

Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

January 1 to December 31, 2010

City of Neoga

IL0350150

To all Water Customers of the City of Neoga,

As part of our efforts to provide you the highest quality water, please find enclosed a copy of our Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for the period of January 1, 2010 through December 31, 2010. This report is intended to provide you with important information about your drinking water and the efforts made by the City of Neoga to provide safe drinking water. The source of Neoga's drinking water is surface water from Lake Mattoon, located NW of Neoga. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water quality. If you would like to learn more, please feel welcome to attend any of our regularly scheduled meetings. The source water assessment for our supply has been completed by the Illinois EPA. If you would like a copy of this information, please stop by the Municipal Building or contact our Superintendent of Public Works, Tom Helm at (217) 895-2172, c/o City of Neoga, PO Box 248, Neoga, IL 62447. To view a summary version of the completed Source Water Assessments, including: Importance of Source Water; Susceptibility to Contamination Determination; and documentation of Source Water Protection Efforts, you may access the Illinois EPA website at <http://www.epa.state.il.us/cgi-bin/wp/swap-fact-sheets.p1>. Additional copies of this report are available at the city office at 533 Chestnut Ave.

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre el agua que usted bebe. Tradúzcalo ó hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

Source of Drinking Water

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and groundwater 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 pickup substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

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 EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

- Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, 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 storm water runoff, industrial, or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.
- Pesticides and herbicides, 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 which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health.

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 microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

Source Water Assessment

Illinois EPA considers all surface water sources of public water supply are susceptible to potential pollution problems. Hence the reason for mandatory treatment of all public water supplies in Illinois. Mandatory treatment includes coagulation, sedimentation, filtration and disinfection. Primary sources of pollution in Illinois lakes can include agricultural runoff, land disposal (septic systems) and shoreline erosion. Under CWA Section 319, U.S. EPA provides grants for the Illinois EPA to finance projects that demonstrate cost-effective solutions to NPS problems and promote public knowledge and awareness of non point source (NPS) pollution. Section 319 projects funded for Lake Mattoon Watershed include:

Total Maximum Daily Load Development - The Illinois EPA will develop Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) and implementation plans for each pollutant within thirteen (13) watersheds on the 303(d) list through computer modeling. The thirteen (13) watersheds are also Category 1 watersheds in the Unified Watershed Assessment. For each watershed, computer models will be used to identify a distribution of pollutant loading (allocation) that can be expected to result in the attainment of water quality standards. The methodologies used for TMDL development will be documented. Modeling results will be used to support the development of implementation plans for TMDL attainment.

In order to help farmers in adopting sound agricultural practices the Illinois Council on Best Management Practices (C-BMP) was formed. The Council is a coalition of agribusiness and agricultural producer organizations with the support of the University of Illinois Extension and serves as a clearinghouse on current research to protect water quality in Illinois. The Council also provides information and support to local watershed groups to help implement sound water quality initiatives and can offer educational assistance and help facilitate the technical and financial resources needed to carry out water quality objectives. For more information on C-BMP contact Dr. George Czapar, Springfield Extension Center, P.O. Box 8199, Springfield, IL 62791, email: g-czapar@uiuc.edu. For more information on BMPs, please refer to the web site at <http://www.ctic.purdue.edu>, as well as A Guide to Illinois Lake Management available from Illinois EPA. The Illinois Agronomy Handbook should also be used as guidance in implementing BMPs.

In a national effort to ensure adequate protection against groundwater contamination from the herbicide atrazine, U.S. EPA made significant changes to the atrazine use label in 1990. It is a violation of law to apply, mix, or load atrazine within 50 feet of any well, including water wells, irrigation wells, livestock water wells, abandoned wells or sinkholes. In 1992, the atrazine label was further amended to protect surface waters by requiring a 200-foot application setback for lakes and reservoirs. In addition, there is a 66-foot setback from any point where field surface water runoff enters a stream or river. A concerted effort to incorporate best management practices for atrazine applications is on-going; an atrazine BMP document is available from Novartis Crop Protection, or by contacting the Illinois Fertilizer & Chemical Association at (800) 892-7122.

