



City of Hutchinson

CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT

Water Quality Report for 2010



Introduction

The City of Hutchinson is issuing the results of monitoring done on its drinking water for the period from January 1 to December 31, 2010. The purpose of this report is to advance consumers' understanding of drinking water and to heighten awareness of the need to protect water resources.

Call 320-234-4233 if you have questions about the City's drinking water or would like information about opportunities for public participation in decisions that may affect the quality of water. This report is also available on the City's Web site at www.ci.hutchinson.mn

Water Plant/Source

The City's state-of-the-art water treatment facility uses a combination of reverse osmosis (RO) and biological filtration. Along with its 1.5 million gallon storage tank, the facility is capable of producing up to 6.5 million gallons of water per day, ready to meet the community's needs well into the future.

The City provides drinking water to its residents from a groundwater source: five wells ranging from 400 to 475 feet deep, they draw water from the Quaternary Buried Artesian and Indeterminate aquifers.

The Minnesota Department of Health has determined that the sources used to supply your drinking water is not particularly susceptible to contamination. If you wish to obtain the entire source water assessment regarding our drinking water, please call 651-201-4700 or 1-800-818-9318 (and press 5) during normal business hours. Also, you may view it online at www.health.state.mn.us/divs/eh/water/swp/swa.

Lead/Copper and household Plumbing

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant woman and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing.

The City of Hutchinson is responsible for providing high

General Information About Drinking Water

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 EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

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 are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.



In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) prescribes 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.

Sources and Contaminants

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

storm water 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 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 activities.

quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in 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 water, you may wish to have 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>.

Results of Monitoring

No contaminants were detected at levels that violated federal drinking water standards. However, some contaminants were detected in trace amounts that were below legal limits. The table within this report shows the contaminants that were detected in trace amounts last year. (Some contaminants are sampled less frequently than once per year; as a result, not all contaminants were sampled for in 2010. If any of these contaminants were detected the last time they were sampled for, they are included in the table along with the date that the detection occurred).

No drinking water quality violations were recorded during 2010 for the City of Hutchinson. All Monitoring and reporting requirements were met.

Definitions and Abbreviations

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.

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.

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 Residential Disinfectant Level: The highest level of disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of disinfectants is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

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

90th Percentile Level: This is the value obtained after disregarding 10 percent of the samples taken that had the highest levels. (For example, in a situation in which 10 samples were taken, the 90th percentile level is determined by disregarding the highest result, which represents 10 percent of the samples.) Note: In situations in which only 5 samples are taken, the average of the two with the highest levels is taken to determine the 90th percentile level.

ppb - Parts per billion: Can also be expressed as micrograms per liter (ug/l).

ppm - Parts per million: Can also be expressed as milligrams per liter (mg/l).

nd: No detection.

N/A - Not Applicable (does not apply).

TABLE 1

Contaminant [units]	MCLG	MCL	Levels Detected		Typical Source of Contaminant
			Range	Average/	
Barium [ppm]	2	2	N/A	0.05	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride [ppm]	4	4	N/A	1.1	State of Minnesota requires all municipal water systems to add fluoride to the drinking water to promote strong teeth; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) [ppb]	0	60	N/A	12.5	By product of drinking water disinfection
Nitrate (as Nitrogen) [ppm]	10.4	10.4	N/A	0.45	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
TTHM (total trihalomethanes) [ppb]	0	80	N/A	38.12	By product of drinking water disinfection
<i>This value is used to determine compliance with federal standards. It sometimes is the highest value detected and some-</i>					

TABLE 2

Contaminant [units]	MRDLG	MRDL	Highest/Lowest Monthly Average	Highest Quarterly Average	Typical Source of Contaminant
Chlorine [ppm]	4	4	.05-1.38	1.06	Water additive used to control microbes

TABLE 3 - (06/11/08)

Contaminant [units]	MCLG	AL	90% Level	# sites over AL	Typical Source of Contaminant
Copper [ppm] (6/11/2008)	1.3	1.3	0.49	0 of 30	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Lead [ppb]**(6/11/2008)	0	15	nd	1 of 30	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
<i>**If present, infants and children who drink water containing lead in excess of the action level could experience delays in their physical or mental development. Children could show slight deficits in attention span and learning abilities. Adults</i>					

TABLE 4- (03/26/09)

Some contaminants do not have Maximum Contaminant Levels established for them. These “unregulated contaminants” are assessed using state standards known as health risk limits to determine if they pose a threat to human health. If unacceptable levels of an unregulated contaminant are found, the response is the same as if an MCL has been exceeded; the water system must inform its customers and take other corrective actions. In the table that follows are the unregulated contaminants that were detected.

Contaminant [units]	Levels Detected in Hutchinson		Typical Source of Contaminant
	Range (2010)	Average/Result	
Sodium [ppm] (03/26/2009)	N/A	20	Erosion of natural deposits
Sulfate [ppm] (03/26/2009)	N/A	20.5	Erosion of natural deposits

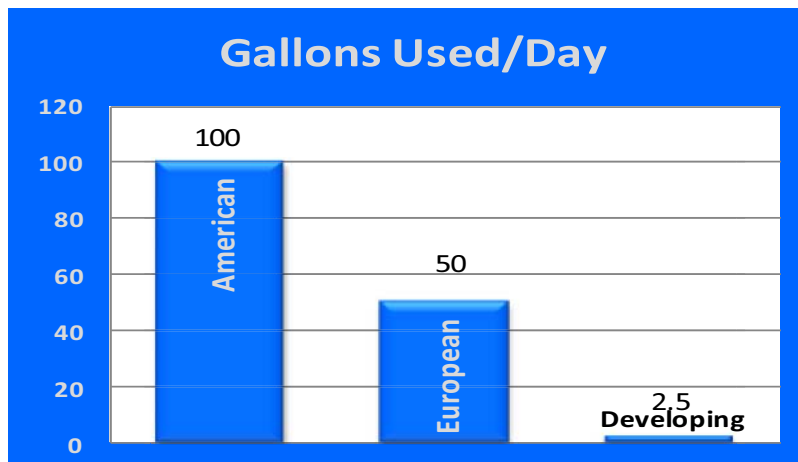
Water Facts

- Although a person can live without food for more than a month, a person can only live without water for approximately one week.
- Water leaves the stomach five minutes after consumption
- There is the same amount of water on earth as there was when the earth was formed. The water that came from your faucet could contain molecules that Neanderthals or even dinosaurs drank.
- In a 100-year period, a water molecule spends 98 years in the ocean, 20 months as ice, about 2 weeks in lakes and rivers, and less than a week in the atmosphere.
- A single tree will give off 70 gallons of water per day in evaporation.

Conservation Tips

We Use A Lot of Water

- On average, each American uses more than 100 gallons of water every day for drinking, washing and cooking. That's double the amount used by Europeans and 40 times as much as the average



- Replace your shower-head with an ultra low-flow version, saving up to 25 gallons in 10 minutes
- Take a short shower instead of a bath, while a five minute shower uses 12-25 gallons, a full tub requires about 70 gallons.
- Install a toilet tummy in your toilet tank and save 5-10 Gal/person/day, they only cost around \$4.80.
- Keep a pitcher of water in the refrigerator instead of running the tap for cold drinks.
- Wash your produce in a pan that is filled with water instead of running water. Then use the water in your garden.
- Direct downspouts and gutters towards shrubs and trees.
- Water your lawn and garden in the morning or evening when temperatures are cooler to minimize evaporation.