

Community Water Fluoridation

**"Many U.S. children and adults still suffer needlessly from oral diseases that could be prevented. Proven preventive measures, such as water fluoridation and dental sealants, can markedly reduce dental disease, yet they often remain unavailable to those who most need them."
(Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 1998)**

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2001 - "Because frequent exposure to small amounts of fluoride each day will best reduce the risk for dental caries [cavities] in all age groups, the work group recommends that all persons drink water with an optimal fluoride concentration and brush their teeth twice daily with fluoride toothpaste."

National Academy of Sciences, 2002 - "Research provides conclusive evidence that fluoridation of the water supply or supplemental fluoride reduces dental caries, and of all dietary components exhibiting a protective effect against caries, the most effective is fluoride. Exposure to fluoride at all ages prevents dental caries and both pre- and post-eruptive exposure to fluoride has cariostatic effects. The earlier children are exposed to fluoridated water or dietary fluoride supplements, the greater the reduction in dental caries in both the primary and permanent teeth."

Institute of Medicine, 2000 - "In region VII (Pacific), where only 19 percent of the population is served with fluoridated water, the difference in caries scores between fluoridated and nonfluoridated areas was 61 percent."

American Academy of Family Physicians, 2006 - "Fluoridation of public water supplies is a safe, economical, and effective measure to prevent dental caries."

American Academy of Pediatrics, 2006 - "...recommends that all persons drink water with an optimal fluoride concentration...."

American Council on Science and Health, 2006 - "Water fluoridation is an ideal way of improving dental health and controlling health care costs."

American Medical Association, 2006 - "The AMA urges state health departments to consider the value of requiring statewide fluoridation...."

American Public Health Association, 2006 - "We believe that the single most important thing that a community can do for the oral health of its citizens is to fluoridate its drinking water."

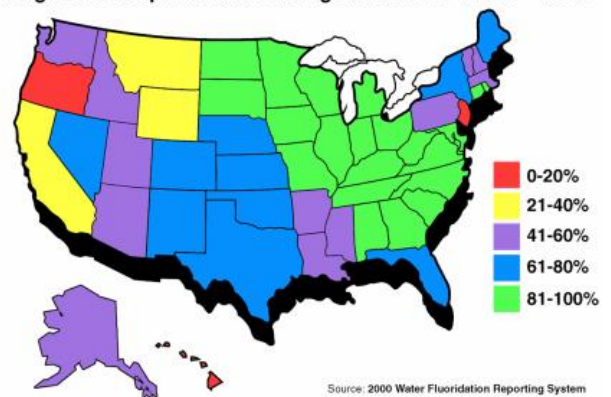
World Health Organization, 2006 - "Fluoridation of water supplies significantly improves dental health in regions with low natural fluoride in the water."

And from the contemporary health guru, Andrew Weil, 2005 - "The easiest, most efficient, and most cost-effective means of making sure that children have adequate fluoride to protect against tooth decay is to support fluoridation of your area's water supply."

Where does Oregon Stand in the Nation?

Oregon ranks 48 out of the 50 states in the percentage of people having access to fluoridated water, with only New Jersey and Hawaii ranking lower.

Percentage of US Population Receiving Fluoridated Water — 2000



Organizations Endorsing/Supporting Fluoridation, 2006

Since the inception of water fluoridation in 1945, there have been unsubstantiated claims that water fluoridation causes a variety of health problems - cancer, Downs Syndrome, Alzheimer's, bone disease, kidney problems, allergic reactions, etc. To ensure the public that these claims are false, the following are a few of the organizations that publicly endorse and/or publish supportive statements regarding the effectiveness and safety of water fluoridation.

National and International Organizations:

National Cancer Institute
American Cancer Society
American Osteopathic Association
Amer. Acad. of Allergy, Asthma, and Immunology
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
National Institutes of Health
National Health Council
U.S. Public Health Service
World Health Organization
American Medical Association
British Medical Association
Canadian Medical Association
American Nurses' Association
American Academy of Pediatrics
American Academy of Family Practice
American Public Health Association
American Dietetic Association
American Society of Clinical Nutrition
American Society for Nutritional Sciences
American Council on Science and Health
American School Health Association
National Congress of Parents and Teachers
National Parent Teachers' Association
Association of State and Territorial Health Officials
Centers for Service in the Public Interest
Institute of Medicine
National Academy of Sciences
Indian Health Service
Head Start Bureau and Early Head Start
American Osteopathic Association
National Downs Syndrome Society
National Kidney Foundation
National Council against Health Fraud
European Organizations for Caries Research
International Association for Dental Research
American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry
American Society of Dentistry for Children
American Dental Association
American Dental Hygienists' Association
British Dental Association
Canadian Dental Association

Local Organizations:

Oregon Department of Human Services
OHSU Doernbecher Children's Hospital
Oregon Pediatric Society
Oregon Academy of Family Physicians
OHSU School of Dentistry
Oregon Dental Foundation
Center for Health Research
Oregon Public Health Association
Northwest Health Foundation
Medical Society of Metropolitan Portland
The Oregon Chapter of the American College of Emergency Physicians
Assoc. of Oreg. Public Health Nurse Supervisors
American College of Nurse-Midwives/Oregon Ch.
Oregon Society of Health-System Pharmacists
Oregon Dietetic Association
ODS Health Plans
City Club of Portland
Community Action Organization Head Start
Oregon Parent Teacher Association
YWCA of Greater Portland
West District Caring Community
Multnomah County Health Department
Multnomah Education Service District
Legacy Health System
Providence Health System
Regence BlueCross/BlueShield of Oregon
Kaiser Permanente Foundation Health Plan
Northwest Permanente, PC (Kaiser physicians)
Permanente Dental Associates (Kaiser dentists)
Willamette Dental Group, PC
Division of Allied Health, Mt. Hood Comm. College
The Neighborhood Health Clinics, Inc.
Virginia Garcia Memorial Dental Clinic
Albina Head Start
Oregon Head Start
Capitol Dental Care, Inc.
Oregon Health Plan (OHP) Medical Directors Grp.
OHP Project Prevention
OHP Early Childhood Cavities Prevention Coaltn.
Oregon Dental Association
Oregon Dental Hygienists' Association
Oregon Dental Assistants Association
Multnomah County Dental Society
Washington County Dental Society
Portland Dental Hygienists' Association
Mt. Hood Dental Hygienists' Association
Washington County Dental Hygienists' Assoc.
Mt. Hood Comm. College Dental Hygiene Prog.
Portland Comm. College/Dental Sciences Dept.

Websites to visit:

<http://www.healthyteeth.us>
<http://fluoride.oralhealth.org/>
<http://www.ada.org/public/topics/fluoride/index.asp>
http://www.ada.org/public/topics/fluoride/fluoride_links.asp
www.dentalwatch.org/fl/fluoride.html
www.fluorideworks.org