CITY OF WASILLA

2013 Consumer Confidence Report

PWSID# AK2224646

Is my water safe?

We are pleased to present this year's Annual Water Quality Report (Consumer Confidence Report) as required by the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). This report is designed to provide details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to standards set by regulatory agencies. This report is a snapshot of last year's water quality. We are committed to providing you with information because informed customers are our best allies. Last year, we conducted tests for over 26 contaminants. We only detected 14 of those contaminants, and found only 1 at a level higher than the EPA allows. As we informed you at the time, our water temporarily exceeded drinking water standards. (For more information see the section labeled Violations at the end of the report.)

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 comprises all of Wasilla Public Water Systems. Deep aquifers from five active locations ranging from 150 feet to 250 feet below the ground's surface provide all of the Wasilla needs. We also maintain another four ground water sources that can supply additional water if needed. Water is delivered through four atmospheric storage tanks providing fire protection and maintains pressure throughout the distribution system.

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 WL WASILLA - SPRUCE AVE. MAIN is a Class A water system consisting of 5active source intakes. The water system is located in Wasilla and the intake for this PWSID is a groundwater wells. The wellheads 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, "medium" for heavy metals, "low" for other organic chemicals, and "low" for synthetic organic chemicals.

Completed source water assessments are available at ADEC's Drinking Water Protection Program website: http://www.dec.state.ak.us/eh/dw/DWP/source_water.html, by calling 907.269.7521, or at 555 Cordova St, Anchorage, AK; or at the Alaska Resources Library and Information Services, 3150 C St, Anchorage, AK.

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 encourage 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

Description of Water Treatment Process

Your water is treated by disinfection. Disinfection involves the addition of Calcium Hypochlorite a dry granular form of chlorine disinfectant to kill dangerous bacteria and microorganisms that may be in the water. Disinfection is considered to be one of the major public health advances of the 20th century.

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 for more information.

Cross Connection Control Survey

The purpose of this survey is to determine whether a cross-connection may exist at your home or business. A cross connection is an unprotected or improper connection to a public water distribution system that may cause contamination or pollution to enter the system. We are responsible for enforcing cross-connection control regulations and insuring that no contaminants can, under any flow conditions, enter the distribution system. If you have any of the devices listed below please contact us so that we can discuss the issue, and if needed, survey your connection and assist you in isolating it if that is necessary.

- Boiler/ Radiant heater (water heaters not included)
- Underground lawn sprinkler system
- Pool or hot tub (whirlpool tubs not included)
- Additional source(s) of water on the property
- Decorative pond
- Watering trough

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.

Other Information

Tampering with any water treatment or distribution facility is a Federal Offense under US Code Title 42, Section 300i-1

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.

Water Quality Data Table

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The table below lists all of the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the calendar year of this report. Although many more contaminants were tested, only those substances listed below were found in your water. All sources of drinking water contain some naturally occurring contaminants. At low levels, these substances are generally not harmful in our drinking water. Removing all contaminants would be extremely expensive, and in most cases, would not provide increased protection of public health. A few naturally occurring minerals may actually improve the taste of drinking water and have nutritional value at low levels. 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 vary significantly from year to year, or the system is not considered vulnerable to this type of contamination. As such, some of our data, though representative, may be more than one year old. In this table you will find terms and abbreviations that might not be familiar to you. To help you better understand these terms, we have provided the definitions below the table.

Contaminants	MCLG or MRDLG	MCL, TT, or MRDL	Your Water	Range Low	Range High	Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
Disinfectants & Disinfectant By-Products								
(There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants)								
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (ppb)	NA	60	7.96	1.27	7.96	2013	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Chlorine (as Cl2) (ppm)	4	4	0.8	ND	0.8	2013	No	Water additive used to control microbes
TTHMs [Total Trihalomethanes] (ppb)	NA	80	16.8	5.69	16.8	2013	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Inorganic Contaminants								
Barium (ppm)	2	2	0.0212	ND	0.0212	2013	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	0.113	ND	0.113	2013	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Nitrate [measured as Nitrogen] (ppm)	10	10	1.13	0.308	1.13	2013	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Antimony (ppb)	6	6	0	NA		2013	No	Discharge from petroleum refineries; fire retardants; ceramics; electronics; solder; test addition.
Arsenic (ppb)	0	10	14.1	1.03	14.1	2013	Yes	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronics production wastes

