

2000 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report
Platteville Water & Sewer Utility
City of Platteville

We're pleased to present to you the 2000 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report. This report is designed to inform you about the quality 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 supplied by groundwater pumped from 3 wells out of the Sandstone Aquifer. Two wells are at our Main Plant on Valley Road, and the third is on Camp Street next to Westview Park. All wells are between 900 and 1000 feet below ground.

I'm proud to report that our drinking water is safe and meets federal and state requirements.

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact **Mike Willis at 348-9741**. 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 Water & Sewer Commission meetings. They are held on the second Monday of every month at 4:00 PM in the Common Council Chambers of City Hall.

The Platteville Water and Sewer Utility routinely monitors for constituents in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. In the past five years we have sampled for 16 Inorganic Contaminants, 2 Microbiological Contaminants, 1 Radioactive Contaminant, 28 Synthetic Organic Contaminants including Pesticides and Herbicides, 33 Unregulated Contaminants and 20 Volatile Organic Contaminants. This table shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1st to December 31st, 2000.

In this table you will find many terms and abbreviations you might not be familiar with. To help you better understand these terms we've provided the following definitions:

Non-Detects (ND) - laboratory analysis indicates that the constituent is not present.

Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/l) - one part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in \$10,000.

Parts per billion (ppb) or Micrograms per liter - one part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000.

Parts per trillion (ppt) or Nanograms per liter (nanograms/l) - one part per trillion corresponds to one minute in 2,000,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000,000.

Parts per quadrillion (ppq) or Picograms per liter (picograms/l) - one part per quadrillion corresponds to one minute in 2,000,000,000 years or one penny in \$10,000,000,000,000.

Picocuries per liter (pCi/L) - picocuries per liter is a measure of the radioactivity in water.

Millirems per year (mrem/yr) - measure of radiation absorbed by the body.

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

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

Action Level - the concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

Treatment Technique (TT) - A treatment technique is a required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

Maximum Contaminant Level - 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.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal - The “Goal”(MCLG) is 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.

TEST RESULTS						
Contaminant (units)	Violation Y/N	Level Found	Range	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Microbiological Contaminants - None						
Radioactive Contaminants - 10/06/1999						
1. Alpha emitters, excluding Radon & Uranium (pCi/l)	No	12	12	0	15	Erosion of natural deposits
Inorganic Contaminants						
2. Arsenic (ppb)	No	2	2	N/A	50	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
3. Barium (ppm)	No	0.095	0.095	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
4. Chromium (ppb)	No	1	1	100	100	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; erosion of natural deposits
5. Copper (ppm)	No	0.098	0.098	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
6. Fluoride (ppm)	No	Avg 1.1	nd – 1.8	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
7. Lead (ppb)	No	7.51	7.51	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits
8. Mercury (inorganic) (ppb)	No	0.2	0.2	2	2	Erosion of natural deposits; discharge from refineries and factories; runoff from landfills; runoff from cropland
9. Sodium (ppm)	No	11.2	2.74 – 11.2	N/A	N/A	N/A
Sample Date 10/06/1999						
Synthetic Organic Contaminants including Pesticides and Herbicides – None Detected						
Volatile Organic Contaminants – None Detected						

What does this mean?

We constantly monitor for various constituents in the water supply to meet all regulatory requirements. We had one reporting violation. The Platteville Water and Sewer Utility failed to send in a required fluoride sample during the month of October 2000. This is an administrative error only and did not affect water quality or safety. We are addressing procedures to ensure it does not happen again.

We're proud that your drinking water meets or exceeds all Federal and State requirements. We have learned through our monitoring and testing that some constituents have been detected. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has determined that your water IS SAFE at these levels.

According to the EPA, "all sources of drinking water are subject to potential contamination by constituents that are naturally occurring or is man made. Those constituents 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 EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791, or on the Internet at www.epa.gov/safewater/.

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.

Lead: 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.

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 (1-800-426-4791), or on the Internet at www.epa.gov/safewater/.

We at the Platteville Water & Sewer Utility work diligently 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. Please call our office if you have questions, 348-9741, or e-mail at willis@mwci.net.