

# FENNIMORE WATER and LIGHT

*A Public Power & Water Community Since 1904*

## **Fennimore Water & Light 2018 Water Quality Report**

### **WATER SYSTEM INFORMATION**

We, at the Fennimore Water & Light, are pleased to present to you this year's Annual Water Quality Report. This report is designed to provide information about the quality of the water delivered to you every day. Our constant goal is to provide 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 valuable water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of the water. We are pleased to report that our drinking water is safe and meets all Federal and State requirements.

Paper copies of this report will not be mailed to utility customers but is available upon request at the City Clerk's office, 860 Lincoln Ave, Monday thru Friday 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., This and previous reports can also be viewed by visiting the City's website at <http://www.fennimore.com/public-works/water/>. If you would like to know more about the information contained in this report, please contact the Director of Public Works at (608) 822-6501 or the Water Operator at (608)822-1033.

### **OPPORTUNITY FOR INPUT ON DECISIONS AFFECTING YOUR WATER QUALITY**

The Property and Infrastructure Committee meets on an as-needed basis throughout the year. Regular scheduled meetings of the Common Council are held each second and fourth Monday of the month at 6:00 pm. Location for the meetings is 860 Lincoln Ave., Fennimore, Wisconsin.

### **WHAT KEEPS OUR WATER SAFE?**

The Fennimore Water & Light uses two ground water wells to supply your water, see table below. The high quality aquifer supplying our drinking water requires little treatment. Fennimore Utilities disinfects the water with chlorine to reduce the risk of microbial contamination. A small amount of chlorine kills bacteria and viruses that can be present in groundwater. Chlorine also travels with the water and is ready to kill microbes that it might encounter in the system. Our goal is to maintain a chlorine residual above 0.1 milligrams per liter (mg/L) at all points in the distribution system. Typical concentrations range from 0.2 to 0.4 mg/L.

Source ID	Source	Depth (in feet)	Status
WELL 4	Groundwater	994	Active
WELL 5	Groundwater	1000	Active

### **HOW ELSE IS THE WATER TREATED?**

Fluoride is added to Fennimore's drinking water to improve dental health and reduce tooth decay. The US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and Wisconsin Department of Health Services recommend maintaining an average fluoride level of 0.7 mg/L. Water in the system is tested daily to achieve this target.

### **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 (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 (800-426-4791).

### **Educational Information**

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 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.

### **HOW TO READ THE WATER QUALITY TABLE**

The EPA and Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) establish the safe drinking water regulations that limit the amount of contaminants allowed in drinking water. The table shows the concentrations of detected substances in comparison to the regulatory limits. Substances not detected are not included in the table.

**Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL)** - 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 technology.

**Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG)** - 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.

**Action Level (AL)** - The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a public water system shall follow.

### **Units in the Table**

- One milligram per liter (mg/L) equals one part per million (ppm)
- One microgram per liter (µg/L) equals one part per billion (ppb)
- One ppb is analogous to one second in 32 years
- Picocurie per liter (pCi/L) is a measure of radioactivity

Substance Detected (units)	Highest Level Allowed (MCL)	Ideal Goal (MCLG)	OUR WATER	Range of Results	Sample Date	Violation (Yes/No)	Typical Source of Contaminant
<b>Inorganic Contaminants</b>							
Arsenic (ppb)	10	n/a	1	0 - 1	6/12/2017	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
Barium (ppm)	2	2	0.03	0.017 - 0.030	6/12/2017	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Copper (ppm)	AL=1.3	1.3	0.0954	0 of 10 results were above the action level.	6/12/2017	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	0.1	0.1 - 0.1	8/31/2017	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Lead (ppb)	AL=15	0	2.29	0 of 10 results were above the action level.	8/31/2017	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Mercury (ppb)	2	2	0.3	0.2 - 0.3	6/12/2017	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from refineries and factories; Runoff from landfills; Runoff from cropland
Nitrate (N03-N) (ppm)	10	10	0.93	0.61 - 0.93		No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Nitrite (N02-N) (ppm)	1	1	0.029	0.000 - 0.029	6/12/2017	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Sodium (ppm)	n/a	n/a	5.50	5.06 - 5.50		No	n/a
<b>Disinfection Byproducts</b>							
HAA5 (ppb)	60	60	3	3		No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
TTHM (ppb)	80	0	0.9	0.9		No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
<b>Radioactive Contaminants</b>							
Gross Alpha, Excl. R & U (pCi/l)	15	0	3.7	2.8 - 3.7	3/19/2014	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium, (226 + 228) (pCi/l)	5	0	2.2	1.8 - 2.2	3/19/2014	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Gross Alpha, Incl. R & U (n/a)	n/a	n/a	3.7	2.8 - 3.7	3/19/2014	No	Erosion of natural deposits

## **ADDITIONAL HEALTH INFORMATION**

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. While Fennimore Waterworks is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, we cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. Some faucets, fixtures, and pipes in your house could still contain lead. The longer water has been standing in the plumbing system, the more lead it may contain. You can minimize the potential for lead exposure by running water from your faucet for 2 to 3 minutes before using it 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 [www.epa.gov/safewater/lead](http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead).