Is it Safe to Drink Water From a Garden Hose?

NO, Substances used in vinyl garden hoes to keep them flexible can get into the water as it passes through the hose. These chemicals are not good for you nor are they good for your pets. Allow the water to run for a short time in order to flush the hose before drinking or filling your pet's drinking containers. There are hoses made with food-grade plastic that will not contaminate the water. Check your local hardware store for this type of hose.

Project RoundUP

Stoughton Utilities customers can opt to enroll in the voluntary roundup program. In this program, your utility bill will "roundup" to the next highest dollar amount. Your contribution is tax deductible and the funds are administered by the Stoughton Utilities Committee and overseen by the Stoughton City Council, to a charitable, educational projects or community needs within the area served by Stoughton Utilities.

Water Facts

1. Of all the earth's water, 97% is salt water located in oceans and seas.
2. Only 1% of the earths water is available for drinking
3. Public water suppliers process 34 billion gallons of water per day for domestic and public use.
4. Each person uses about 100 gallons of water a day at home.
5. You can refill an 8 oz. glass of water approximately 15,000 times for the same cost as a six-pack of pop.
6. The average five-minute shower takes between 25-50 gallons of water.

Leak Detection

If your water usage is higher than you or the Utilities believes it should be…please check the following:

STEP 1
Read the water meter the last thing in the evening, after all water usage for that evening is done, first thing in the morning reread your meter. If there is any change in the meter reading this indicates a leak

STEP 2
Check all toilets for leaks by putting food coloring into the back of each toilet tank the last thing before you go to sleep. If any coloring appears in the bowl the following morning this may indicate a leak.

STEP 3
If your toilet does not have a leak, following the directions in steps 1 and 2, then please check all faucets for leaks.

STEP 4
If you have any out building or under ground water lines that run to those buildings or any distant hose bibs, shut them off and try to isolate those fixtures. Now, follow the instructions under step 1. If the reading changes the following morning that indicates a leak.

The Utilities is more than willing to assist it's customers in locating leaks. We will be glad to help you permitting that personal are available. Please call the Utilities at 873-3379.

Ongoing Efforts

Like most water systems across the country, Stoughton Utilities water system is aging. But Many critical elements have exceeded their service life span and are in need of repair or replacement. 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 year's replacement project includes North Page St., Stoughton Ave. and South Page 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**.**

City of Stoughton 2006 Drinking Water Quality Report

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)

INTRODUCTION

The employees of Stoughton Utilities are very excited to provide you with this year's Annual Water Quality Report. We want to keep you informed about the quality of our water and services we deliver to you every day of the year. Our goal is and always will be to provide you a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we make continually to improve quality and protect our water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water remains at the highest possible level.

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."

INFORMATION FROM THE EPA

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, 2006, through December 31, 2006 (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 2006 we installed 1,150 feet of reinforcement main on Page Street, 300 feet of reinforcement main on Van Buren St and 755 feet on Main St. We also installed 1,157 feet of replacement sanitary sewer elsewhere in the City.

Did you know that in lieu of taxes, Stoughton Utilities pays $380, 951.00 annually to the City?

Stoughton Utilities is owned directly by the City of Stoughton and funded entirely by the water, electric and wastewater rates citizens pay for our services.

TABLE A
Microbiological Contaminants

Contaminant (units)	MCL	MCLG	Level Found	Range	Sample Date (if prior to 2006)	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 2006)	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 2006)	
Arsenic (ppb)	50	n/a	0(average)	nd-1		Erosion of natural deposits; Run off from orchards
						wastes
Barium(ppm)	2	2	0.031(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	1.2 (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		.99 (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 2006)	
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 2006)**	
Bromodichloromethane	n/a	n/a	..35(average)	nd-.20		n/a
Bromoform (ppm)	n/a	n/a	.17(average)	nd.-.33		n/a
Chloroform (ppb)	n/a	n/a	.80(average)	.49-1.10		n/a
Dibromochloromethane	n/a	n/a	.29(average)	nd-..25		n/a
Sulfate	n/a	n/a	27.00	15.00-27.00		n/a

Volatile Organic Contaminants

Contaminant (units)	MCL	MCLG	Level Found	Range	Sample Date	Source of Contaminant
					(if prior to 2006)	
TTHM(ppb)	80	0	1.6(average)		nd-1.39	By-product of drinking water chlorination