

Drinking Water and Health Information from the EPA

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. The EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the national Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800) 426-4791.

Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 10 ppm is a health risk for infants of less than six 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. Des Moines Water Works uses a variety of strategies to keep the treated tap water below 10 ppm. These strategies include source water blending, and if necessary, removal of nitrate using an expensive treatment process known as ion exchange. Des Moines Water Works' treated water has not exceeded the 10 ppm standard since nitrate removal was implemented in 1992. If you are caring for an infant, you should ask for advice from your health care provider.

Many customers wish to know if bottled water is safer than regular tap water. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that must provide the same protection for public health. 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. Research repeatedly shows bottled water to be no safer than conventional tap water provided by public water systems in the U.S.

More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by contacting the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791 or by visiting www.epa.gov/OGWDW.

Public Meeting and Utility Contact Information

- ANKENY**
1st & 3rd Monday of each month at 5:30 p.m.
410 West 1st Street · Ankeny, Iowa 50023
Customer Service
220 West 1st Street · Ankeny, Iowa 50021
Phone: (515) 283-8700 · Fax: (515) 283-8727
E-mail: jmckenna@ci.ankeny.ia.us
- BERWICK WATER ASSOCIATION**
2nd Monday of each month
5825 NE Berwick Drive · Berwick, Iowa 50032
John Tomlinson
Phone: (515) 266-8668 · Fax: (515) 262-1342
- BONDURANT**
1st & 3rd Monday of each month at 6:00 p.m.
Bondurant City Hall · 200 2nd NE · Bondurant, Iowa 50035
Patrick F. Collison
Phone: (515) 971-6856 · Fax: (515) 967-5732
E-mail: pfcollison@msn.com
- CLIVE**
1st, 3rd, & 5th Thursday of each month
Clive City Hall · 1900 NW 114th Street · Clive, Iowa 50325
Bart Weller, Director of Public Works
2123 NW 11th Street · Clive, Iowa 50325
Phone: (515) 223-6231 · Fax: (515) 223-6013
E-mail: bweller@cityofclive.com
- CUMMING**
2nd & 4th Monday each month
City Hall · Cumming, Iowa 50061
City Clerk
P.O. Box 100 · Cumming, Iowa 50061
Phone: (515) 981-9214 · Fax: (515) 981-4981
E-mail: cityclerk@cumming-iowa.com
Des Moines Water Works Customer Service
Phone: (515) 283-8700 · Fax: (515) 283-8727
- DES MOINES**
4th Tuesday each month at 3:30 p.m.
Des Moines Water Works · 2201 George Flagg Parkway · Des Moines, Iowa 50321
Des Moines Water Works Customer Service
Phone: (515) 283-8700 · Fax: (515) 283-8727
E-mail: customerservice@dmww.com
- EARLHAM**
2nd Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m.
Earlham City Hall · 140 South Chestnut Street · Earlham, Iowa 50072
Gary Coffman
Phone: (515) 758-2281 · Fax: (515) 758-2710
E-mail: earlhamcityhall@mchsi.com
- JOHNSTON**
1st & 3rd Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m.
City Hall · 6221 Merle Hay Road · Johnston, Iowa 50131
Lori Eden
P.O. Box 410 · Johnston, Iowa 50131-0410
Phone: (515) 278-0822 · Fax: (515) 727-8092
E-mail: leden@ci.johnston.ia.us
- NEW VIRGINIA WATER WORKS**
1st Saturday of each month at 8:00 a.m.
Fire Station meeting room · New Virginia, IA 50210
Brent Baughman
305 Main Street, P.O. Box 302 · New Virginia, IA 50210
Phone: (641) 449-3379 · Fax: (641) 449-3310
E-mail: bjbaughman@iowatelecom.net
- NORWALK**
1st & 3rd Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m.
Norwalk Easter Public Library · 1051 North Avenue · Norwalk, Iowa 50211
Dean Yordi, Community Services Director
705 North Avenue · Norwalk, Iowa 50211
Phone: (515) 981-0228 · Fax: (515) 981-0933
E-mail: deanyordi@ci.norwalk.ia.us
- PLEASANT HILL**
2nd & 4th Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m.
Pleasant Hill City Hall · 515 Maple Drive · Pleasant Hill, Iowa 50317
Dave Leonard
Phone: (515) 309-9460 · Fax: (515) 262-9570
E-mail: dleonard@ci.pleasant-hill.ia.us
Des Moines Water Works Customer Service
Phone: (515) 283-8700 · Fax: (515) 283-8727
- POLK COUNTY RURAL WATER DISTRICT #1**
Annual Meeting in January each year · Call for date
660 NW 66th Avenue, Suite 2 · Des Moines, Iowa 50313
Francis Schlueter
Phone: (515) 289-2643
- RUNNELLS**
2nd Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m.
Runnells City Hall
Carik Elam, City Clerk
Phone: (515) 966-2042
Des Moines Water Works Customer Service
Phone: (515) 283-8700 · Fax: (515) 283-8727
- URBANDALE**
Meets monthly · Call 278-3940 for information
Urbandale Water Utility · 3720 86th Street · Urbandale, Iowa 50322
Customer Service
Phone: (515) 278-3940 · Fax: (515) 278-3944
E-mail: waterdept@urbandale.org
- WARREN WATER DISTRICT**
3rd Monday each month at 7:00 p.m.
Warren Water District Office · 1204 East 2nd Avenue · Indianola, Iowa 50125
Peggy Crabbs, Systems Manager
Phone: (515) 962-1200 · Fax: (515) 962-9328
E-mail: wwd@warrenwaterdistrict.com
- WAUKEE**
1st & 3rd Monday each month at 7:00 p.m.
Waukee City Hall · 230 Highway 6 · Waukee, Iowa 50263
John R. Gibson, Director of Public Works
Phone: (515) 987-4363 · Fax: (515) 987-3979
E-mail: jgibson@waukee.org
- WINDSOR HEIGHTS**
1st and 3rd Monday each month at 5:00 p.m.
Windsor Heights City Hall · 1133 66th Street · Windsor Heights, Iowa 50311
Des Moines Water Works Customer Service
Phone: (515) 283-8700 · Fax: (515) 283-8727
- XENIA RURAL WATER DISTRICT**
Thursday of 3rd full week of each month
2398 141st Street · Bouton, Iowa 50039
Dave Modlin
Phone: (515) 676-2117 · Fax: (515) 676-2208
E-mail: dave@xenewater.org

