

2004 WATER QUALITY REPORT FOR The City of Iowa Falls

This report contains important information regarding the water quality in our water system. The source of our water is groundwater. Our groundwater is drawn from the Mississippian aquifer(s). Our water quality testing shows the following results:

CONTAMINANT	MCLG	MCL	DETECTED LEVEL	DATE SAMPLED	RANGE OF DETECTION	VIOLATION	SOURCE
Total Coliform Bacteria	0	Presence of coliform bacteria in >5% of monthly samples	1 repeat routine	2004		Yes	Naturally present in the environment
Alpha emitters (pCi/L)	0	15	1.6	2001	0-15	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Combined radium (pCi/L)	0	5	1.5	2002	1.2-1.5	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Arsenic (ppb)	N/A	50	2	2004	1-2	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronic production wastes
Barium (ppm)	2	2	0.24	2004	0.22-0.24	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Copper (ppm)	1.3	AL=1.3	0.323	2004	0.056-0.793	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	1.18	2004	.87-1.18	No	Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Lead (ppb)	0	AL=15	90%=9	2004	ND-12	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate [as N] (ppm)	10	10	0.64	2004	0.12-0.64	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
TTHM (ppb) [Total trihalomethanes]	N/A	80	25.6	2004		No	By-products of drinking water disinfection
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (ppb)	N/A	60	5	2004		No	By-products of drinking water disinfection
Chlorine (ppm)	MRDLG=4.0	MRDL=4.0	1.58	2004	0.67-1.58	No	Water additive used to control microbes
Sodium (ppm)	N/A	N/A	15	2004	13-15	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Added to water during treatment process

Note: Contaminants with dates indicate results from the most recent testing done in accordance with regulations.

DEFINITIONS

- Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) – 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.
- Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG) -- 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
- Treatment Technique (TT) – A require process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
- Action Level (AL) – The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

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 posed 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).

CONTAMINANT VIOLATIONS

Total Coliform. Coliforms are bacteria which are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially-harmful bacteria may be present. Coliforms were found in more samples than allowed and this was a warning of potential problems.

ADDITIONAL HEALTH INFORMATION

Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 10 ppm is a health risk for infants of less than six months of age. High nitrate levels in drinking water can cause blue baby syndrome. Nitrate levels may rise quickly for short periods of time because of rainfall or agricultural activity. If you are caring for an infant you should ask advice from your health care provider.

Infants and young children are typically more vulnerable to lead in drinking water than the general population. It is possible that lead levels at your home may be higher than at other homes in the community as a result of materials used in your home's plumbing. If you are concerned about elevated lead levels in your home's water, you may wish to have your water tested and flush your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using tap water. Additional information is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

SOURCE WATER ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

The City of Iowa Falls water supply obtains its water from the Mississippian aquifer. The Mississippian 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 landfill discharges and leaking underground storage tanks. A detailed evaluation of your source water was completed by the IDNR, and is available from the City of Iowa Falls Water Department at 641-648-3714 or may be picked up at City Hall.

CONTACT INFORMATION

For questions regarding this information, please contact: Bob Wright, Water Superintendent at 641-648-3714 or 641-648-2527 during the following hours: 8:00a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Decisions regarding the water system are made at the city council meetings held on the third Monday at 7:00 p.m. at the R. W. Barlow Library, 921 Washington Ave. and are open to the public.

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