



# Annual Drinking Water Report

2007 Consumer Confidence Report

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Marshfield Utilities is pleased to present to you this year's Annual Drinking Water Consumer Confidence Report. This report is designed to inform you about the quality of 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. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water.

Our water source is 100% groundwater, obtained from 14 active producing wells located in six well fields in and around the City of Marshfield. Additional facilities include four booster pumping stations, four storage reservoirs, a water treatment facility, and approximately 130 miles of transmission and distribution water mains.

Marshfield Utilities has a source water protection plan (Well Head Protection Plan) available at our office that provides more information such as potential sources of contamination.

We are pleased to report that our drinking water is safe and meets federal and state requirements. If you have any questions about this report or your water utility, please contact Dave Wasserburger, Water Superintendent at (715) 387-1195.

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 of Marshfield Utility Commission meetings, which are held on the first Monday, prior to the second Tuesday of each month at 4:00 pm at the Marshfield Utilities office.

Marshfield Utilities routinely monitors for constituents in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. The table on the reverse side shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1<sup>st</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2007. 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.

In the table on the reverse side you will find many terms and abbreviations you might not be familiar with. To help you better understand these terms we have provided the following definitions:

Term	Definition
AL	Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant, which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements, which a water system must follow.
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.
MCLG	Maximum Contaminant Level Goal: The level of a contaminant in drinking water below that there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.
MFL	million fibers per liter
mrem/year	millirems per year (a measure of radiation absorbed by the body)
NTU	Nephelometric Turbidity Units
pCi/l	picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)
ppm	parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/l)
ppb	parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (ug/l)
ppt	parts per trillion, or nanograms per liter
ppq	parts per quadrillion, or picograms per liter
TT	Treatment Technique: A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
ND	No detect. Laboratory analysis indicates that the constituent is not present.

**Following is a list of contaminants that our water is tested for:**

### Microbiological Contaminants

1. Total Coliform Bacteria,
2. Fecal coliform and E.coli,
3. Turbidity

### Radioactive Contaminants

4. Beta/photon emitters,
5. Alpha emitters,
6. Combined radium

### Inorganic Contaminants

7. Antimony,
8. Arsenic,
9. Asbestos,
10. Barium,
11. Beryllium,
12. Cadmium,
13. Chromium,
14. Copper,
15. Cyanide (inorganic),
16. Fluoride,
17. Lead,
18. Mercury (inorganic),
19. Nitrate (as Nitrogen),
20. Nitrite (as Nitrogen),
21. Selenium,
22. Thallium

### Synthetic Organic Contaminants including Pesticides and Herbicides

23. 2,4-D,
24. 2,4,5-TP (Silvex),
25. Acrylamide,
26. Alachlor,
27. Atrazine,
28. Benzo(a)pyrene (PAH),
29. Carbofuran,
30. Chlordane,
31. Dalapon,
32. Di(2-ethylhexyl) adipate,
33. Di(2-ethylhexyl) phthalate,
34. Dibromochloropropane,
35. Dinoseb,
36. Diquat,
37. Dioxin [2,3,7,8-TCDD],
38. Endothal,
39. Endrin,
40. Epichlorohydrin,
41. Ethylene dibromide,
42. Glyphosate,
43. Heptachlor,
44. Heptachlor epoxide,
45. Hexachlorobenzene,
46. Hexachlorocyclopentadiene,
47. Lindane,
48. Methoxychlor,
49. Oxamyl [Vydate],
50. PCBs [Polychlorinated biphenyls],
51. Pentachlorophenol,
52. Picloram,
53. Simazine,
54. Toxaphene

### Volatile Organic Contaminants

55. Benzene,
56. Carbon tetrachloride,
57. Chlorobenzene,
58. o-Dichlorobenzene,
59. p-Dichlorobenzene,
60. 1,2 Dichloroethane,
61. 1,1 -Dichloroethylene,
62. cis-1,2-ichloroethylene,
63. trans - 1,2 - Dichloroethylene,
64. Dichloromethane,
65. 1,2-Dichloropropane,
66. Ethylbenzene,
67. Styrene,
68. Tetrachloroethylene,
69. 1,2,4 - Trichlorobenzene,
70. 1,1,1 - Trichloroethane,
71. 1,1,2 -Trichloroethane,
72. Trichloroethylene,
73. TTHM [Total trihalomethanes],
74. Toluene,
75. Vinyl Chloride,
76. Xylenes

In addition to monitoring for the contaminants listed on the reverse of this page, we also monitor for Total Coliform Bacteria and for E. Coli Bacteria on a daily basis. This is done in our own laboratory which is state certified for the microbiological analysis of drinking water and is regulated by the State of Wisconsin.