Contaminants	MCLG or MRDLG	MCL, TT, or MRDL	Your Water	Range Low	Range High	Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
Disinfectants & Disinfectant By-Products								
(There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants)								
Beryllium (ppb)	4	4	0	ND	0	2013	No	Discharge from metal refineries and coal-burning factories; Discharge from electrical, aerospace, and defense industries
Cadmium (ppb)	5	5	0	ND	0	2013	No	Corrosion of galvanized pipes; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from metal refineries; runoff from waste batteries and paints
Chromium (ppb)	100	100	0.663	ND	0.663	2013	No	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; Erosion of natural deposits
Cyanide [as Free Cn] (ppb)	200	200	5	ND	5	2013	No	Discharge from plastic and fertilizer factories; Discharge from steel/metal factories
Mercury [Inorganic] (ppb)	2	2	0	ND	0	2013	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from refineries and factories; Runoff from landfills; Runoff from cropland
Selenium (ppb)	50	50	0	ND	0	2013	No	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from mines
Thallium (ppb)	0.5	2	0	ND	0	2013	No	Discharge from electronics, glass, and Leaching from ore-processing sites; drug factories
Microbiological Contaminants								
Fecal coliform/E. coli - in the distribution system (positive samples)	0	0	0	NA		2013	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.								
Fecal Indicator - E. coli at the source (positive samples)	0	0	0	NA		2013	No	Human and animal fecal waste
Radioactive Contaminants								
Radium (combined 226/228) (pCi/L)	0	5	0.14	0.06	0.133	2010	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Uranium (ug/L)	0	30	0	ND	0	2010	No	Erosion of natural deposits

Volatile Organic Contaminants								
Toluene (ppm)	1	1	0	ND	0	2013	No	Discharge from petroleum factories
Volatile Organic Contaminants								
Xylenes (ppm)	10	10	0	ND	0	2013	No	Discharge from petroleum factories; Discharge from chemical factories
Ethylbenzene (ppb)	700	700	0	ND	0	2013	No	Discharge from petroleum refineries

Contaminants	MCLG	AL	Your Water	Sample Date	# Samples Exceeding AL	Exceeds AL	Typical Source
Inorganic Contaminants							
Copper - action level at consumer taps (ppm)	1.3	1.3	0.44	2012	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Lead - action level at consumer taps (ppb)	0	15	4.7	2012	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits

Violations and Exceedances

Arsenic

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. First exceedance of Arsenic occurred on 9/9/2013. We continued to sample from the well and from site within the distribution system. Our goal is to reduce the exceedance by blending the water from other sources bringing the total arsenic within allowable limits

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

Contaminants	State MCL	Your Water	Violation	Explanation and Comment
Gross Alpha, Excl. Radon & U	15 pCi/L	1.9 pCi/L	No	
NICKEL	NA	3.44 UG/L	No	

Additional Monitoring

As part of an on-going evaluation program the EPA has required us to monitor some additional contaminants/chemicals. Information collected through the monitoring of these contaminants/chemicals will help to ensure that future decisions on drinking water standards are based on sound science.

Name	Reported Level	Range Low	Range High	
Strontium (ppb)	175.8	0.3	330	
Vanadium (ppb)	0.792	0.03	1.3	
Molybdenum (ppb)	1	NA	1	
Chromium-6 (hexavalent chromium) (ppb)	0.092	0.05	0.25	
Chloromethane (methyl chloride) (ppb)	0.61	NA	0.61	
Chlorate (ppb)	60.167	24	180	
Chromium (total Chromium) (ppb)	1.5	NA	1.9	

Unit Descriptions	
Term	**Definition**
ug/L	ug/L : Number of micrograms of substance in one liter of water
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)
Unit Descriptions	
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.

Important Drinking Water Definitions	
Term	**Definition**
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.
Variances and Exemptions	Variances 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

For more information please contact:

Contact Name: John Becker
Address: 290 E. Herning Avenue
Wasilla, AK 99654
Phone: (907) 373-9044
Fax: (907) 373-9011
E-Mail: jbecker@ci.wasilla.ak.us
Website: http://www.cityofwasilla.com/

Quality On Tap!
Our Commitment Our Profession