



2002 Water Quality Report

Chippewa Falls Water Department

June 2003

Our Water Quality and What It Means

We're pleased to present you the 2002 Water Quality Report. This annual 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 continuously improve the water quality and protect our water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water.

Your water department is continually taking measures to ensure the ability to provide a safe and ample supply of drinking water to the citizens of Chippewa Falls.

- In 2002, a search for a desirable location for an additional well in the West Field began. A well and pump house will be constructed in 2003.
- This summer, for the 3rd time in 4 years, the City will complete a unidirectional flushing program. This is a more effective means of removing sediment and biofilms that could degrade water quality.
- The City will complete a 3 year project with the routine painting, minor structural modifications and maintenance items not directly affecting water quality being completed on the South Hill Tank in 2003.
- In 2003-2004, the Water Department hopes to complete a multi-year project of upgrading all water meters read using radio frequency. This will allow meters to be read from a moving vehicle, drastically reducing meter reading time. This will free up manpower for other tasks.

Where Does Our Water Come From?

Chippewa Falls relies exclusively on groundwater from 8 drilled wells for its' municipal water supply. All of the wells are drilled to a depth of approximately 40' - 90' into a sand and gravel drift formation. The West Well Field has two wells and is located at 100 Tilton Road. The East Well Field has six wells and is located at 1350 Pumhouse Road.

The City of Chippewa Falls has developed a Wellhead Protection (WHP) Plan. The goal of WHP planning is to control activities within the Zone Of Contribution to a municipal well to prevent contamination of groundwater. Copies of the City's ordinance or the WHP plan are available at our office.

Public Fire Protection

At the direction of the Chippewa Falls Common Council, the City of Chippewa Falls as a public utility applied to the Public Service Commission (PSC) on April 11, 2002 for authority to change the method of billing for Public Fire Protection.

The PSC held a public hearing on June 5, 2002 for the proposed rates to change the method of billing from the current municipal charge (on tax bill) to billing customers directly on their water bills utilizing the equivalent meter method. These rates were then approved June 7, 2002. Your fire protection bill is based on the size meter(s) you have set at your property. All properties in the city not having a metered water service are billed at the 5/8 inch meter rate.

Public fire protection charges cover the cost of providing excess capacity for pumping, treating, distribution, and storage of water for fire protection; installation and maintaining the fire hydrants along with any water used for testing hydrants, training, or fighting fires.

Fire protection rates became effective January 1, 2003. See rates on page 3.

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Special points of interest:

- ♦ 1,449,658,000 gallons of water were pumped in 2002.
- ♦ The East Hill Water tower capacity is 1,000,000 gallons. West tower 750,000, South tower 500,000.
- ♦ There are 463,998 feet of water main in the city.
- ♦ There are 753 city fire hydrants.

Monitoring Results

The Chippewa Falls Water Department routinely monitors for constituents in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. The table below shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1 to December 31, 2002 and any previous detects. All drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some constituents. It's important to remember that the presence of these constituents does not necessarily pose a health risk.

Substances Detected in Chippewa Falls Water

TEST RESULTS							
Substance (units)	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Range	Date of Sample (if prior to 2002)	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Inorganic Contaminants							
Arsenic (ppb)	No	0 (average)	nd - 2		n/a	50	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; runoff from glass and electronics production wastes.
Barium (ppm)	No	.013 (average)	nd - .021		2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Copper (ppm)	No	.2	.2		1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Lead (ppb)	No	4.4	4.4		0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate (as Nitrogen) (ppm)	No	6.51 (average)	1.50 - 9.80		10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Sodium (ppm)	No	11.69 (average)	6.42 - 23.40		n/a	n/a	n/a
Unregulated Contaminants							
Sulfate (ppm)	No	7.60 (average)	7.00 - 8.00		n/a	n/a	n/a
Radioactive Contaminants							
Gross Alpha, Excl. R & U (pCi/l)	No	4 (average)	nd - 1.4		0	15	Erosion of natural deposits.
Gross Beta Particle Activity (pCi/l)	No	1.3 (average)	.3 - 2.0		n/a	n/a	Decay of natural and man-made deposits. MCL units are in millirem/year. Calculation for compliance with MCL is not possible unless level found is greater than 50 pCi/l.

