



Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

City of Sparta Water Utility • 201 West Oak Street • Sparta, WI 54656 • (608) 269-4340 Ext. 226 or 227

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 sources of water are from the six wells listed below.

Source ID	Source	Depth (in feet)	Status
2	Groundwater	165	Active
4	Groundwater	185	Active
6	Groundwater	222	Active
7	Groundwater	264	Active
9	Groundwater	286	Active
10	Groundwater	300	Active

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

If you have questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact Todd Hanson at (608) 269-4340 Ext. 226 or 227. 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 the second Wednesday of each month at 6:00 p.m. in the council chambers at Sparta City Hall.

Sparta Water Utility routinely monitors for constituents in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. The table shows the result of our monitoring for the period of January 1 to December 31, 2015. 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.

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 Containment Level: (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 Containment Level Goal: (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.

PWS ID 64202974 SPARTA WATERWORKS FOR 2015

Inorganic Contaminants

Contaminant (units)	MCL	MCLG	Level Found	Range	Date of Sample (If prior to 2015)	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
ANTIMONY TOTAL (ppb)	6	6	0.5	0-0.5	3/18/2014	NO	Discharge from petroleum refineries; fire retardants; ceramics; electronics; solder
ARSENIC (ppb)	10	n/a	2	0-2	3/18/2014	NO	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
COPPER (ppm)	AL=1.3	1.3	0.5000	0 of 20 results were above action level	6/4/2014	NO	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservations
BARIUM (ppm)	2	2	0.047	0.009-0.047	3/18/2014	NO	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
FLUORIDE (ppm)	4	4	0.9	0.1-0.9	3/18/2014	NO	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
LEAD (ppb)	AL=15	0	2.69	0 of 20 results were above action level	6/4/2014	NO	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
MERCURY (ppb)	2	2	0.2	0.0-0.2	3/18/2014	NO	Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from refineries and factories; Runoff from landfills; Runoff from cropland
NITRATE (NO3-N) (ppm)	10	10	7.24	0.00-7.86		NO	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
SELENIUM (ppb)	50	50	1	0-1	3/18/2014	NO	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from mines
SODIUM(ppm)	N/A	N/A	11.10	4.01-11.10	3/18/2014	NO	N/A

* Systems exceeding a lead and/or copper action level must take actions to reduce lead and/or copper in the drinking water. The lead and copper values represent the 90th percentile of all compliance samples collected. If you want information on the number of sites or the actions taken to reduce these levels, please contact your water supply operator.

Radioactive Contaminants

Contaminant (units)	MCL	MCLG	Level Found	Range	Date of Sample (If prior to 2015)	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
GROSS ALPHA, EXCL. R & U (pCi/l)	15	0	3.8	2.5-3.8	3/18/2014	NO	Erosion of natural deposits
GROSS ALPHA, INCL. R & U (n/a)	N/A	N/A	3.8	2.5-3.8	3/18/2014	NO	Erosion of natural deposits
RADIUM, (226 + 228) (pCi/l)	5	0	5.2	0.5-5.2	3/18/2014	NO	Erosion of natural deposits

Disinfection By-Products

Contaminant (units)	SITE	MCL	MCLG	Level Found	Range	Date of Sample (If prior to 2015)	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
HAA5 (ppb)	D-19	60	60	2	2		NO	By-product of drinking water chlorination
TTHM (ppb)	D-21	80	0	3.3	3.3		NO	By-product of drinking water chlorination

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Radioactive Contaminants

Alpha emitters

Certain minerals are radioactive and may emit a form of radiation known as alpha radiation. Some people who drink water containing alpha emitters in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

Inorganic Contaminants

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, or suffer liver or kidney damage. People with Wilson's Disease should consult their personal doctor.

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.

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 service lines and home plumbing. Sparta Waterworks 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 www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

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.

Information on Monitoring for Cryptosporidium and Radon

Our water system did not monitor our water for cryptosporidium or radon during 2015. We are not required by State or Federal drinking water regulations to do so.

What does this mean?

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 include:

- Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations and wildlife.
- Inorganic contaminant, 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, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water 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 storm water 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.

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.

MCLs 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.





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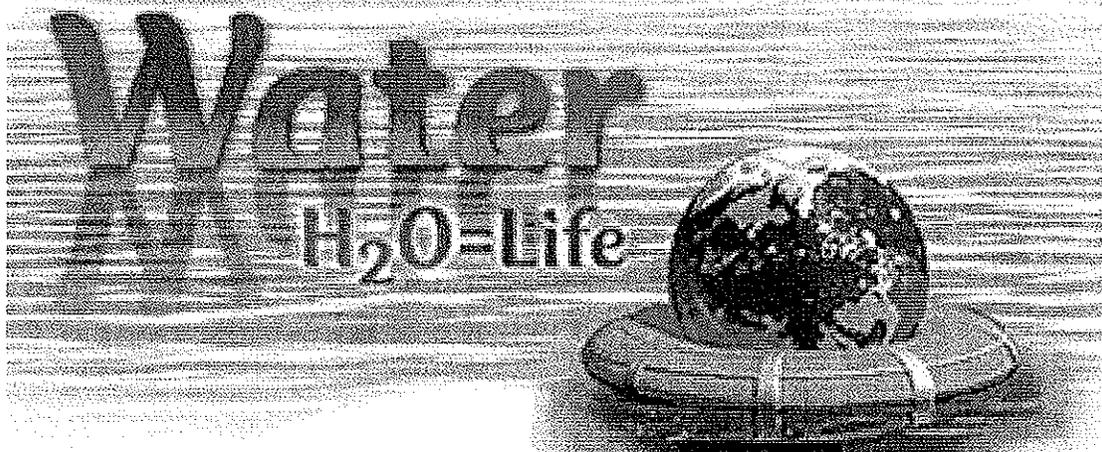
Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants 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).

Please call our office at (608) 269-4340 Ext. 226 or 227 if you have questions. We will not be mailing this report to customers however it is available at City Hall upon request.

We at the Sparta Water Utility work very hard 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.



This notice will not be individually mailed to our customers