

For your information

In compliance with the Michigan Safe Drinking Water Act, The City of Cedar Springs is providing its customers with its annual Water Quality Report. This edition covers all testing completed from January through December 2014. This report explains where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to Environmental Protection Agency and Michigan Department of Environmental Quality standards. We are committed to providing you with this information because informed customers are our best allies, and protecting public health is our first priority.

Important Health Information

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 of infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. The EPA/CDC (Center for Disease Control and Prevention) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

Glossary of Terms Used in This Report

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

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 (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.

MRDL (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level): The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

MRDLG (Maximum Residual Disinfectant 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.

NA Not applicable

pCi/l (Picocuries per liter): A measure of radioactivity

ppb (Parts per billion): micrograms per liter (ug/L); 1 ppb or 1 ug/L is equal to a single penny in \$10,000,000.

ppm (Parts per million): milligrams per liter (mg/L); 1 ppm or 1 mg/L is equal to a single penny in \$10,000.

RAA Running Annual Average

More information about contamination and potential health effects can be obtained by calling EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1.800.426.4791)



Annual Water Quality Report

2014
Analytical results for
WSSN: 1260

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Questions, Comments or Concerns?

We want to hear from you!
Please submit your comments to
Thomas Stressman, Director,
Department of Public Works at the
contact info provided above.

What is the source of my water?

Your water comes from three water wells drilled to a maximum depth of 180 feet into an underground source of water called an aquifer. The wells are located on the east side of the City.

As the water is pumped from the wells we add sodium hypochlorite (chlorine) as a disinfectant to protect you against microbial contaminants. Hydrofluosilicic acid (Fluoride) to prevent cavities, and Phosphate (Aquadene) to help prevent corrosion of water mains and plumbing fixtures.

After the water is treated, it enters the distribution system where it flows to your home or to the 300,000-gallon elevated storage tank that keeps the system at a constant pressure.

The State of Michigan has performed an assessment of all sources of drinking water. Each system was given a rating based on how susceptible their source water is to contamination. Your source water rating is low to moderately low.

Contaminants in water

All drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate a risk to humans.

Contaminants that may be present in source water before we treat it include:

Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which 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 storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil/gas production, mining, or farming;

Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm-water 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 storm water runoff, and septic systems;

Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring.

Why are there contaminants in drinking water?

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.



Your Drinking Water

Lead and Copper

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. The City of Cedar Springs is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components on private property. 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 at 1-800-426-4791 or you can find information online at <http://water.epa.gov/drink/info/lead/index.cfm>.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection.

Water Quality Data Tables

Note: The presence of these contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk.

Inorganic Contaminants		Unit	MCL	MCLG	Level Detected	Range Detected	Sample Date	Violation	Typical source of contaminant
Arsenic		mg/l	.01	0	.007	NA	7/25/2013	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Barium		mg/l	2	2	0.06	NA	6/2/2010	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride		mg/l	4	4	.44	.60-.80	9/10/2014	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Selenium		mg/l	50	50	.005	NA	6/2/2010	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Sodium		mg/l	NA	NA	1143	NA	9/10/2014	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate		mg/l	.10	.10	<0.10	NA	9/10/2014	No	Run-off from fertilizer use
Nitrite		mg/l	.10	.10	<0.10	NA	9/10/2014	No	Run-off from fertilizer use
Disinfection Byproducts		Unit	MCL	MCLG	Level Detected	Range Detected	Sample Date	Violation	Typical source of contaminant
Total Trihalomethanes		mg/l	.08	NA	<0.0005	N/A	7/10/2013	No	Byproduct of Chlorination
Disinfectant Residual		Unit	MRDL	MRDLG	Highest RAA	Range Detected	Sample Date	Violation	Typical source of contaminant
Chlorine Annual Average		mg/l	4.0	<4.0	0.89	0.00 – 1.32	1/14-12/14	No	Added to Disinfect water
Lead & Copper		Unit	MCL	Action Level	90% samples ≤ this level	# Samples Exceeding AL	Sample Date	Exceeds AL	Typical source of contaminant
Lead		ppb	15	15	.003	0	6/3/09	No	Corrosion of Home plumbing
Copper		ppb	1.3	1.3	.436	0	6/3/09	No	Corrosion of Home plumbing