## Inorganic Contaminants

Contaminant (units)	MCL	MCLG	Level Found	Range	Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
ARSENIC (ppb)	50	n/a	4	3 - 4	2002	NO	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
BARIUM (ppm)	2	2	.065	.045 - .065	2002	NO	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
CHROMIUM (ppb)	100	100	2	0 - 2	2005	NO	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; Erosion of natural deposits
COPPER (ppm)	AL=1.3	1.3	.2900	.0080 - .9000	2005	NO	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives
FLUORIDE (ppm)	4	4	1.1 (average)	.8 - 1.3	2007	NO	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
LEAD (ppb)	AL=15	0	28.00	.0 - 220.00	2005	**	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
NICKEL (ppb)	100		2.0	.0 - 2.00	2005	NO	Nickel occurs naturally in soils, ground water and surface waters and is often used in electroplating, stainless steel and alloy products.
NITRATE (N03-N) (ppm)	10	10	2.03 (average)	1.80 - 2.20	2007	NO	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.
SODIUM (ppm)	n/a	n/a	29.00	24.00 - 29.00	2005	NO	n/a

## Disinfection Byproducts

Contaminant (units)	MCL	MCLG	Level Found	Range	Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
HAA5 (ppb)	60	60	4 (average)	2-6	2007	NO	n/a

## Radioactive Contaminants

Contaminant (units)	MCL	MCLG	Level Found	Range	Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
GROSS ALPHA, EXCLUDE R & U (pCi/l)	15	0	7.1	0 - 7.1	2002	NO	Erosion of natural deposits

## Synthetic Organic Contaminants including Pesticides and Herbicides

Contaminant (units)	MCL	MCLG	Level Found	Range	Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
ATRAZINE (ppb)	3	3	.1	0 - .1	1999	NO	Runoff from herbicide used on row crops
SIMAZINE (ppb)	4	4	.13	.0 - .13	2005	NO	Herbicide runoff

## Unregulated Contaminants

Contaminant (units)	MCL	MCLG	Level Found	Range	Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
BROMODICHLOROMETHANE (ppb)	n/a	n/a	3.92 (average)	.59-9.90	2007	NO	n/a
BROMOFORM (ppb)	n/a	n/a	1.41 (average)	.55-2.80	2007	NO	n/a
CHLOROFORM (ppb)	n/a	n/a	3.58 (average)	.21-13.00	2007	NO	n/a
DIBROMOCHLOROMETHANE (ppb)	n/a	n/a	4.42 (average)	1.30-7.70	2007	NO	n/a
SULFATE (ppm)	n/a	n/a	27.00	22.00 - 27.00	2005	NO	n/a

## Volatile Organic Contaminants

Contaminant(units)	MCL	MCLG	Level Found	Range	Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
TETRACHLOROETHYLENE (ppb)	5	0	.1 (average)	Nd-.3	2007	NO	Leaching from PVC pipes; Discharge from factories and dry cleaners
TTHM (ppb)	80	0	18.1 (average)	3.7-31.2	2007	NO	By-product of drinking water chlorination

\*\* 2008 lead and copper samples have been taken and results are complete. Marshfield Utilities is in compliance with lead and copper requirements. These levels will be reported in the 2008 Consumer Confidence Report as required.

### Health Effects of Nitrates

Nitrate 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.

### Health Effects of 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. Marshfield Utilities 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 elevated lead levels in your home's 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 (1-800-426-4791) or <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

**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.**

**All sources of drinking water are subject to potential contamination by substances that are naturally occurring or are man made. Those substances 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 2 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.

In our continuing efforts to maintain a safe and dependable water supply it may be

necessary to make improvements in your water system.

The cost of these improvements may be reflected in the rate structure. Rate adjustments may be necessary in order to address these improvements.

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).

**Please call our office at (715) 387-1195 if you have questions. At Marshfield Utilities, we work around the clock 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.**