

SOUTHEAST WATER USERS DISTRICT CCR REPORT - 2011

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.

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).

Our water sources are wells drawn from the Hankinson Aquifer, located in the Sheyenne Grasslands (SEWUD-E), the Spiritwood Aquifer located at Urbana (SEWUD-C), and the Middle LaMoure Aquifer in Wright Township of Dickey County (SEWUD-W).

Source water assessment and its availability

We have a wellhead protection plan available from our office that provides more information, such as, potential sources of contamination. Based on that information, your source water has been determined to be moderately susceptible to potential contaminants. We have reviewed the wellhead protection area & determined that no sources would threaten your water supply.

Southeast Water Users District routinely monitors for contaminants in your drinking water according to Federal & State laws. The following tables show the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1, 2007 to December 31, 2011.

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 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; 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?

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact Steve Hansen at Southeast Water Users District - East at 701.242.7432 or 800.400.8888. Our office hours are 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. 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 meetings. They are held on the third Tuesday of each month at varied locations. If you would like to attend one of the meetings, please call the office for location and times. If you are aware of non-English speaking individuals who need help with the appropriate language translation, please contact the office at one of the above numbers. Southeast Water Users District would appreciate it if large volume water customers post copies of the CCR in conspicuous locations or distribute them to tenants, residents, patients, students, and/or employees, so individuals who consume the water, but do not receive a water bill can learn about our water system.

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. Southeast Water Users District 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>.

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.

Water Quality Data Table – SEWUD – EAST – ND3901068

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.

<u>Contaminants</u>	<u>MCLG</u> or <u>MRDLG</u>	<u>MCL</u> , TT, or <u>MRDL</u>	<u>Your</u> <u>Water</u>	<u>Range</u>		<u>Sample</u> <u>Date</u>	<u>Violation</u>	<u>Typical Source</u>
				<u>Low</u>	<u>High</u>			
Disinfectants & Disinfectant By-Products								
(There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants)								
Chlorine (as Cl ₂) (ppm)	4	4	1.2	0.9	1.3	2011	No	Water additive used to control microbes
Inorganic Contaminants								
Barium (ppm)	2	2	0.223	NA		2009	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	1.13	NA		2009	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Arsenic (ppb)	0	10	9.73	NA		2010	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
Chromium (ppb)	100	100	1.36	NA		2009	No	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; Erosion of natural deposits
Copper - source water (ppm)		1.3	0.646(MPL)	NA		2010	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Radioactive Contaminants								
Radium (combined 226/228) (pCi/L)	0	5	0.513	NA		2010	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Uranium (ug/L)	0	30	1.08	NA		2010	No	Erosion of natural deposits
<u>Contaminants</u>	<u>MCLG</u>	<u>AL</u>	<u>Your</u> <u>Water</u>	<u>Sample</u> <u>Date</u>	<u># Samples</u> <u>Exceeding AL</u>	<u>Exceeds</u> <u>AL</u>	<u>Typical Source</u>	
Inorganic Contaminants								
Lead - action level at consumer taps (ppb)	0	15	3	2010	2	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits	

Undetected Contaminants

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

<u>Contaminants</u>	<u>MCLG</u> or <u>MRDLG</u>	<u>MCL</u> or <u>MRDL</u>	<u>Your</u> <u>Water</u>	<u>Violation</u>	<u>Typical Source</u>
Alpha emitters (pCi/L)	0	15	ND	No	Erosion of natural deposits

Water Quality Data Table – SEWUD – Central – SE H20 – ND3701466

<u>Contaminants</u>	<u>MCLG</u>	<u>AL</u>	<u>Your</u> <u>Water</u>	<u>Sample</u> <u>Date</u>	<u># Samples</u> <u>Exceeding AL</u>	<u>Exceeds</u> <u>AL</u>	<u>Typical Source</u>
Inorganic Contaminants							
Copper - action level at consumer taps (ppm)	1.3	1.3	0.818	2009	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Lead - action level at consumer taps (ppb)	0	15	0.58	2011	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits

Water Quality Data Table – SEWUD – Central - Core – ND3701448

<u>Contaminants</u>	<u>MCLG</u>	<u>AL</u>	<u>Your</u> <u>Water</u>	<u>Sample</u> <u>Date</u>	<u># Samples</u> <u>Exceeding AL</u>	<u>Exceeds</u> <u>AL</u>	<u>Typical Source</u>
Inorganic Contaminants							
Copper - action level at consumer taps (ppm)	1.3	1.3	0.0243	2009	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Lead - action level at consumer taps (ppb)	0	15	0	2009	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits

Water Quality Data Table – SEWUD – Central – City of Lisbon – ND3700574

<u>Contaminants</u>	<u>MCLG</u> or <u>MRDLG</u>	<u>MCL,</u> <u>TT, or</u> <u>MRDL</u>	<u>Your</u> <u>Water</u>	<u>Range</u> <u>Low</u> <u>High</u>	<u>Sample</u> <u>Date</u>	<u>Violation</u>	<u>Typical Source</u>
Disinfectants & Disinfectant By-Products							
(There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants)							
Chlorine (as Cl ₂) (ppm)	4	4	0.9	NA	2011	No	Water additive used to control microbes
Inorganic Contaminants							

Barium (ppm)	2	2	0.0361	NA		2009	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	1.23	NA		2009	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Nitrate [measured as Nitrogen] (ppm)	10	10	0.4	NA		2011	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Nitrite [measured as Nitrogen] (ppm)	1	1	0.4	NA		2011	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Arsenic (ppb)	0	10	1.32	NA		2010	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
Chromium (ppb)	100	100	1.05	NA		2009	No	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; Erosion of natural deposits
Selenium (ppb)	50	50	3.24	NA		2009	No	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from mines
Radioactive Contaminants								
Alpha emitters (pCi/L)	0	15	3.1	NA		2009	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium (combined 226/228) (pCi/L)	0	5	0.9	NA		2009	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Uranium (ug/L)	0	30	0.09	NA		2009	No	Erosion of natural deposits

Water Quality Data Table – SEWUD – West – ND1101442

Contaminants	MCLG or MRDLG	MCL, TT, or MRDL	Your Water	Range		Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
				Low	High			
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	19	ND	19	2011	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Chlorine (as Cl ₂) (ppm)	4	4	1.6	1.2	2	2011	No	Water additive used to control microbes
Inorganic Contaminants								
Barium (ppm)	2	2	0.0754	NA		2010	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits

Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	0.36	NA		2010	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Arsenic (ppb)	0	10	2.74	NA		2010	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
Selenium (ppb)	50	50	4.39	NA		2010	No	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from mines
Radioactive Contaminants								
Alpha emitters (pCi/L)	0	15	2.3	NA		2011	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium (combined 226/228) (pCi/L)	0	5	0.74	NA		2011	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Uranium (ug/L)	0	30	1	NA		2011	No	Erosion of natural deposits
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	0.209	2011	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits	
Lead - action level at consumer taps (ppb)	0	15	3.2	2011	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits	

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)
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.
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

For more information please contact:

Contact Name: Deb Foertsch

Address:

PO Box 10

Mantador, ND 58058

Phone: 701-242-7432

Fax: 701-242-7807

E-Mail: sewu@rrt.net

Website: seh20.com