Consumer Confidence Report

A publication on quality water and quality service presented by
DES MOINES WATER WORKS

Supplying central Iowa with clean, safe drinking water is Des Moines Water Works' mission. In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. This annual Consumer Confidence Report is your guide to the quality and safety of the tap water provided by Des Moines Water Works.

The water treatment process begins by drawing water from the Raccoon River, the Des Moines River, and shallow ground water collection systems at our two treatment plants located on Fleur Drive and at Maffitt Reservoir. The source water is made safe for drinking by softening, filtration, disinfection and nitrate removal and then delivered to you, our customer.

The sources of drinking water (both tap 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 can dissolve naturally-occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity. For this reason, regular testing of the water is required.

Employees of the utility have an obligation to protect its assets for its owners – our customers – and the source water is perhaps the most important asset. We also believe our customers deserve to have a clean source of drinking water, regardless of how adept we are at making it drinkable.

Keeping the source water – both the Raccoon and Des Moines Rivers – clean is a huge challenge. Like many other bodies of water in Iowa, the Raccoon and Des Moines Rivers are under the enormous influence of human activity. Neither river has resembled its natural state, in either appearance or water quality, for over a century. The primary impairments are excess nutrient (nitrate-nitrogen) and bacteria levels.

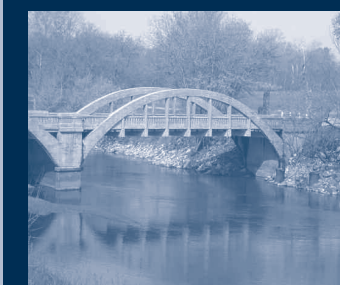
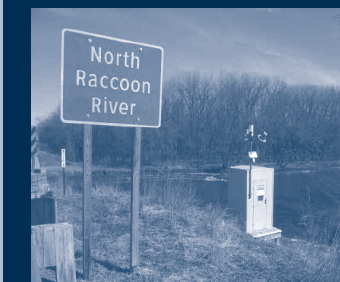
There are 5 million watershed acres upstream from Des Moines, so it is obvious we cannot enhance source water quality by ourselves. Des Moines Water Works actively engages other water quality experts and stakeholders such as Iowa DNR, US Geological Survey, USDA, and Agriculture's Clean Water Alliance, so that we can try to identify sources of contamination and lead Iowa toward a day when its waters are clean. But, we need your help. Volunteer water monitoring opportunities are available for customer participation. And, customers can help by supporting practices and initiatives that improve water quality at both the state and local levels.

