

Water Emergency Questions

If you have a water emergency after business hours, please contact the Ramsey County Sheriff's Office at 651.484.3366.

Contact Information

If you have any questions about the Water Quality Report or concerning your drinking water supply, please contact the Public Works Director, Mark Maloney, at 651.490.4650.

Shoreview's Water Source

The City of Shoreview provides drinking water to its residents from a groundwater source. Six wells ranging from 395 to 442 feet deep draw water from the Prairie Du Chien-Jordan, Quaternary Buried Artesian, and Jordan-St. Lawrence aquifers.

The water provided to customers may meet drinking water standards, but Minnesota Department of Health has also made a determination as to how vulnerable the source of water may be to future contamination incidents. If you wish to obtain the entire source water assessment regarding your drinking water, please call 651-201-4700 or 1-800-818-9318 (and press 5) during normal business hours. Also, you can view it on line at www.health.state.mn.us/divs/eh/water/swp/swa.

In accordance with federal and state laws, Shoreview's drinking water is monitored regularly for contaminants. This report contains the results of monitoring done on it's drinking water for the period from JANUARY 1 TO DECEMBER 31, 2009. The purpose of this report is to advance consumers' understanding of drinking water and heighten awareness of the need to protect precious water resources.

As shown, no contaminants were detected at levels that violated drinking water standards. Some contaminants were detected in trace amounts, but well below the legal limits. The tables show the sampling results for these trace-level contaminants.

Compliance with National Primary Drinking Water Regulations

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, spring and wells. As water travels over the surface of 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. Contaminants that may be present in source water 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 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.

Radioactive contaminants: which can naturally be occurring or the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the USEFP prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which provide the same protection for public health.

We're Concerned About Your Health

Shoreview has excellent drinking water. Nonetheless, it is important to understand that all sources of drinking water are subject to potential contamination by constituents that are naturally occurring or man made. Those contaminants can be microbes, organic chemicals, inorganic chemicals or radioactive materials. All drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain small amounts of some contaminants. Small amounts of contaminants do not necessarily pose a health risk. For more information about contaminants and potential effects, contact the USEPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1.800.426.4791.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons can be particularly at risk from infections. These include people with cancer who are undergoing chemotherapy, people who have received transplanted organs, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly and infants. These people or their guardians should seek advice about drinking water from their healthcare providers. EPA/Centers for Disease Control guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by cryptosporidium are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1.800.426.4791.

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.

Contaminants found at levels below MCL, in tests conducted by MDH

Contaminant (units)	Meets Standard?	MCLG	MCL	Level Found		Typical Source of Contamination
				2008 Range	Average/Result *	
Barium (ppm) (6/19/2006)	Yes	2.0	2.0	N/A	0.07	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
TTHM (total trihalomethane) (ppb)	Yes	0	80	N/A	.4	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Fluoride (ppm)	Yes	4.0	4.0	1 - 1.6	1.38	State of MN requires all municipal water systems to add fluoride to the drinking water to promote strong teeth; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Radon (pCi/l) (12/12/2005)	Yes			N/A	131	Erosion of natural deposits

Radon is a radioactive gas which is naturally occurring in some groundwater. It poses a lung cancer risk when gas is released from water into air (as occurs during showering, bathing or washing dishes or clothes) and a stomach cancer risk when it is ingested. Because radon in indoor air poses a much greater health risk than radon in drinking water, an Alternative Maximum Contaminant Level (AMCL) of 4,000 picoCuries per liter may apply in states that adopted an Indoor Air Program, which compels citizens, homeowners, schools and communities to reduce the radon threat from indoor air. For states without such a program, the Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) of 3000 pCi/l may apply. Minnesota plans to adopt an Indoor Air Program once the Radon rule is finalized.

Samples taken from Shoreview homes and tested by an independent lab.

Contaminant	Meets Standard?	AL	90% Level	Number of Sites Over AL	Typical Source of Contamination
Copper (ppm) (8/9/2007)	Yes	1.3	.23	0 of 30	Corrosion of household plumbing; Erosion of natural deposits
Lead (ppb) (8/9/2007)	Yes	15	3	0 of 30	Corrosion of household plumbing; Erosion of natural deposits

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 Shoreview 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 20 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned with lead in your water, you may wish to have your water test. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safewater Hotline or www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

"Unregulated Contaminants" found in tests conducted by MDH

Monitoring for unregulated contaminants as required by U.S. Environmental Protection Agency rules (40CFR 141.40) was conducted in 2008. Results of the unregulated contaminant monitoring are available upon request from Cindy Swanson, Minnesota Department of Health, at 651/201-4656. No MCL has been established for some contaminants. To determine if these "unregulated contaminants" pose a threat to human health, they are assessed using state standards known as health risk limits. If an unacceptable level of an unregulated contaminant is found, the response is the same as if an MCL had been exceeded: The water system must inform its customers and take other corrective actions.

Contaminant (units)	Meets Standards?	Level Found		Typical Source of Contamination
		Range 2007	Average/Result	
Sulfate (ppm) 5/4/99	Yes!	nd-6.96	6.96	Erosion of natural deposits
Sodium (ppm) 5/4/99	Yes!	N/A	5.4	Erosion of natural deposits

Controlled Disinfectant Additive

Contaminant (units)	MRDLG	MRDL	Highest and Lowest Monthly Average	Highest Quarterly Average	Typical Source of Contaminaton
Chlorine (ppm)	4	4	.8-1.1	.94	Water additive used to control microbes

* 1. This is the value used to determine compliance with federal standards. It is sometimes the highest value detected and sometimes an average of all detected values. If it is an average, it may contain sampling results from the previous year.
 2. Some contaminants are sampled less frequently than once a year. For contaminants not sampled in 2008 but detected in a previous year, the table includes the sampling date.

KEY TO ABBREVIATIONS

- ppm: Parts per Million, for example, 1 gallon is one part per million in 1 million gallons and one tablespoon is 1 part per million tablespoons
- ppb: Parts per Billion
- pCi/l: PicoCuries Per Liter (a measure of radioactivity)
- N/A: Not Applicable
- MRDLG (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal)
- MCLG (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level)
- MCLG (Maximum Contaminant Level Goal): The goal is the level of contaminant in drinking water below which there is known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.
- MCL (Maximum Contaminant Level): This is the highest level of a contaminant allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.
- Nd: No Detection
- AL: (Action Level): The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.
- 90% Level: This is the value obtained after disregarding 10% of samples taken that had the highest levels. (For example, if 10 samples are taken 90% level is determined by disregarding the highest-level sample and averaging the nine others. When only five samples have been taken, the average of the two highest-levels is taken.