



# *City of Wasilla*

*Consumer Confidence Report  
2009*



# **LACY LAINE PWSID# AK2224109**

## **2009 Consumer Confidence Report**

### **Is my water safe?**

Last year, as in years past, your tap water met all U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and state drinking water health standards. Local Water vigilantly safeguards its water supplies and once again we are proud to report that our system has not violated a maximum contaminant level or any other water quality standard.

### **Do I need to take special precautions?**

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/Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Water Drinking Hotline (800-426-4791).

### **Where does my water come from?**

Ground water single well located within your subdivision on Block 2 Tract B. We do chlorinate your water for disinfection purposes. Two pressure tanks controlled by a 40 – 60 PSI switch maintain system pressure turning the well on and off as needed.

### **Source water assessment and its availability**

Source water is untreated water from streams, rivers, lakes, or underground aquifers that is used to supply public drinking water. Preventing drinking water contamination at the source makes good public health sense, good economic sense, and good environmental sense. You can be aware of the challenges of keeping drinking water safe and take an active role in protecting drinking water. There are lots of ways that you can get involved in drinking water protection activities to prevent the contamination of our water source. Dispose properly of household chemicals, help clean up the watershed that is the source of our community's water, and attend public meetings to ensure that the community's need for safe drinking water is considered in making decisions about land use.

Source Water Assessment (SWA) Reports have been completed by the ADEC Drinking Water Protection Program as a first step towards voluntary local source water protection efforts. Vulnerability rankings are assigned based on the susceptibility of the drinking water source to potential contamination, recent sampling results and the presence of potential contaminant sources - they do not necessarily indicate these contaminants will reach our source of water. Our water system has received the following vulnerability rankings:

The public water system for Wasilla Lacy Lane S/D is a Class A water system consisting of 1 source intake(s). The water system is located in Wasilla and the intake for this PWSID is a groundwater well. The wellhead received a susceptibility of "low" and the aquifer received a susceptibility rating of "low". Combining these scores produces a natural susceptibility of "low" for the source. In addition, this water system has received a vulnerability rating of "medium" for bacteria/viruses, "medium" for nitrates/nitrites, "low" for volatile organic chemicals, "low" for heavy metals, "low" for other organic chemicals, and "low" for synthetic organic chemicals. **DISCLAIMER:** Information provided on this page is automatically generated from a database of Source Water Assessment information. For additional details, please view the actual Executive Summary contained in the Source Water Assessment Report.

### **Why are there contaminants in my 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 Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

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: microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, that 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; and 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. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

### **How can I get involved?**

The City Council meets on the second and fourth Mondays of each month at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall, located at 290 E. Herning Ave. All residents are encouraged to participate in these meetings. Agendas and minutes for the meeting are available on line at the City of Wasilla web site: <http://www.cityofwasilla.com>

## **Water Conservation Tips**

Did you know that the average U.S. household uses approximately 400 gallons of water per day or 100 gallons per person per day? Luckily, there are many low-cost and no-cost ways to conserve water. Small changes can make a big difference – try one today and soon it will become second nature.

- Take short showers - a 5 minute shower uses 4 to 5 gallons of water compared to up to 50 gallons for a bath.
- Shut off water while brushing your teeth, washing your hair and shaving and save up to 500 gallons a month.
- Use a water-efficient showerhead. They're inexpensive, easy to install, and can save you up to 750 gallons a month.
- Run your clothes washer and dishwasher only when they are full. You can save up to 1,000 gallons a month.
- Water plants only when necessary.
- Fix leaky toilets and faucets. Faucet washers are inexpensive and take only a few minutes to replace. To check your toilet for a leak, place a few drops of food coloring in the tank and wait. If it seeps into the toilet bowl without flushing, you have a leak. Fixing it or replacing it with a new, more efficient model can save up to 1,000 gallons a month.
- Adjust sprinklers so only your lawn is watered. Apply water only as fast as the soil can absorb it and during the cooler parts of the day to reduce evaporation.
- Teach your kids about water conservation to ensure a future generation that uses water wisely. Make it a family effort to reduce next month's water bill!
- Visit [www.epa.gov/watersense](http://www.epa.gov/watersense) for more information.

## **Source Water Protection Tips**

Protection of drinking water is everyone's responsibility. You can help protect your community's drinking water source in several ways:

- Eliminate excess use of lawn and garden fertilizers and pesticides – they contain hazardous chemicals that can reach your drinking water source.
- Pick up after your pets.
- If you have your own septic system, properly maintain your system to reduce leaching to water sources or consider connecting to a public water system.
- Dispose of chemicals properly; take used motor oil to a recycling center.
- Volunteer in your community. Find a watershed or wellhead protection organization in your community and volunteer to help. If there are no active groups, consider starting one. Use EPA's Adopt Your Watershed to locate groups in your community, or visit the Watershed Information Network's How to Start a Watershed Team.
- Organize a storm drain stenciling project with your local government or water supplier. Stencil a message next to the street drain reminding people "Dump No Waste - Drains to River" or "Protect Your Water." Produce and distribute a flyer for households to remind residents that storm drains dump directly into your local water body.

### Additional Information for Lead

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. City of Wasilla is responsible for providing high 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 your 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> Use of hot water tap for cooking may also lead to leaching Lead into our food supplies.

### Additional Information for Arsenic

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 costs of removing arsenic from 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. 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 (40 CFR 141.154(f) and 141.153(d)(6)).