In an effort to minimize the impact of livestock facilities on water resources on a statewide basis, livestock facilities are now regulated under the Livestock Management Facilities Act. This legislation is designed to keep Illinois' livestock industry productive and environmentally responsible by establishing requirements for design, construction, operation and management of livestock facilities and waste-handling structures. Detailed information on the Livestock Management Facilities Act may be found at the website <http://www.agr.state.il.us>. In addition, further watershed protection efforts and priorities of the Illinois EPA, Illinois Department of Agriculture, Illinois Department of Natural Resources, U. S. Department of Agriculture's Natural Resources Conservation Service, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and The Nature Conservancy are described and illustrated at the web site <http://www.epa.state.il.us/water/unified-watershed-assessment/index.html>.

2010 Regulated Contaminants Detected

Water Quality Test Results

Definitions: The following tables contain scientific terms and measures, some of which may require explanation.

Action Level (AL): The concentration of a contaminant, which if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements a water system must follow.

Action Level Goal (ALG): The level of a contaminant in drinking water, below which there is no known or expected risk to health. ALG's allow for a margin of safety.

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL): The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCL's are set as close to the Maximum Contaminant Level Goal as feasible using the best available treatment 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. MCLG's allow for a margin of safety.

mg/l: milligrams per liter or parts per million (ppm) or one ounce in 7,350 gallons of water.

ug/l: micrograms per liter or parts per billion (ppb) or one ounce in 7,350,000 gallons of water.

N/A: not applicable

Avg: Regulatory compliance with some MCLs are based on running annual average of monthly samples.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL): The highest level of disinfectant allowed in drinking water.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG): The level of disinfectant in drinking water, below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLG's allow for a margin of safety.

Regulated Contaminants								
Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Disinfectants & Disinfection By-Products								
Total Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	4/8/10	11	11-11	N/A	60	ppb	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs)	4/8/10	13	13-13	N/A	80	ppb	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Chloramines	4/8/10	2.50	1.55 – 3.25	4	4	ppm	No	Water additive to control microbes
Inorganic Contaminants								
Barium	1/22/10	0.005	.005 - .005	2	2	ppm	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride	1/22/10	0.8	0.79 – 0.79	4	4.0	ppm	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
Nitrate (measured as Nitrogen)	4/8/10	1	1.1 – 1.1	10	10	ppm	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage, erosion
State Regulated Contaminants								
Note: The state requires monitoring of certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. Therefore, some of this data may be more than one year old.								
Manganese	4/8/10	7	7– 7	150	150	ppb	No	Erosion of naturally occurring deposits
Sodium	4/8/10	8.3	8.3 – 8.3	N/A	N/A	ppm	No	Erosion of naturally occurring deposits; used in water softener regeneration
Manganese is not currently regulated by USEPA. However, the state has set an MCL for this contaminant for supplies serving a population of 1000 or more. There is not a state or federal MCL for sodium. Monitoring is required to provide information to consumers and health officials that are concerned about sodium intake due to dietary precautions. If you are on a sodium-restricted diet, you should consult a physician about this level of sodium in the water.								
Total Organic Carbon								
Note: The percentage of Total Organic Carbon (TOC) removal was measured each month and the system met all TOC requirements set by IEPA, unless a TOC violation is noted in the violations section.								
Lead and Copper Date Sampled: 9/30/2009								
Lead MCLG	Lead Action Level (AL)	Lead 90 th Percentile	# of Sites Over Lead AL	Copper MCLG	Copper Action Level (AL)	Copper 90 th Percentile	# of Sites Over Copper AL	Likely Source of Contamination
1.3 ppb	13 ppb	<1	0	1.5 ppm	1.5 ppm	0.056	0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Turbidity								
Information Statement: Turbidity is a measurement of the cloudiness of the water caused by suspended particles. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of water quality and the effectiveness of our filtration system and disinfectants.								
Limit (Treatment Technique)		Lowest Monthly % meeting limit			Violation	Source		
0.3 NTU		95.15%			No	Soil runoff		
Limit (Treatment Technique)		Highest Single Measurement			Violation	Source		
1 NTU		0.627 NTU			No	Soil runoff		