Why is There Anything in My Water?

The source of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, 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. Water can also pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity. Contaminants that may be present in source waters 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, that can be naturally occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining or farming.

Pesticides, herbicides and fungicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban runoff, and residential uses.

Water Treatment Process

Stoughton Utilities and most public water systems have safely used chlorine to disinfect potentially harmful bacteria that may enter drinking water. Chlorine disinfection of water supplies has been hailed as one of the greatest inventions of the 20th Century. It has been instrumental in controlling many potential waterborne diseases, such as cholera, diphtheria, and dysentery.

Drinking water treated with chlorine is safe for everyone to use for drinking, bathing, cooking and all other daily uses. This includes: pregnant women, children and infants, people on kidney dialysis, people on low-sodium diets, people with diabetes and pets.

Reliability

It requires much more than simply making sure water comes out when you turn on the faucet. System Reliability means:

Delivering water with enough pressure to quickly douse a blaze when a fire hydrant is opened

Maintaining sufficient sources of water for present and future needs

Constructing emergency and operational water storage capacity in reservoirs

Continuously testing and treating your water supply

Finding ways to conserve water to ensure adequate supplies for future generations

Planning ahead to anticipate future water needs

Protecting water supplies from potential contamination

Establishing rates sufficient to pay for current operations plus necessary repairs and improvements to the system

Systematically replacing aging water mains to prevent major problems

Ongoing Efforts

Stoughton is a beautiful, historic community. But there's nothing beautiful about aging water mains –some between50-100 years old. The water main replacement project is an-going program to replace failing pipelines each year. The new larger water mains installed over the years improve fire fighting capabilities, increase water pressure, deliver more water, and avoid potential flood damage to homes, businesses and streets.

This years replacement project includes East Main St., North Page St. and South Van Buren St. Learn more about our service to our neighbors at www.stoughtonutilities.com

Water Security

Keeping our water supply safe and secure is a top priority for Stoughton Utilities. Since the September 11 tragedy, Stoughton Utilities has been operating with heightened awareness and security to safeguard our water sources, storage and water distribution system.

Throughout the past few years, several security measures have been implemented to protect our drinking water. The majority of our new precautions, however, cannot be disclosed to the general public because we want to prevent those who might try to compromise the Stoughton Utilities distribution system from having access to information about how we protect our water supply.

Stoughton Utilities also relies on you, the community, to be our eyes and ears, by staying alert and reporting any suspicious activity around water, electric and wastewater utility facilities. Your safety is our priority, so please do not approach or confront strangers. Please report any suspicious activities to 911. Thank you for being part of our security team.

How to Contact us

We welcome you to attend our Stoughton Utilities Committee meetings at the Stoughton Utilities Administration Office located at 600 S. Fourth Street held on the third Monday of the month. Meeting agendas are available at www.stoughtonutilities.com. If you have, any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, or Stoughton Utilities in general contact Robert Kardasz, or Roger Thorson at Stoughton Utilities, at 873-3379.

If you have a water emergency, please contact our emergency number at 873-9322.

Stoughton Utilities

For more information

Customer Service Information.....873-3379 Ext. 110 or www.stoughtonutilities.com
600 S. Fourth Street

- Open new or transfer accounts
- Billing inquiries
- Water conservation
- Water, wastewater and electric rates
- Automatic payment plans
- Credit card payments
- E-Pay (Internet Payments and usage history)

City of Stoughton 2005 Drinking Water Quality Report

INTRODUCTION

I am pleased to report that once again, our water met or exceeded all state and federal drinking water quality standards in 2005.

The Stoughton Utilities Committee and our 27 employees work together to continuously provide safe and healthy drinking water at the lowest possible cost to Stoughton residents, businesses and visitors.

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your Stoughton Utilities, please contact:

Robert Kardasz P.E., Director of Utilities 608)
873-3379 Ext. 123

bkardasz@stoughtonutilities.com

DISCUSSION

Again, please note that the Stoughton Utilities drinking water complies with all State and Federal regulations, as shown in Table A "All sources of drinking water are subject to potential contamination by constituents that are naturally occurring or are man made. Those constituents can be microbes, organic or inorganic chemicals, or radioactive materials."