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## Water Quality Data Table

The table below lists all of the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the calendar year of this report. The presence of contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table is from testing done in the calendar year of the report. The EPA or the State requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently.

| <u>Contaminants</u>   | <u>MCLG or MRDLG</u> | <u>MCL, TT, or MRDL</u> | <u>Your Water</u> | <u>Range</u> |             | <u>Sample Date</u> | <u>Violation</u> | <u>Typical Source</u>                     |
|---|----------------------|-------------------------|-------------------|--------------|-------------|--------------------|------------------|---|
|   |                      |                         |                   | <u>Low</u>   | <u>High</u> |                    |                  |   |
| <b>Disinfectants &amp; Disinfectant By-Products</b>   |                      |                         |                   |              |             |                    |                  |   |
| (There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants) |                      |                         |                   |              |             |                    |                  |   |
| Chlorine (as Cl <sub>2</sub> ) (ppm)  | 4                    | 4                       | 1.5               | ND           | 1.5         | 2009               | No               | Water additive used to control microbes   |
| TTHMs [Total Trihalomethanes] (ppb)   | NA                   | 80                      | 3.97              | NA           |             | 2009               | No               | By-product of drinking water disinfection |

| Inorganic Contaminants   |             |           |                   |                    |                               |                   |  |  |
|--|-------------|-----------|-------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------|--|--|
| Arsenic (ppb)  | 0           | 10        | 6.01              | NA                 |                               | 2005              | No   | Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronics production wastes |
| Microbiological Contaminants   |             |           |                   |                    |                               |                   |  |  |
| Fecal Indicator - E. coli at the source (positive samples)   | 0           | 0         | 0                 | NA                 |                               | 2009              | No   | Human and animal fecal waste   |
| Fecal coliform/E. coli - in the distribution system (positive samples)   | 0           | 0         | 0                 | NA                 |                               | 2009              | No   | Human and animal fecal waste   |
| A violation occurs when a routine sample and a repeat sample, in any given month, are total coliform positive, and one is also fecal coliform or E. coli positive. |             |           |                   |                    |                               |                   |  |  |
| Total Coliform (positive samples/month)  | 0           | 1         | 0                 | NA                 |                               | 2009              | No   | Naturally present in the environment   |
| Radioactive Contaminants   |             |           |                   |                    |                               |                   |  |  |
| Radium (combined 226/228) (pCi/L)  | 0           | 5         | 0.06              | ND                 | 0.06                          | 2005              | No   | Erosion of natural deposits  |
| <u>Contaminants</u>  | <u>MCLG</u> | <u>AL</u> | <u>Your Water</u> | <u>Sample Date</u> | <u># Samples Exceeding AL</u> | <u>Exceeds AL</u> | <u>Typical Source</u>  |  |
| Inorganic Contaminants   |             |           |                   |                    |                               |                   |  |  |
| Copper - action level at consumer taps (ppm)   | 1.3         | 1.3       | 0.18              | 2007               | 0                             | No                | Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits |  |
| Lead - action level at consumer taps (ppb)   | 0           | 15        | 2.8               | 2007               | 0                             | No                | Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits |  |

## Additional Contaminants

In an effort to insure the safest water possible the State has required us to monitor some contaminants not required by Federal regulations. Of those contaminants only the ones listed below were found in your water

| <u>Contaminants</u>          | <u>State MCL</u> | <u>Your Water</u> | <u>Violation</u> | <u>Explanation and Comment</u> |
|------------------------------|------------------|-------------------|------------------|--------------------------------|
| Gross Alpha, Incl. Radon & U | 15 pCi/L         | 0 pCi/L           | No               |                                |

## Undetected Contaminants

The following contaminants were monitored for, but not detected, in your water.

| <u>Contaminants</u>                  | <u>MCLG</u><br>or<br><u>MRDLG</u> | <u>MCL</u><br>or<br><u>MRDL</u> | <u>Your</u><br><u>Water</u> | <u>Violation</u> | <u>Typical Source</u>   |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------|---|
| Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (ppb)        | NA                                | 60                              | ND                          | No               | By-product of drinking water chlorination   |
| <u>Contaminants</u>                  | <u>MCLG</u><br>or<br><u>MRDLG</u> | <u>MCL</u><br>or<br><u>MRDL</u> | <u>Your</u><br><u>Water</u> | <u>Violation</u> | <u>Typical Source</u>   |
| Nitrate [measured as Nitrogen] (ppm) | 10                                | 10                              | ND                          | No               | Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits |
| Nitrite [measured as Nitrogen] (ppm) | 1                                 | 1                               | ND                          | No               | Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits |

| <b>Unit Descriptions</b> |  |
|--------------------------|--|
| <b>Term</b>              | <b>Definition</b>  |
| ppm                      | ppm: parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/L)                                 |
| ppb                      | ppb: parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (µg/L)                                 |
| pCi/L                    | pCi/L: picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)                               |
| positive samples/month   | positive samples/month: Number of samples taken monthly that were found to be positive |
| positive samples         | positive samples/yr: The number of positive samples taken that year                    |
| NA                       | NA: not applicable   |
| ND                       | ND: Not detected   |
| NR                       | NR: Monitoring not required, but recommended.  |

| <b>Important Drinking Water Definitions</b> |   |
|---|---|
| <b>Term</b>                                 | <b>Definition</b>   |
| MCLG  | 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   | 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. |
| TT  | TT: Treatment Technique: A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.  |
| AL  | AL: Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.   |

**Important Drinking Water Definitions**

|                           |   |
|---------------------------|---|
| Variations and Exemptions | Variations and Exemptions: State or EPA permission not to meet an MCL or a treatment technique under certain conditions.  |
| MRDLG                     | MRDLG: Maximum residual disinfection 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                      | 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.                              |
| MNR                       | MNR: Monitored Not Regulated  |
| MPL                       | MPL: State Assigned Maximum Permissible Level   |

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