Definitions

The following definitions will help you understand terms and abbreviations you might not be familiar with.

Non-Detects (nd) - laboratory analysis indicates that the constituent is not present.

Parts per million (ppm) or **Milligrams per liter (mg/l)** - one part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in \$10,000.

Parts per billion (ppb) - one part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years or a single penny in \$10,000,000.

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

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.

Picocuries per liter (pCi/l) - a measure of radioactivity.

What does this mean?

As you can see by the table, our system had no violations. We're proud that your drinking water meets or exceeds all Federal and State requirements. We have learned through our monitoring and testing that some constituents have been detected. The EPA has determined that your water IS SAFE at these levels.

Water and Health

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 \(800-426-4791\)](#).

Nitrates

Nitrates 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.

Lead

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 two minutes before using tap water. Additional information is available from the [Safe Drinking Water Hotline at \(800-426-4791\)](#).

Rates

Water—Effective 6/1/98 (Fire Protection 1/1/03)

Meter Size	Qtrly Base	Qtrly Fire Protection
5/8 & 3/4"	\$16.88	\$11.73
1"	\$23.92	\$29.40
1 1/2"	\$39.39	\$58.50
2"	\$61.90	\$94.50
3"	\$126.62	\$177.00
4"	\$196.96	\$294.00
6"	\$393.92	\$588.00
8"	\$619.00	\$939.00
10'	\$844.10	\$1,407.00

Water Volume

Each Quarter	
First 30 CCF	\$1.09 per CCF
Next 970 CCF	\$.95 per CCF
Next 4,000 CCF	\$.81 per CCF
Over 5,000 CCF	\$.50 per CCF

Wastewater—Effective 1/1/02

Base Charge	\$12.59
Usage Charge	\$1.71 per CCF
	\$2.2861 per Thousand Gallons

Wastewater usage charge breakdown

Operation and Maintenance	\$1.41
Debt Service	.30
Total Charge	\$1.71

Water and wastewater are charged by volume of water through the meter.

7.48 Gallons = 1 Cubic Foot

100 Cubic Feet = 1 CCF

A 1/16" diameter continuous water leak would waste 74,000 gallons and cost \$274.40 per quarter (water/sewer).



Chippewa Falls Water Dept.
30 W Central St., Room 209
Chippewa Falls, WI 54729

Mailing Address Line 1
Mailing Address Line 2
Mailing Address Line 3
Mailing Address Line 4
Mailing Address Line 5

Contaminants and Drinking Water

“All sources of drinking water are subject to potential contamination by constituents that are naturally occurring or is man made. Those constituents can be microbes, organic or inorganic chemicals, or radioactive materials.”

All 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 the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency’s **Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791**.

MCL’s are set at very stringent levels. To understand the possible health effects described for many regulated constituents, a person would have to drink two liters of water every day at the MCL level for a lifetime to have a one-in-a-million chance of having the described health effect.

Nitrates: As a precaution we always notify physicians and health care providers in this area if there is ever a higher than normal level of nitrates in the water

supply.

Lead: Lead in drinking water is rarely the sole cause of lead poisoning, but it can add to a person’s total lead exposure. All potential sources of lead in the household should be identified and removed, replaced or reduced.

Getting Involved

We want our customers to be informed about their water utility. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled City Council or Board of Public Works Committee meetings. Please call for meeting times, locations and agendas.

Questions or Comments

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact John Allen, Utility Manager at 726-2741 or Rory Olson, Water Supervisor at 720-6981 or email us at utility@ci.chippewa-falls.wi.us.