Iowa Lakes Regional Water

Quality On Tap Report

Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources.

We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water.

Please contact Elizabeth Johansen with any questions at
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Spencer, IA 51301
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Iowa Lakes Regional Water is an Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer

GENERAL INFORMATION - 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 or potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

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/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 (800-426-4791).

Decisions regarding the water system are made at the Board of Director's meetings held on the fourth Thursday of every month, unless otherwise posted, at 7:00 p.m. at the District office and are open to the public.

Iowa Lakes Regional Water is pleased to present to our customers quality water that meets and exceeds all federal and state requirements.

Iowa Lakes Regional Water is pleased to present the Quality On Tap Report, designed to inform you about the quality of water and services we deliver.

Quality On Tap Report DEFINITIONS

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 for a margin of safety.

ppb-Parts per billion

ppm-Parts per million

pCi/L-Picocuries per liter

N/A-Not applicable

ND-Not detected

AL (Action Level)-The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements, which a water system must follow.

MRDLG (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal)-The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

MRDL (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level)-The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

RAA-Running Annual Average

mg/L-milligrams per liter

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Quality On Tap Report

This report contains important information regarding the water quality in our water system, which can be blended from several sources depending on the demand and blend ratios. The source of water can be purchased from Central Water System, which is treated surface water from West Lake Okoboji. The West Lake Okoboji water source was determined to be highly susceptible to contamination because it is a surface water supply. The West Lake Okoboji water source will be most susceptible to activities such as underground storage tanks, landfills, hazardous waste sites, and permitted National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System sites and land use patterns (urban & agricultural). The Howard R. Green Company has completed a detailed evaluation of our source water supply. It is available at the main office of Central Water System.

The source of our water can also be purchased from the City of Estherville, which is drawn from the Ordovician-Cambrian (Jordan) aquifer. There are five wells drilled to a depth of approximately 750 feet. Water from these wells is pumped to a treatment plant where it is filtered and softened before going to the consumer. The water is also disinfected with chlorine and fluoride is added to help prevent tooth decay. A detailed evaluation of your source water was completed by the Iowa Department of Natural Resources, and is available upon request from the City of Estherville at 712-362-7771.

The source of water can also be groundwater drawn from an alluvial aquifer. Iowa Lakes Regional Water's water supply obtains its water from a shallow sand and gravel aquifer. The shallow sand and gravel aquifer was determined to be highly susceptible to contamination because the characteristics of the aquifer and overlying materials allow contaminants to move through the aquifer fairly quickly. The wells will be most susceptible to activities such as: dry cleaners, gas stations, industrial sites, and municipal wastewater dischargers. A detailed evaluation of your source water was completed by the Iowa Department of Natural Resources, and is available upon request from Iowa Lakes Regional Water.

Central Water System

CONTAMINANTS	VIOLATION	MCLG	MCL	DETECTED LEVEL	RANGE OF DETECTION	DATE SAMPLED	SOURCE
Fluoride (ppm)	NO	4	4	0.75		9/26/2005	Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Nitrate [as N] (ppm)	NO	10	10	1.7		1/4/2005	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Sodium (ppm)	NO	N/A	N/A	8.3		7/12/2006	Erosion of natural deposits; Added to water during treatment process
Xylene (ppm)	NO	10	10	0.0006		8/23/2005	Discharge from petroleum factories, Discharge from chemical factories
Copper (ppm)	NO	1.3	AL=1.3	0.58		9/30/2005	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives
Lead (ppb)	NO	0	AL=15	5	ND to 6	9/30/2005	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Total Trihalomethanes (ppb) [TTHM]	NO	N/A	80	46 (RAA)		2006	By-products of drinking water disinfection
Total Haloacetic Acids (ppb) [HAA5]	NO	N/A	60	21 (RAA)		2006	By-products of drinking water disinfection
Dibromoacetic Acid	NO	N/A	N/A	0.002		8/23/2005	N/A
Dichloroacetic Acid	NO	N/A	N/A	0.005		8/23/2005	N/A
Trichloroacetic Acid	NO	N/A	N/A	0.003		8/23/2005	N/A
Chlorine	NO	MRDLG = 4 mg/L	MRDL = 4 mg/L	1.16 (RAA)	0.89-1.69	2006	Water additive used to control microbes

Groundwater Source

CONTAMINANTS	VIOLATION	MCLG	MCL	DETECTED LEVEL	RANGE OF DETECTION	DATE SAMPLED	SOURCE
Fluoride (ppm)	NO	4	4	0.7		5/18/2004	Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Nitrate [as N] (ppm)	NO	10	10	0.5		6/16/2005	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks; sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Sodium (ppm)	NO	N/A	N/A	5.7		5/18/2004	Erosion of natural deposits; Added to water during treatment process
Barium (ppm)	NO	2	2	0.06		5/18/2004	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Sulfate (ppm)	NO	N/A	N/A	93		5/18/2004	Erosion of natural deposits
Copper (ppm)	NO	1.3	AL=1.3	0.14		9/30/2005	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives
Lead (ppb)	NO	0	AL=15	2	ND to 2	9/30/2005	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Total Trihalomethanes (ppb) [TTHM]	NO	N/A	80	15		8/16/2004	By-products of drinking water disinfection
Chlorine	NO	MRDLG = 4 mg/L	MRDL = 4 mg/L	1.4 (RAA)	1.1 - 2	2006	Water additive used to control microbes

City of Estherville

CONTAMINANTS	VIOLATION	MCLG	MCL	DETECTED LEVEL	RANGE OF DETECTION	DATE SAMPLED	SOURCE
Fluoride (ppm)	NO	4	4	1.22	1.06-1.22	2006	Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Nitrate [as N] (ppm)	NO	10	10	1.5		1/17/2006	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Sodium (ppm)	NO	N/A	N/A	410		1/17/2006	Erosion of natural deposits; Added to water during treatment process
Xylene (ppm)	NO	10	10	0.001		8/3/2004	Discharge from petroleum factories, Discharge from chemical factories
Copper (ppm)	NO	1.3	AL=1.3	0.14		9/30/2004	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives
Lead (ppb)	NO	0	AL=15	6	ND to 6	9/30/2004	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Total Trihalomethanes (ppb) [TTHM]	NO	N/A	80	48		8/14/2006	By-products of drinking water disinfection
Total Haloacetic Acids (ppb) [HAA5]	NO	N/A	60	10		8/14/2006	By-products of drinking water disinfection
Chlorine	NO	MRDLG = 4 mg/L	MRDL = 4 mg/L	0.64 (RAA)	0.45-0.9	2006	Water additive used to control microbes