

2014 ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT CITY OF RIVER FALLS MUNICIPAL UTILITY

This report describes River Falls' drinking water sources and quality as well as programs that protect the high quality water and services delivered.

River Falls has a ground water supply with four production wells in two different aquifers. All are located within the city limits. The Prairie du Chien/Jordan (Trempealeau) aquifer is the major municipal ground water source in the region. Two wells are cased into the Jordan Aquifer. Two wells are cased into the Prairie du Chien, but not through it, and therefore get some water from both formations.

We are pleased to report that our water is safe and meets, or is better than, state and federal standards. If you have any questions concerning your water utility, please contact Terry Kusilek, Operations Superintendent, at 715-425-3481. Drinking water is a complex business. If you want to learn more please attend any of our regularly scheduled Utility Advisory Board meetings. They are held on the third Monday of each month at 6:30 p.m. in the City Council Chambers at 222 Lewis Street, unless otherwise specified by public notice.

Our municipal water supply monitoring schedule is based in part on a source water vulnerability assessment prepared by the utility. A copy of this study is available at City Hall. The municipal well water is vulnerable to contaminant sources in close proximity to the well. One potential contaminant source is unused, unsafe and non-complying private wells located within the city. As of June 30, 2003, no private wells are permitted within the city limits, except in cases where municipal services are not available. The utility has completed a survey identifying the water supply sources and wellhead protection area for River Falls Municipal water system. From this, a wellhead protection ordinance was developed and formally adopted in 2001. For more information, please contact the Utility Office.

River Falls Municipal Utilities routinely monitors water quality according to federal and state regulations. In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health. The following tables show the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1, 2014 and December 31, 2014. The state allows us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of the contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year. All drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may be reasonably expected to contain small amounts of contaminants. The presence of these contaminants does not necessarily pose a health risk. In the following tables you will find many terms and abbreviations you might not be familiar with.

DEFINITION OF TERMS

Term	Definition	Term	Definition
AL	Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.	pCi/l	picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)
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.	ppm	parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/l)
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, or micrograms per liter (ug/l)
MFL	million fibers per liter	ppt	parts per trillion, or nanograms per liter
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.	ppq	parts per quadrillion, or picograms per liter
MRDL G	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.	TCR	Total Coliform Rule
mrem/year	millirems per year (a measure of radiation absorbed by the body)	TT	Treatment Technique: A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
NTU	Nephelometric Turbidity Units		

DETECTED CONTAMINANTS

Your water was tested for many contaminants last year. We are allowed to monitor for some contaminants less frequently than once a year. The following tables list only those contaminants which were detected in your water. If a contaminant was detected last year, it will appear in the following tables without a sample date. If the contaminant was not monitored last year, but was detected within the last 5 years, it will appear in the tables below along with the sample date.

VOLATILE ORGANIC CONTAMINANTS (Disinfection Byproducts)

Contaminant (units)	Site	MCL	MCLG	Level Found	Range	Sample Date (if prior to 2014)	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
HAA5 (ppb)	D30	60	60	0	0		No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
TTHM (ppb)	D30	80	0	4.2	4.2		No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
HAA5 (ppb)	D35	60	60	0	0		No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
TTHM (ppb)	D35	80	0	3.7	3.7		No	By-product of drinking water chlorination

INORGANIC CONTAMINANTS

Contaminant (units)	Site	MCL	MCLG	Level Found	Range	Sample Date (if prior to 2014)	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
ANTIMONY TOTAL (ppb)		6	6	0.1	0.0 - 0.1		No	Discharge from petroleum refineries; fire retardants; ceramics; electronics; solder
ARSENIC (ppb)		10	n/a	1	1 - 1		No	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
BARIUM (ppm)		2	2	0.013	0.007 - 0.013		No	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits

Contaminant (units)	Site	MCL	MCLG	Level Found	Range	Sample Date (if prior to 2014)	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
FLUORIDE (ppm)		4	4	1.0	0.7 - 1.0		No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
NICKEL (ppb)		100		9.8000	0.7200 - 9.8000		No	Nickel occurs naturally in soils, ground water and surface waters and is often used in electroplating, stainless steel and alloy products.
NITRATE (NO3-N) (ppm)		10	10	0.37	0.03 - 0.37		No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
SODIUM (ppm)		n/a	n/a	2.40	2.10 - 2.40		No	n/a

Contaminant (units)	Action Level	MCL G	90th Percentile Level Found	# of Results	Sample Date (if prior to 2014)	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
COPPER (ppm)	AL=1.3	1.3	0.2600	0 of 30 results were above the action level.		No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives
LEAD (ppb)	AL=15	0	0.90	0 of 30 results were above the action level.		No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits

RADIOACTIVE CONTAMINANTS

Contaminant (units)	Site	MCL	MCLG	Level Found	Range	Sample Date (if prior to 2014)	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
GROSS ALPHA, EXCL. R & U (pCi/l)		15	0	4.2	2.7 - 4.2		No	Erosion of natural deposits
RADIUM, (226 + 228) (pCi/l)		5	0	4.2	2.7 - 4.2		No	Erosion of natural deposits
GROSS ALPHA, INCL. R & U (n/a)		n/a	n/a	4.2	2.7 - 4.2		No	Erosion of natural deposits
COMBINED URANIUM (ug/l)		30	0	1.5	1.5	6/29/2011	No	Erosion of natural deposits

** Systems exceeding a lead and/or copper action level must take actions to reduce lead and/or copper in the drinking water. The lead and copper values represent the 90th percentile of all compliance samples collected. If you want information on the NUMBER of sites or the actions taken to reduce these levels, please contact Terry Kusilek, Operations Superintendent, at 715-425-3481.

UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS

Unregulated contaminants are those for which EPA has not established drinking water standards. The purpose of unregulated contaminant monitoring is to assist EPA in determining the occurrence of unregulated contaminants in drinking water and whether future regulation is warranted. EPA required us to participate in this monitoring.

Contaminant (units)	Level Found	Range	Sample Date (if prior to 2014)	Contaminant (units)	Level Found	Range	Sample Date (if prior to 2014)
SULFATE (ppm)	22.00	14.00 - 22.00		Molybdenum	1.072	1.036 - 1.224	2013
				Strontium	37.75	34.802 - 40.569	2013

EDUCATIONAL INFORMATION

The sources of drinking water both tap water and bottled water, include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

Contaminants that may be present in source water 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 salts and metals, which can be naturally- occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining or farming.
- Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater 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 stormwater runoff and septic systems.
- Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which shall provide the same protection for public health.

As stated previously, all 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 the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791. Questions can also be addressed to Linda Knobeloch, Wisconsin Department of Health and Family Services, at 1414 E. Washington Avenue, Room 96, Madison, WI 53707 or call 608-266-0923.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised person (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.

Safe drinking water is an essential resource for our community. The bottom line is that we utilize the latest technology to treat your drinking water, and this water is tested continuously to insure high quality.