Des Moines Water Works encourages customers to stay informed on drinking water and watershed protection issues. Please contact us at (515) 283-8700 or visit www.dmww.com if you have any questions about your drinking water.

Des Moines :
Water Works
Water You Can Trust for Life

2201 George Flagg Parkway | Des Moines, IA 50321 | (515) 283-8700 | www.dmww.com | customerservice@dmww.com

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Water You Can
Trust for Life

Des Moines Water Works completed a Source Water Assessment (SWA) in 2001. To obtain a copy of the SWA, go to www.dmww.com, or call (515) 283-8700 to request a printed copy.

DES MOINES WATER WORKS 2007 WATER QUALITY REPORT

Water Treatment Plant Monitoring

Before water can be delivered to your home, it must first be analyzed by certified laboratories at Des Moines Water Works' Fleur Drive Plant and at the University of Iowa Hygienic Laboratory in Iowa City. Results for 2007 in this report include those for samples taken as water leaves Des Moines Water Works' two treatment plants, and from samples obtained from the various water distribution systems supplied with water by Des Moines Water Works. The L.D. McMullen Water Treatment Facility serves southwest Des Moines; parts of the Xenia and Warren Rural Water Systems; Waukee; and parts of West Des Moines, Clive, and Urbandale west of I-35. All other areas receive water from the Fleur Drive Plant. Some test results shown in the table are from samples analyzed prior to 2007. This is because annual monitoring is not required for all contaminants, and the data represents the last time a substance was detected. The source water is tested for the following parameters:

- Microorganisms**, 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 occur naturally or come from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.
- Pesticides and Herbicides**, which may come from agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses.
- Organic chemicals**, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are industrial and petroleum process byproducts and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems.
- Radioactive Contaminants**, which can occur naturally or result from oil and gas production and mining activities.

2007 Lab Test Results	Year Tested	Units	MCL	MCLG	Fleur Drive Treatment Plant		L.D. McMullen Water Treatment Facility		Typical Source of Substance
					Level Found	Range of Detections	Level Found	Range of Detections	
Water Clarity									
Turbidity	2007	NTU	TT	-	<0.3	0.03-0.11	<0.3	0.03-0.12	Soil runoff
Inorganic Substances									
Nitrate as Nitrogen	2007	mg/L	10	10	9.6	1.5-9.6	10.0	0.58-10.0	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks; sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride	2007	mg/L	4	4	1.33	0.19-1.33	1.35	0.17-1.35	Additive for strong teeth; erosion of natural deposits; fertilizer
Sodium Sulfate	2007	mg/L	-	-	47.0	2.6-47.0	14.0	3.1-14.0	Erosion of natural deposits
	2007	mg/L	-	-	71.0	35.0-71.0	54.0	21.0-54.0	Erosion of natural deposits
Radiological Substances									
Combined Radium	2003	pCi/L	5	0	0.7	-	-	-	Erosion of natural deposits
Organic Substances									
Atrazine	2007	ug/L	3	3	-	-	0.1	0.1	Agriculture runoff

Definition of Terms

- mg/L** is milligrams per liter, or parts per million.
- ug/L** is micrograms per liter, or parts per billion.
- NTU** is nephelometric turbidity units.
- pCi/L** is picocuries per liter, a measure of radioactivity.
- ND** is not detected.
- NA** is not applicable.
- MCL** is the maximum contaminant level, the highest level of a substance allowed in drinking water.
- MCLG** is the MCL Goal, the level of a substance where there is no known or expected health risk. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety. MCLs are set as close to MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment processes.
- MRDL** is 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.
- MRDLG** is the level of 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.
- TT** is treatment technology. Certain treatment processes are required to reduce the level of turbidity in the drinking water. Turbidity must not ever exceed 1 NTU, and must be less than 0.3 NTU 95% of the time.
- Level Found** is the highest amount found in the water or the average of all samples analyzed, depending on the regulation. If multiple samples were tested in 2007, the lowest and highest detected values are listed under Range of Detections.
- Action Level** is the concentration of a contaminant that, if exceeded, triggers a treatment or other requirement that a water system must follow.

