

City of Wellington, KS
CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT – 2009
Covering Calendar Year 2008

This brochure is a snapshot of the quality of the water that we provided last year. We are committed to providing you with this information because informed customers are our best allies. It's important that customers be aware of the efforts that are made continually to improve their water system. To learn more, please attend any of the regularly scheduled City Council meetings, which are held on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of every month at 6:30pm at the City Administration Center. For more information, please contact Roger Heimerson, Water Production Leader (620-434-5353), or visit our website at www.cityofwellington.net.

This report is divided into five basic sections: Source Water, Water Treatment, Water Distribution System, Message from EPA and Water Quality Data.

Source Water

Your water is treated to remove several contaminants and a disinfectant is added to protect you against microbial contaminants. The Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) required states to develop a Source Water Assessment (SWA) for each public water supply that treats and distributes raw source water in order to identify potential contamination sources. The state has completed an assessment of our source water. For results of the assessment, please contact us or view on-line at: <http://www.kdheks.gov/nps/swap/SWreports.html>.

The City of Wellington treated and sent approximately 448 million gallons of water to town in 2008. Of this total, about 70% came from Wellington Lake and about 30% came from groundwater wells.

Water Treatment

The City's Water Treatment Plant uses hydrated lime and aluminum sulfate in the treatment process. Hydrofluorosilic acid (fluoride) is added to the treated water and chlorine is used for disinfection.

Water Distribution System

- The Water Plant has four vertical turbine pumps that pump the treated water from the Treatment Plant to the City's million gallon elevated water tower near the intersection of 15th and "A" Streets. A second, half million gallon elevated water tower is located near Worden Park.

- The distribution system pressure, when the Plant is pumping the treated water to town, is around 60 p.s.i. When the Plant is not pumping the treated water to town, the system pressure is reliant on the elevation of the treated water in the City's elevated water towers. Depending on a variety of factors such as distance from the towers, distribution line size and relative elevation, the system pressure varies from approximately 40 p.s.i. to approximately 60 p.s.i.
- There is also a 1.5 million gallon underground clearwell located at the Treatment Plant and a 150,000 gallon standpipe located at Mayfield for added storage capacity.

The City of Wellington provided treated water to the following public water suppliers in 2008:

RWD #1	14,469,000 gallons	3.2% of total
RWD #2	17,509,000 gallons	3.9% of total
RWD #3	1,791,000 gallons	0.4% of total
City of Mayfield	2,326,000 gallons	0.5% of total

The City also supplies treated water to the Kansas Turnpike Authority's Belle Plaine Service Area.

Message from EPA

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as those 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 microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

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 EPA's 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.

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 and gas production, mining or farming

Pesticides and herbicides, may come from a variety of sources such as storm water run-off, agriculture, and residential users.

Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or the result of mining activity

Organic contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and also come from gas stations, urban storm water run-off, and septic systems.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limits the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems, we treat our water according to EPA's regulations. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health.

Our water system tested a minimum of 9 samples per month in accordance with the Total Coliform Rule for microbiological contaminants. Coliform bacteria are usually harmless, but their presences in water can be an indication of disease-causing bacteria. When coliform bacteria are found, special follow-up tests are done to determine if harmful bacteria are present in the water supply. If this limit is exceeded, the water supplier must notify the public by newspaper, television or radio.

Water Quality Data

The tables following below list all of the drinking water contaminants, which were detected during the 2008 calendar year. The presence of these contaminants does not necessarily indicate the water poses a health risk. Unless noted, the data presented in this table is from the testing done January 1- December 31, 2008. The state requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year, Some of the data, though representative of the water quality, is more than one year old. **The bottom line is that the water that is provided to you is safe.**

Terms & Abbreviations

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 human health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL): the "Maximum Allowed" MCL 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.

Secondary Maximum Contaminant Level (SMCL): recommended level for a contaminant that is not regulated and has no MCL.

Action Level (AL): the concentration of a contaminant that, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements.

Treatment Technique (TT): a required process intended to reduce levels of a contaminant in drinking water.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL): 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.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG): 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.

Non-Detects (ND): lab analysis indicates that the contaminant is not present.

Parts per Million (ppm) or milligrams per liter (mg/l)

Parts per Billion (ppb) or micrograms per liter (µg/l)

Picocuries Per Liter (pCi/L): a measure of the radioactivity in water.

Millirems per Year (mrem/yr): measure of radiation absorbed by the body.

Million Fibers per Liter (MFL): a measure of the presence of asbestos fibers that are longer than 10 micrometers.

Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU): a measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.

