



# 2012 WATER QUALITY REPORT

CHIPPEWA FALLS WATER DEPARTMENT

JUNE 2013

We're pleased to present you with the 2012 Water Quality Report. This annual 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 continuously improve water quality and protect our water resources. 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 your drinking water meets health standards.

The City of Chippewa Falls has been recognized since 1996 as a Groundwater Guardian Community. The Groundwater Guardian's activities address the community's groundwater protection by education and awareness, pollution prevention, public policy, conservation and best management practice.

In an effort to promote water conservation, the Groundwater Guardian has water conservation kits available at the utility office free to City residents. Please stop by our office to pick one up. Available while supplies last.

## Where Does our Water Come From?

Chippewa Falls relies exclusively on groundwater from drilled wells for its' municipal water supply. The wells are drilled to a depth between 53' and 97' into a sand and gravel drift formation. The West Well Field has three wells that are located at 100 Tilton Road and 1821 Nelson Road. The East Well Field has six wells and is located at 1350 Pumphouse Road.

A source water assessment is required of all public water supplies. The assessment identifies land areas that contribute water to each system, significant potential contaminant sources within those areas, and the susceptibility of the drinking water system to contamination. This report is available on the Wisconsin DNR web site and can be accessed at: [dnr.wi.gov/org/water/dwg/swap/index.htm](http://dnr.wi.gov/org/water/dwg/swap/index.htm). Click on "Find an Assessment", type "Chippewa Falls Waterworks" in the NAME box and click FIND.

## Educational Information

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 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 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 stormwater 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 stormwater runoff and septic systems.
- 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. FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which shall provide the same protection for public health.

## Monitoring Results

The Chippewa Falls Water Department routinely monitors for constituents in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. The table below shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1 to December 31, 2012. 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.

### Substances Detected in Chippewa Falls Water

#### Disinfection Byproducts

Contaminant (units)	MCL	MCLG	Level Found	Range	Sample Date if prior to 2012	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
TTHM (ppb)	80	0	11.1	6.7 - 11.1		NO	By-product of drinking water chlorination
HAA5 (ppb)	60	60	3	1 - 3		NO	

#### Inorganic Contaminants

Contaminant (units)	MCL	MCLG	Level Found	Range	Sample Date if prior to 2012	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
Arsenic (ppb)	10	n/a	1	nd-1	9/19/2011	NO	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
Barium (ppm)	2	2	.018	.013-.018	3/9/2011	NO	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Copper (ppm)	AL=1.3	1.3	.1100	0 of 30 results were above the action level.	7/27/2011	NO	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	.1	.1-.1	3/09/2011	NO	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Lead (ppb)	AL=15	0	3.60	0 of 30 results were above the action level.	7/27/2011	NO	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Nickel (ppb)	100		1.1000	1.0000-1.1000	9/19/2011	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	6.20	1.90-8.10		NO	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Cyanide (ppb)	200	200	23	23	3/09/2011	NO	Discharge from steel/metal factories; Discharge from plastic and fertilizer factories
Sodium (ppm)	n/a	n/a	20.00	14.00-20.00	3/09/2011	NO	n/a

#### Radioactive Contaminants

Contaminant (units)	MCL	MCLG	Level Found	Range	Sample Date if Prior to 2012	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
Radium, (226 + 228) (pCi/l)	5	0	1.5	1.0 – 1.5	7/28/2009	NO	Erosion of natural deposits

## Synthetic Organic Contaminants including Pesticides and Herbicides

Contaminant (units)	MCL	MCLG	Level Found	Range	Sample Date if Prior to 2012	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
DI(2-Ethylhexyl) Phthalate (ppb)	6	0	.7	Nd -.7	4/13/2011	NO	Discharge from rubber and chemical factories

## Unregulated Contaminants

Contaminant (units)	MCL	MCLG	Level Found	Range	Sample Date if Prior to 2012	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
Bromodichloromethane (ppb)	n/a	n/a	3.50	2.30 - 3.50		NO	n/a
Bromoform (ppb)	n/a	n/a	.43	nd -.43		NO	n/a
Chloroform (ppb)	n/a	n/a	6.10	2.00-6.10		NO	n/a
Dibromochloromethane (ppb)	n/a	n/a	2.00	1.50-2.00		NO	n/a
Sulfate (ppm)	n/a	n/a	11.00	7.20-11.00	3/09/2011	NO	n/a

## Volatile Organic Contaminants

Contaminant (units)	MCL	MCLG	Level Found	Range	Sample Date if Prior to 2012	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
Styrene	100	100	.0	nd—.02		NO	Discharge from rubber and plastic factories; Leaching from landfills

## Number of Contaminants Required to be Tested

This table displays the number of contaminants that were required to be tested in the last five years. The CCR may contain up to five years worth of water quality results. If a water system tests annually, or more frequently, the results from the most recent year are shown on the CCR. If testing is done less frequently, the results shown on the CCR are from the past five years.

Contaminant Group	# of Contaminants
Disinfection Byproducts	2
Inorganic Contaminants	17
Microbiological Contaminants	3
Radioactive Contaminants	3
Synthetic Organic Contaminants including Pesticides and Herbicides	27
Unregulated Contaminants	34
Volatile Organic Contaminants	20

## Definition of Terms

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 which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.
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
TCR	Total Coliform Rule

Visit our website at [www.chippewafalls-wi.gov](http://www.chippewafalls-wi.gov)



Chippewa Falls Water Dept.  
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Chippewa Falls, WI 54729

## Health Information

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 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 such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune systems 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 Environmental Protection Agency's safe drinking water hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 10 ppm is a health risk for infants of less than 6 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.

## Questions or Comments

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact Connie Freagon, Utility Office Manager at 715-726-2741, Rory Olson, Water Supervisor at 715-720-6981 or Rick Rubenzer, Utility Manager at 715-726-2736 or email us at [utility@chippewafalls-wi.gov](mailto:utility@chippewafalls-wi.gov).

Our office is located in the City Hall Building, 30 W. Central Street, Room 209. Office hours are 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

## Getting Involved

We want our customers to be informed about their water utility. To get involved:

- Attend any of our regularly scheduled City Council or Board of Public Works Committee meetings.
- Join the Groundwater Guardian Team.

Please call for meeting times, locations and agendas.