium* was last detected from the Bull Run Watershed intake on Jan. 31, 2022.

The State has determined that the public does not need to take additional protections at this time. We will continue sampling four times per week until we have at least three weeks without any detections.

We will be issuing a press release Friday, announcing these results, and will continue to notify you and issue press releases when we have detections. We will also continue to update our website with detections as we receive validated results, these results can be found at www.portland.gov/water/cryptoresults.

Also, as a yearly reminder, and part of the requirements of the Bilateral Compliance Agreement with OHA, we strongly encourage you to post the attached information to your website, if possible.

Thank you

Scott Bradway
Water Quality Information Program Manager
Portland Water Bureau
1120 SW 5th Ave., Room B320M
Portland, OR 97204
Phone: 503-823-1951
Fax: 503-823-9381

Monitoring for *Cryptosporidium*

Cryptosporidium is a potentially disease-causing microorganism that lives in virtually all freshwater ecosystems. Drinking water treatment for *Cryptosporidium* is required by state and federal regulations. For five years, the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) did not require the Portland Water Bureau to treat for *Cryptosporidium* based on data showing that *Cryptosporidium* was rarely found in the Bull Run Watershed. Since 2017, test results have shown low-level detections of *Cryptosporidium* primarily during the rainy season. As a result, OHA determined that treatment is now necessary. The Portland Water Bureau does not currently treat for *Cryptosporidium*, but is required to do so under drinking water regulations. Portland is working to install filtration by 2027 under a compliance schedule with OHA. In the meantime, the Portland Water Bureau is implementing interim measures such as watershed protection and additional monitoring to protect public health. Consultation with public health officials continues to conclude that the general public does not need to take any additional precautions.

Exposure to *Cryptosporidium* can cause cryptosporidiosis, a serious illness. Symptoms can include diarrhea, vomiting, fever, and stomach pain. People with healthy immune systems recover without medical treatment. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), people with severely weakened immune systems are at risk for more serious disease. Symptoms may be more severe

and could lead to serious life-threatening illness. Examples of people with weakened immune systems include those with AIDS, those with inherited diseases that affect the immune system, and cancer and transplant patients who are taking certain immunosuppressive drugs.

The Environmental Protection Agency has estimated that a small percentage of the population could experience gastrointestinal illness from *Cryptosporidium* and advises that customers who are immunocompromised and receive their drinking water from the Bull Run Watershed consult with their health care professional about the safety of drinking the tap water.

2021 results of *Cryptosporidium* monitoring at the raw water intake

Number of samples		Concentration detected (oocysts/L)	
Total tested	Positive for <i>Cryptosporidium</i>	Minimum	Maximum
200	33	Not detected	0.12

More information: portland.gov/water/crypto

Special notice for immunocompromised persons

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population.

Immunocompromised 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 people, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)/Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at **800-426-4791**.





Mingus Mapps, Commissioner
Gabriel Solmer, Administrator

1120 SW Fifth Avenue, Room 405
Portland, Oregon 97204-1926
Information: 503-823-7404
portland.gov/water



Date: March 30, 2022

To: Wholesale Customers of the Portland Water Bureau

From: Scott Bradway, Water Quality Information, Portland Water Bureau

Re: 2022 Consumer Confidence Report

As required by OAR 333-061-0043(1)(c), we are delivering the attached 2021 water quality monitoring data for use in your Consumer Confidence Reports (CCR). This memo includes notes about those data, required text, and optional text Portland is including in its own CCR. Additional information for systems that choose to buy copies of Portland's CCR to distribute to your customers is at the end of this memo.

Notes about the CCR draft and data

Distribution system data

The distribution system data in Portland's CCR are unique to the City of Portland water system and do not accurately reflect the water in your distribution system. In the attached data table, I deleted Portland's distribution system data to avoid confusion. In your own CCR, whether you purchase it from us or produce your own, you need to provide a table of contaminants detected in your distribution system per the requirements in OAR 333-061-0043.

Cryptosporidium data and information

In December of 2017, the Portland Water Bureau entered into a Bilateral Compliance Agreement (BCA) for the treatment of *Cryptosporidium*. The BCA requires Portland to include the language included in Appendix A of the BCA in the CCR, and I encourage all of you to include that information in your CCR as well. OARs also require systems to report any detections of *Cryptosporidium* from their source water and explain the significance of the results.

The text and data in the attached CCR draft meets the BCA and OAR requirements. I have included the monitoring results for 2021 and the *Cryptosporidium* text we will be using (prescribed language in **RED**). We also included the current draft of our text on upcoming treatment for *Cryptosporidium*.

Lead information

The OARs require specific language about lead be included in the CCR. Portland has embedded this language in a longer section about lead, prescribed language is in **RED**. You can choose to include just the language in red or the full lead section. We also included the current draft of our text on the Improved Corrosion Control Treatment (ICCT) facility that will begin operation in April 2022.

The lead and copper monitoring results are only applicable for systems that are part of Portland's Joint Monitoring Program (JMP). There are also exceedance requirements for including health effects information. **I highlighted these results and health effects information in yellow.** If you are not part of the JMP, you will need to update the table with your own monitoring results and you may choose to delete the health effects information.

Wholesalers that do not participate in the Lead in Water Education and Testing Program (LWET) to offer free lead-in-water tests for their customers should remove that language from their CCR. **I highlighted this text in green.** If you would like to participate in LWET and have free lead tests available for your customers, please contact me about joining this program at no cost to you or your customers.

Disclaimer about the draft text

Note that the included text, aside from the required language, is not final and may change through our internal review process. We will also be adding some additional content to the reports that is not required by the CCR Rule including information about climate change and *Legionella*.

In addition to the text we provide, you need to include any other information required for your system per OAR 333-061-0043. This could include (but is not limited to) information on any violations during 2021, required health language, variances, and contact information for the owner of the system.

Need guidance on crafting your CCR?

- EPA guidance: [epa.gov/ccr/how-water-systems-comply-ccr-requirements](https://www.epa.gov/ccr/how-water-systems-comply-ccr-requirements)
- OHA information, including certification details: oregon.gov/oha/ph/healthyenvironments/drinkingwater/monitoring/Pages/ccr.aspx

Ordering paper copies of Portland's report

Information about using Portland's report

As a purchasing water system, Portland provides you the option to purchase paper copies of Portland's report to distribute to your own customers. If you are considering this option, please note the following requirements you will still be responsible for:

- The City of Portland report may not meet all your regulatory requirements per OAR 333-061-0043. You may need to include additional information – see the above memo for

Attachment 13. Wholesale provider CCR memo with BCA Appendix A language
additional information you may need to include with Portland's report before distributing to your customers.

- You must add your return address to the report before mailing. You can choose to have your return address printed on it through this order form, or you can order a blank mailing panel and add the return address yourself.
- You are responsible for mailing the reports out to your own customers. Portland prints and then mails you your reports in bulk. We do not mail reports to your customers on your behalf.

Ordering and delivery information

Ordering deadline: April 8, 2022. Place your order at portlandoregon.gov/water/OrderCCR. If you order a custom mailing panel, send the graphic art to me by this date. Portland cannot guarantee print copies after this date.

CCR delivery: early June 2022. Portland mails you the print copies you ordered.

Please reach out if you have questions about this information or the new ordering process.

Scott Bradway
Water Quality Information Program Manager
Portland Water Bureau
scott.bradway@portlandoregon.gov
503-823-1951