All 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 the 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 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 MCL level for a lifetime to have one-in-a-million chance of having the described health effect.

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 (800-426-4791).

WATER QUALITY TESTING/RESULTS

Stoughton Utilities routinely monitors for constituents in your drinking water in accordance with State and Federal laws. The following Table A shows the results of our monitoring for the period from January 1, 2005, through December 31, 2005 (unless otherwise noted). Please note that the only water parameter that had a detect is listed. If you desire to see the other constituents that were tested for, but did not have any detects, please contact the Stoughton Utilities. In this table, you will find many terms and abbreviations you might not be familiar with. To help you understand these terms, we have provided the following definitions:

- **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.
- **Picocuries per liter** (pCi/l) – picocuries per liter is a measure of the radioactivity in water.
- **Action Level** (AL) – the concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
- **Maximum Contaminant Level** – 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 Contaminant Level Goal** – 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
- **(TCR)-**Total Coliform Rule

In 2005 we installed 1,355 feet of reinforcement main on Page Street and added 6,600 feet of water main else where to our distribution system.

Did you know that in lieu of taxes, Stoughton Utilities pays $346,749.00 annually to the City?

Stoughton Utilities works around the clock to provide top quality drinking water to every tap. We ask that all our customers help us protect our water resources, which are the heart of our community, our way of life and our children's futures.

TABLE A

Microbiological Contaminants

Contaminant (units)	MCL	MCLG	Level Found	Range	Sample Date (if prior to 2005)	Source of Contaminant
Coliform (TCR)	0	1	0			Naturally present in the environment

Disinfection Byproducts

Contaminant (units)	MCL	MCLG	Level Found	Range	Sample Date (if prior to 2005)	Source of Contaminant
HAA5 (ppb)	60	0	0(average)	nd-1		

Inorganic Contaminants

Contaminant (units)	MCL	MCLG	Level Found	Range	Sample Date	Source of Contaminant
					(if prior to 2005)	
Arsenic (ppb)	50	n/a	0(average)	nd-1		Erosion of natural deposits; Run off from orchards
						wastes
Barium(ppm)	2	2	0.024(average)	.018-.031		Drilling waste; Erosion of natural deposits
Chromium(ppb)	100	100	1(average)	0-1		Erosion of natural deposits
Copper(ppm)	AL=1.3	1..3	.28(average)	.0400-.4100		Corrosion of household plumbing
						Erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride(ppm)	4	4	1.0(average)	.1-1.3		Water additive; Erosion of natural deposits
Lead (ppb)	AL=15	0	12(average)	2.20-30.00		Corrosion of household plumbing
						Erosion of natural deposits
Nickel (ppb)	100		1.1400 (average)	nd-1.6000		Natural occurs in soils, ground/ surface waters
Nitrate(N03-N)(ppm)	10	10	1.73 (average)	nd-5.61		Fertilizer use; Erosion of natural deposits
Sodium(ppm)	n/a	n/a	4.22(average)	3.00-8.20		n/a

Radioactive Contaminants

Contaminant (units)	MCL	MCLG	Level Found	Range	Sample Date	Source of Contaminant
					(if prior to 2005)	
Alpha Emitters	15	0	10	1.3-10.0	9/23/2002	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium	5	0	4.1	2.5-4.1	9/23/2002	Erosion of natural deposits

Unregulated Contaminants

Contaminant (units)	MCL	MCLG	Level Found	Range	Sample Date	Source of Contaminant
(ppb)					(if prior to 2005)	
Bromodichloromethan	n/a	n/a	.03(average)	nd-.20		n/a
Dibromochloromethan	n/a	n/a	.04(average)	nd-..25		n/a
Sulfate	n/a	n/a	18.40	15.00-27.00		n/a

Volatile Organic Contaminants

Contaminant (units)	MCL	MCLG	Level Found	Range	Sample Date	Source of Contaminant
					(if prior to 2005)	
TTHM(ppb)	80	0	1(average)	nd-1.39		By-product of drinking water chlorination