Distribution System Monitoring

Once the water leaves the water treatment facilities, it is regularly monitored throughout the numerous distribution systems served by Des Moines Water Works for disinfectant, disinfectant byproducts, bacteria, lead and copper.

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. Des Moines Water Works 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 <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

System	Total Trihalomethanes		Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)		Lead	Copper	Coliform Bacteria		Chlorine Disinfectant	
	Level Found	Range of Detections	Level Found	Range of Detections	90% of Samples Below this Level	90% of Samples Below this Level	Monthly Samples	Positive Samples	Running Annual Average	Range
Des Moines - Fleur ¹	48	31-59	8	6-9	ND	0.025	150	0	0.65	0.55-0.75
Des Moines - McMullen	33	24-48	9	7-10	ND	0.025	150	0	0.65	0.55-0.75
Ankeny	52	24-93	10	ND-19	ND	ND	40	2	0.66	0.58-0.73
Ankeny ASR	53	53	9	9	ND	ND	NA	NA	NA	NA
Berwick	49	34-65	8	6-12	ND	0.028	1	0	0.42	0.26-0.57
Bondurant	42	29-54	13	10-19	ND	ND	2	0	2.20*	1.76-2.70
Clive	46	20-94	10	ND-16	ND	ND	15	0	0.70	0.49-0.89
Cumming	70	70	9	9	7.4	0.02	1	0	0.29	0.08-0.44
East Dallas Water	46	46	10	10	ND	0.17	1	0	1.00*	0.40-1.78
Earlham	52	24-96	11	8-17	ND	ND	2	0	1.40*	0.78-1.59
Johnston	54	31-87	12	6-16	ND	ND	15	1	0.40	0.29-0.56
Martensdale	70	70	9	9	ND	ND	1	0	0.45*	0.20-0.64
New Virginia	58	ND-90	14	ND-22	ND	0.03	1	0	0.21*	0.01-0.81
Norwalk	61	40-73	9	7-13	ND	0.03	8	0	0.72	0.52-0.84
Polk Co. Rural WD #1	47	33-65	7	ND-10	ND	0.023	1	0	0.46	0.29-0.55
SE Polk Rural Water - South ²	55	36-68	7	ND-8	ND	ND	5	0	0.49	0.29-0.62
SE Polk Rural Water - North	55	45-67	12	10-15	ND	ND	5	0	1.72*	1.29-2.15
Urbandale	54	24-93	10	0-16	ND	ND	40	0	0.62	0.53-0.68
Warren Rural Water District	55	19-110	11	ND-19	12.3	0.025	19	0	0.95*	0.78-1.10
Waukee	66	25-98	10	8-12	7.1	0.021	9	0	0.70	0.48-0.87
Xenia Rural Water	80	32-154	21	11-36	10	0.04	14	0	1.90*	1.24-2.07

¹Includes Windsor Heights and Pleasant Hill
²Includes water supplied to City of Runnells

*Systems using combined chlorine (chloramine) as disinfectant. Use of combined chlorine sometimes requires increased levels for adequate disinfection.

Total Organic Carbon Results

Treatment Plant	Year Tested	Annual Removal Ratio	Minimum Removal Requirement
Fleur Drive Plant	2007	2.35	1.0
McMullen Facility	2007	1.68	1.0

Cryptosporidium

Cryptosporidium is a microscopic organism found in rivers and streams that can cause diarrhea, fever and gastrointestinal distress if ingested. It finds its way into the watershed through animal and human wastes. *Cryptosporidium* is rarely found in the rivers from which we draw water and is effectively eliminated by a treatment process that includes sedimentation, filtration, and disinfection. *Cryptosporidium* has **NEVER** been found in your drinking water.