

2010 Consumer Confidence Report For Niagara Waterworks

Water System Information

If you would like to know more about the information contained in this report, please contact Steve Zigman at (715) 251-3177.

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).

Source(s) of Water

Source id	Source	Depth (in feet)	Status
2	Groundwater	202	Perm. Abandoned as of 01/22/10
3	Groundwater	104	Active
4	Groundwater	210	Active
99	Groundwater	210	Reconstructed Well

To obtain a summary of the source water assessment please contact Steve Zigman at (715) 251-3177

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 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.

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	16
Microbiological Contaminants	2
Radioactive Contaminants	4
Synthetic Organic Contaminants including Pesticides and Herbicides	25
Unregulated Contaminants	4
Volatile Organic Contaminants	20

Disinfection Byproducts

Contaminant (units)	MCL	MCLG	Level Found	Range	Sample Date (if prior to 2010)	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
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TTHM (ppb)	80	0	6.4	6.4		NO	By-product of drinking water chlorination
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Inorganic Contaminants

Contaminant (units)	MCL	MCLG	Level Found	Range	Sample Date (if prior to 2010)	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
ANTIMONY TOTAL (ppb)	6	6	.1	.1	07/08/2008	NO	Discharge from petroleum refineries; fire retardants; ceramics; electronics; solder
ARSENIC (ppb)	10	n/a	5	4- 6		NO	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
BARIUM (ppm)	2	2	.007	.007	07/08/2008	NO	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
CHROMIUM (ppb)	100	100	2	2	07/08/2008	NO	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; Erosion of natural deposits
COPPER (ppm)	AL=1.3	1.3	.7300	0 of 10 results were above the action level.	04/15/2008	NO	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives
FLUORIDE (ppm)	4	4	1.0	1.0	06/23/2008	NO	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
LEAD (ppb)	AL=15	0	3.30	0 of 10 results were above the action level.	04/15/2008	NO	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits

NICKEL (ppb)	100		.9400	.9400	07/08/2008	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	1.90	.37- 1.90		NO	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
SELENIUM (ppb)	50	50	5	5	07/08/2008	NO	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from mines
SODIUM (ppm)	n/a	n/a	8.40	8.40	07/08/2008	NO	n/a

Radioactive Contaminants

Contaminant (units)	MCL	MCLG	Level Found	Range	Sample Date (if prior to 2010)	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
RADIUM, (226 + 228) (pCi/l)	5	0	1.1	nd- 2.4		NO	Erosion of natural deposits

Unregulated Contaminants

Contaminant (units)	MCL	MCLG	Level Found	Range	Sample Date (if prior to 2010)	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
BROMODICHLOROMETHANE (ppb)	n/a	n/a	2.20	2.20		NO	n/a
BROMOFORM (ppb)	n/a	n/a	.34	.16- .34		NO	n/a
CHLOROFORM (ppb)	n/a	n/a	2.60	2.30- 2.60		NO	n/a
DIBROMOCHLOROMETHANE (ppb)	n/a	n/a	1.60	1.40- 1.60		NO	n/a

Additional Health Information

While your drinking water meets USEPA's standard for **arsenic**, it does contain low levels of arsenic. USEPA's standard balances the current understanding of arsenic's possible health effects against the costs of removing arsenic from drinking water. USEPA continues to research the health effects of low levels of arsenic, which is a mineral known to cause cancer in humans at high concentrations and is linked to other health effects such as skin damage and circulatory problems.

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.
MFL	million fibers per liter
mrem/year	millirems per year (a measure of radiation absorbed by the body)
NTU	Nephelometric Turbidity Units
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
ppq	parts per quadrillion, or picograms per liter
TCR	Total Coliform Rule
TT	Treatment Technique: A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.