



City of Wasilla

2001 Drinking Water

Consumer Confidence Report

We're pleased to present to you this year's Annual Quality Water Report. This report is designed to inform you about the quality water and services we deliver to you every day. 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. The State of Alaska will be provide its source water protection plan and a copy will be available from our office at that time. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water. Our water is supplied by four independent wells ranging from 146 to 250 feet deep, drawing from a combination of aquifers. The Mission Hill well feeds into a 6,000 gallon pressure tank serving that subdivision. Lacy Lane well feeds into a series of pressure tanks serving that subdivision. Spruce Avenue well feeds into a 1,300,000 gallon storage reservoir serving the surrounding area which then fills the another 750,000 gallon storage reservoir. These two reservoir combined provide the storage that meets the daily demand for the City of Wasilla. Each well is disinfected with a chlorine solution. In reading this report make sure you look at the data for which you receive you water.

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact John Becker at 373-9095. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled City Council meetings. They are held on the second and fourth Monday of each month at City Hall located at 290 Herning Street.

We routinely monitor for contaminants in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. This table shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1st 2001 to December 31st, 2001 or the most recent monitoring results. As water travels over the land or underground, it can pick up substances or contaminants such as microbes, inorganic and organic chemicals, and radioactive substances. All drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of these 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 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 microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

In this table you will find many terms and abbreviations with which you might not be familiar. To help you better understand these terms we've provided the following definitions:
Non-Detects (ND) - laboratory analysis indicates that the contaminant is not present.

Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/l) – corresponds to one part per million parts.

Parts per billion (ppb) or Micrograms per liter – corresponds to one part per billion parts.

Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU) - nephelometric turbidity unit is a measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.

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

Treatment Technique (TT) - A treatment technique is a required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) - The “Maximum Allowed” is 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 “Goal” is 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.

TEST RESULTS for Spruce PWS # 224646						
Contaminant	MCL Violation	Level Detected	Unit Measurement	MCLG	MCL	Likely source of contamination to the best of our present knowledge
Inorganic Contaminants						
Fluoride 2 / 5 / 1993	NO	60	ppb	4000	4000	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Nitrate 12 / 5 / 2001	NO	0.450	ppb	10	10000	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Lead & Copper						
Lead November / 2001	NO	4.6	ppb	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosions of natural deposits
Copper November / 2001	NO	656	ppb	1300	1300	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives
Volatile Organic Contaminants						
Xylenes 12 / 27 / 2001	NO	3.23	ppb	0	10000	Discharge from petroleum factories; Discharge from chemical factories
Unregulated Contaminants						
Bromodichloromethane 12 / 20 / 2001	NO	1.26	ppb	Not	Regulated	EPA requires us to monitor this contaminant while EPA considers setting a limit on it
Chloroform 12 / 20 / 2001	NO	1.11	ppb	Not	Regulated	EPA requires us to monitor this contaminant while EPA considers setting a limit on it
Dibromochloromethane 12 / 20 / 2001	NO	0.86	ppb	Not	Regulated	EPA requires us to monitor this contaminant while EPA considers setting a limit on it

TEST RESULTS for Mission Hills PWS # 223763						
Contaminant	MCL Violation	Level Detected	Unit Measurement	MCLG	MCL	Likely source of contamination to the best of our present knowledge

Inorganic Contaminants							
Arsenic	3 / / 1993	NO	9	ppb	n/a	50	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff for orchards; Runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
Nitrate	12 / 5 / 2001	NO	4930	ppb	10000	10000	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Lead & Copper							
Lead	7 / 11 / 2001	NO	9.9	ppb	15	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosions of natural deposits
Copper	7 / 11 / 2001	NO	376	ppb	1300	1300	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives

TEST RESULTS for Lacy Lane PWS # 224109							
Contaminant		MCL Violation	Level Detected	Unit Measurement	MCLG	MCL	Likely source of contamination to the best of our present knowledge
Inorganic Contaminants							
Arsenic	5 / 6 / 1996	NO	6	ppb	n/a	50	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff for orchards; Runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
Barium	May 1996	NO	25	ppb	2000	2000	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge of metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate	12 / 5 / 2001	NO	101.9	ppb	10000	10000	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Lead & Copper							
Lead	11 / 19 / 2001	NO	0.9275	ppb	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosions of natural deposits
Copper	11 / 19 / 2001	NO	17.15	ppb	1300	1300	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives
Volatile Organic Contaminants							
Total Trihalomethane December 27, 2001		NO	0.0020	ppb	0	100	By-product of water chlorination

Violations:

The City of Wasilla received one violation for not meeting a data reporting time. This violation was the result of laboratory testing errors resulting in data submitted past the due date. The test result collected was well below the MCL which posed no threat to the drinking water for that well. We are proud that your drinking water meets or exceeds all Federal and State requirements. We have learned through our monitoring and testing that some contaminants have been detected as indicated in the table above.

Waivers and/or non-detects:

There are many regulations pertaining to sampling and monitoring of our water system. Since we had a waiver for Synthetic Organic Contaminants, Asbestos, and other Organic Contaminants, we did not test for them during the time period covered by this report. We tested for Total Coliform Bacteria and none were detected in our water system.

Lead and Copper Information:

A small number of the households in our area are tested for lead and copper periodically.

It is possible that lead or copper 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. Infants and young children are typically more vulnerable to lead in drinking water than the general population. If you are concerned about elevated lead or copper 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 consuming tap water. Additional information is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

Arsenic Information:

Some people who drink water-containing arsenic in excess of the MCL over many years could experience skin damage or problems with their circulatory system, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

While your drinking water meets EPA's standard for arsenic, it does contain low levels of arsenic. EPA's standard balances the current understanding of arsenic's possible health effects against the cost of removing arsenic from the drinking water. EPA continues to research the health effects of low levels of arsenic, which is a mineral known to cause cancer in humans at high concentrations and is linked to other health effects such as skin damage and circulatory problems.

Radon Information:

This year we participated in a voluntary sampling program for Radon. Spruce Ave Water was sampled from this project. Results of the 5/14/01 sample are 50±20 picoCuries per liter (pCi/L) Radon. Analytical test results of the sample collected ranged from non-detect (ND) to 2,885 pCi/l. No state wide sample was above the alternative maximum contaminant level (AMCL). However, 15 samples exceeded the proposed prescriptive MCL of 300 pCi/L.

Radon is a naturally occurring radioactive, dense, colorless, and odorless gas. Research has linked radon in air, and to a much lesser extent drinking water, to increased chances of respiratory illness and at least two types of cancer (lung and throat). Radon is not currently a regulated drinking water contaminant, however, the Radon Rule has been proposed by U.S. EPA to regulate radon in drinking water.

We at the City of Wasilla work to provide top quality water to every tap. We ask that all our customers help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community, our way of life and our children's future.