Testing Results for CITY OF WELLINGTON

Microbiological	Result			MCL			MCLG	Typical Source
COLIFORM, TOTAL (TCR)	July, 2 samples returned as positive			MCL: No more than 1 Positive Monthly Sample			0	Naturally present in the environment
Regulated Contaminants	Collection Date			Highest Value			Range	Unit
ARSENIC	4/15/2008	1.3	1.3	ppb	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source	
ATRAZINE	5/18/2008	1.2	1.2	ppb	10	0	Erosion of natural deposits	
BARIUM	4/15/2008	0.044	0.044	ppm	3	3	Runoff from herbicide used on row crops	
FLUORIDE	4/15/2008	1.5	1.3-1.5	ppm	2	2	Discharge from metal refineries	
NITRATE (AS N)	4/15/2008	2.3	2.2-2.3	ppm	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth	
SELENIUM	4/15/2008	3.1	3.1	ppb	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use	
TURBIDITY	4/15/2008	.28	.28	NTU	50	50	Erosion of natural deposits	

Disinfection Byproducts	Monitoring Period	Highest RAA	Range	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source
TOTAL HALOACETIC ACIDS (HAAs)	2008	27	7.7-30	ppb	60	0	By-product of drinking water disinfection
TOTAL TRIHALOMETHANES (TTHM)	2008	80	50-130	ppb	80	0	By-product of drinking water chlorination

Lead and Copper	Monitoring Period	90 th Percentile	Range	Unit	AL	Sites Over AL	Typical Source
COPPER	2005-2007	0.025	0.0013-0.059	ppm	1.3	0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems
LEAD	2005-2007	5.1	1-6	ppb	15	0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems

Radionuclides	Collection Date	Highest Value	Range	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source
GROSS ALPHA	4/12/2004	4	4	pCi/l	15		Erosion of natural deposits

Secondary Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Value	Range	Unit	SMCL
ALKALINITY, TOTAL	4/15/2008	25.4	25.4	MG/L	300
ALUMINUM	4/15/2008	.33	.33	MG/L	0.05
CALCIUM	4/15/2008	31	31	MG/L	200
CARBON, TOTAL ORGANIC (TOC)	5/30/2008	6.1	0.84-6.1	PPM	10000
CHLORIDE	4/15/2008	66	66	MG/L	250
CONDUCTIVITY	4/15/2008	480	480	UMHOS/CM	1500
HARDNESS, TOTAL (AS CAC03)	4/15/2008	130	130	MG/L	400
MAGNESIUM	4/15/2008	12	12	MG/L	150
METOLACHLOR	5/18/2008	0.43	0.43	Ppb	
NICKEL	4/15/2008	0.0011	0.0011	MG/L	0.1
PH	4/15/2008	6.5	6.5	PH	8.5
POTASSIUM	4/15/2008	4.6	4.6	MG/L	100
SILICA	4/15/2008	3.9	3.9	MG/L	50
SODIUM	4/15/2008	34	34	MG/L	100
SOLIDS, TOTAL DISSOLVED (TDS)	4/15/2008	260	260	MG/L	500
SULFATE	4/15/2008	86	86	MG/L	250

During the 2008 calendar year, we had the noted violation of drinking water regulations.

Type	Category	Analyte	Compliance Period
MCL (TCR) MONTHLY	MAXIMUM Contaminant Violation	COLIFORM (TCR)	June and July 2008
Monthly Sample	Monitoring violation	TOC	September 2008

Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other potentially harmful bacteria may be present. Coliforms were found in more samples than allowed and this was a warning of potential problems.

Some people who drink water containing trihalomethanes in excess of the MCL over many years may experience problems with their liver, kidneys, or central nervous systems, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

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. Your water system 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>.

IMPORTANT WATER INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING MONITORING REQUIREMENT NOT MET FOR CITY OF WELLINGTON

Our water system violated a monitoring standard last year. Even though this was not an emergency, you have the right to know what happened and what we did to correct this.

We are required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not our drinking water meets health standards. During September 2008 the Lab did not receive our Total Organic Carbon sample.

Water systems with surface water and or ground water under the influence of surface water treatment are required by federal rule to monitor the water every month for TOC, which is a disinfection by-product precursor. TOC has no health effects. However, TOC provides a medium for the formation of disinfection by-products such a Trihalomethanes (TTHM) and Haloacetic Acids (HAA). Drinking water containing these by-products in excess of the Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) may lead to adverse health effects, liver or kidney problems, and may lead to an increased risk of getting cancer. Fourth Quarter 2008 results show that our water system did not exceed the MCL for TTHM or HAA.

What should I do?

There is nothing you need to do at this time.

What happened?

Our water sample was returned to us by the courier that prevented it from reaching the Lab in the allotted time.

What is being done?

Procedures were put in place to ensure that all samples are taken and delivered early.

For additional information, please contact Roger Heimerson, or call 620 434- 5353.

Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.

Notice is being sent to you by **City of Wellington.** State Water System ID# **Y0500.** Date **April 1, 2009**

**City of Wellington, Kansas
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