

***Annual Drinking Water Quality Report
2011
Town of Earl Park***

We're pleased to present to you this year's Annual Quality Water 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 from an underground aquifer. The Town has two wells, which are located in the town park.

We have a source water assessment plan available from our office that provides more information such as potential sources of contamination.

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

This report shows our water quality and what it means.

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact Ms **Kristen Hardebeck**; at 219-474-6108. 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 first Monday of each month in the town hall.

The Earl Park water Department routinely monitors for constituents in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. This table shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1st to December 31st, 2011. As water travels over the land or underground, it can pick up substances or contaminants such as microbes, inorganic and organic chemicals, and radioactive substances. 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.

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 Goal (ALG)- *The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. ALGs allow for a margin of safety.*

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

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

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) - (mandatory language) 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 (MCLG) - (mandatory language) 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.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL) – (mandatory language) 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) – (mandatory language) 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.

TEST RESULTS							
Radioactive Contaminants							
4. Beta/photon emitters 9/8/2008	N	0+/- 2.8	Range of Levels Detected	mrem/yr	0	4	Decay of natural and man-made deposits
5. Alpha emitters	N	0+1		pCi/l	0	15	Erosion of natural deposits
Inorganic Contaminants							
Arsenic	N	0.006 7- 0.005 7	5.7-7.1	ppm	Na2	50/2	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; runoff from glass & electronics products was
11. Barium	N	0.090 6		ppm	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries erosion of natural deposits
15. Copper	N	0.081		ppm	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits leaching from wood preservative
Cyanide	N	0.020 0		ppm	200	200	Discharge from plastic & fertilizer factories; Discharge from steel/factories
17. Fluoride	N	0.427		ppm	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits; wa additive which promotes strong discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
18. Lead	N	0.4		ppb	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits
19. Mercury (inorganic)				ppb	2	2	Erosion of natural deposits; discharge from refineries and factories; runoff from landfills; runoff from crop
20. Nitrate (as Nitrogen)	N	0.17	0.17-0.17	ppm	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leach from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
21. Nickel	N	.0030		ppm	na	na	Run off from Industrial waste
25. Sodium	N	46.10		ppm	N/A	N/A	Runoff from road salt application
Synthetic Organic Contaminants including Pesticides and Herbicides							
34. Di(2-ethylhexyl) phthalate Tested 3/27/06	N	1.65		ppb	0	6	Discharge from rubber and chemical factories

¹ - The MCL and MCLG for Uranium is not effective until December 8, 2003 and will be included in your CCR Report after the State Primacy Agency notifies you to sample for Uranium.

² - The MCL and MCLG for Arsenic is not effective until January 23, 2006. Violations of the revised MCL (10 ppb) will not be included in your CCR until the State Primacy Agency notifies you to sample for arsenic after January 23, 2006.

³ - The MCL of 80 ppb for TTHM's is not effective for systems serving <10,000 people until January 1, 2004. However the health effects language in Section 8 must be included for all systems that exceed 80 ppb.

Special Note on 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 services lines and home plumbing. Our system is responsible for providing high quality 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 Safe Drinking Water hotline or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

(15) Copper. Copper is an essential nutrient, but some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over a relatively short amount of time could experience gastrointestinal distress. Some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over many years could suffer liver or kidney damage. People with Wilson's Disease should consult their personal doctor.

(17) Fluoride. Some people who drink water containing fluoride in excess of the MCL over many years could get bone disease, including pain and tenderness of the bones. Children may get mottled teeth.

(18) Lead. Infants and children who drink water containing lead in excess of the action level could experience delays in their physical or mental development. Children could show slight deficits in attention span and learning abilities. Adults who drink this water over many years could develop kidney problems or high blood pressure.

(20) Nitrate. Infants below the age of six months who drink water containing nitrate in excess of the MCL could become seriously ill and, if untreated, may die. Symptoms include shortness of breath and blue-baby syndrome.

(34) Di (2-ethylhexyl) phthalate. Some people who drink water containing di (2-ethylhexyl) phthalate in excess of the MCL over many years may have problems with their liver, or experience reproductive difficulties, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

As you can see by the table, our system had no violations. 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 EPA has determined that your water IS SAFE at these levels.

All sources of drinking water are subject to potential contamination by substances that are naturally occurring or man made. These substances can be microbes, inorganic or organic chemicals and radioactive substances. 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 Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

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.

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 (800-426-4791).

Please call our office if you have questions.

We at Earl Park Water Department work around the clock to provide top quality water to every tap, said Terry Hafstrom Water Operator. 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.

Source Water Information Well #1	Type of Water GW	Report Status active	Location City Park
CCR ADEQUACY/AVAILABILITY/CONTENT Well#2	GW	active	City Park

Violations Table

Violation Type

CCR Adequacy/Availability/Content 10/01/2008 We failed to provide to you, our drinking water customers, an annual report that adequately informed you about the quality of our drinking water and the risk from exposure to contaminants detected in our drinking water.

CCR Adequacy/Availability/Content 10/01/09-12/16/09 We failed to provide to you, our drinking water customers, an annual report that adequately informed you about the quality of our drinking water and the risk from exposure to contaminants detected in our drinking water.

CCR report 07/01/09 We failed to provide to you, our drinking water customers, an annual report that adequately informed you about the quality and characterizes the risk from exposure to contaminants detected in your drinking water.