City of Stoughton 2007 Drinking Water Quality Report

For more information

Customer Service Information:
By phone at 873-3379 or at
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)

Important Definitions for Reviewing the Tables

1PPB is like the top of a pencil eraser in relation to the size of a football field.

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. Food and Drug Administration regulations established limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health.

Where Does It Go After It Is Used?

Used water (also known as wastewater or sewage) is pumped through our wastewater system to our wastewater treatment plant. The water is treated and returned to the Yahara River. You maybe surprised to learn that the treated wastewater we return to the river is much cleaner than the Yahara River. We consistently meet stringent state and EPA standards.

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. The tax-deductible contribution is administered by the Stoughton Utilities Committee and overseen by the Stoughton City Council and goes to a charitable project or community need within the area served by Stoughton Utilities.

Water Facts

Wisconsin uses an average of 56 gallons of water per day per person from public water supplies and private wells.

Wisconsin has 1.4 million dairy cows, each of which needs to drink 45 gallons of water a day to produce 100 pounds, or 12 gallons, of milk.

Wisconsin public water utilities draw about 600 million gallons of water per day. The state's 642 wastewater facilities release about the same amount of treated water daily.

Rainfall over Wisconsin averages 32 inches annually; only 6-10 inches of it soaks in to become groundwater.

1 hour lawn watering = 220 gallons

Each day the sun evaporates 1,000,000,000,000 (one-trillion) tons of water.

Sampling

Before the water reaches your tap, samples from the water distribution system and the wells are collected and tested in State-certified laboratories. Stoughton Utilities has a regular program of water analysis and system inspection that assures safe water for you and your family.

We have eight State-certified water operators who assure that the water operations provided excellent water quality three hundred sixty-five days a year.

Ongoing Efforts

Like most water systems across the country, Stoughton Utilities' water system is aging. However, many critical elements have exceeded their service life span and are in need of repair or replacement. The water main replacement project is an on-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 South Page St and East Jefferson St.

Security of Our Water System

All Our lives have changed dramatically and our outlook on security has evolved since the events of September 11, 2001. As such, the security of our facilities and are distribution system is a high priority. Throughout the last few years, security measures have been implemented to protect our drinking water. To prevent those who might try to compromise our distribution system, the majority of our new precautions cannot be disclosed to the public. If you see any suspicious occurrences or questionable persons claiming to be Utility staff, please, request identification of any person (s) claiming to be Utility personnel before allowing entrance to your home or business. All Utility personnel wear identification badges. If you have any questions or concerns in this matter, please contact Robert Kardasz at 873-3379 ext. 123 and voice your concerns or questions. If you should see or witness any suspicious activity, please do not hesitate to call 911.

Rest assured that we are doing everything in our power to provide the highest level of security for our system and your safety.

How to Contact Us

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

If you have a water emergency, please contact us 24 hours a day, 365 days a year through our emergency number at (608) 873-9322.

INTRODUCTION

Once again, 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 with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we continually make 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 P. Kardasz P.E., Director of Utilities (608) 873-3379 Ext. 123; bkardasz@stoughtonutilities.com

DISCUSSION

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.

Maximum Containment Levels (MCL's) 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 (1-800-426-4791).

WATER QUALITY TESTING/RESULTS

Stoughton Utilities routinely monitor for constituents in your drinking water in accordance with State and Federal laws. The following table, listed as 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 only water parameters that had a detect are listed. If you desire to see the other constituents that were tested for, but did not have any detects, please contact Stoughton Utilities. In this table, you will find many terms and abbreviations with which you might not be familiar. 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

Stoughton Utilities' water comes from four wells located throughout the city and is pumped directly into the system and into two storage facilities. All water is treated with chlorine and fluoride as it leaves the wells and storage facilities.

Did you know that in lieu of taxes, Stoughton Utilities pays $418,540.00 annually to the City? Stoughton Utilities is the highest taxpayer in the City.

Stoughton Utilities is owned by the City of Stoughton and funded entirely by water, electric and wastewater rates paid by our rate payers.

TABLE A
Disinfection Byproducts

Contaminant (units)	MCL	MCLG	Level Found	Range	Sample Date	Source of Contaminant (if prior to 2006)
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)	
Barium(ppm)	2	2	0.031(average)	.018-.031	7/25/2005	Drilling waste; Erosion of natural deposits
Chromium(ppb)		100	100 1 (average)	0-1	7/25/2005	Erosion of natural deposits
Copper(ppm)	AL=1.3	1..3	.28 (average)	.0400-.4100	12/14/2005	Corrosion of household plumbing
						Erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride(ppm)	4	4	1.2 (average)	1.1-1.2		Water additive; Erosion of natural deposits
Lead(ppb)	AL=15	0	12 (average)	2.20-30.00	12 /15/2005	Corrosion of household plumbing
						Erosion of natural deposits
Nickel (ppb)	100		1.6000	nd-1.6000	7/25/2005	Natural occurs in soils, ground/surface waters
Nitrate(N03-N)(ppm)	10	10	1.03 (average)	nd-4.10		Fertilizer use; Erosion of natural deposits
Sodium(ppm)	n/a	n/a	8.20	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	.24(average)	nd-..48		n/a
Bromoform (ppm)	n/a	n/a	1.20(average)	nd.-.2.40		n/a
Chloroform (ppb)	n/a	n/a	.17(average)	.nd- .33		n/a
Dibromochloromethane	n/a	n/a	.70(average)	nd-1.40		n/a
Sulfate	n/a	n/a	27.00	15.00-27.00	07/25/2005	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
1-2, Dichloropropane (ppb)	5	0 .2		.2		Discharge from industrial chemical factories
Dichloromethane (ppb)	5	0	.5	.5		Discharge from pharmaceutical and industrial
						chemical factories