

2016 WATER QUALITY REPORT FOR LEMARS WATER DEPARTMENT

This report contains important information regarding the water quality in our water system. The source of our water is groundwater. Our water quality testing shows the following results:

CONTAMINANT	MCL - (MCLG)	Compliance		Date	Violation Yes/No	Source
		Type	Value & (Range)			
Total Trihalomethanes (ppb) [TTHM]	80 (N/A)	LRAA	36.00 (36 - 36)	09/30/2015	No	By-products of drinking water chlorination
Copper (ppm)	AL=1.3 (1.3)	90th	1 (0.2 - 1.1)	2015	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives
Lead (ppb)	AL=15 (0)	90th	2.00 (ND - 4)	2015	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
950 - DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM						
Chlorine (ppm)	MRDL=4.0 (MRDLG=4.0)	RAA	1.4 (0.52 – 2.01)	12/31/2016	No	Water additive used to control microbes
01 - 6,7,9,10,11 OR 12/SMPL TAP SOUTH STATION						
Gross Alpha, inc (pCi/L)	15 (0)	SGL	1.4	10/07/2015	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Combined Radium (pCi/L)	5 (0)	SGL	2.1	10/07/2015	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm)	4 (4)	SGL	0.2	05/06/2013	No	Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Sodium (ppm)	N/A (N/A)	SGL	54	04/13/2016	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Added to water during treatment process
Nitrate [as N] (ppm)	10 (10)	SGL	0.8	2016	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits

Note: Contaminants with dates indicate results from the most recent testing done in accordance with regulations.

DEFINITIONS

- Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) – 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 (MCLG) -- 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.
- ppb -- parts per billion.
- ppm -- parts per million.
- pCi/L – picocuries per liter
- N/A – Not applicable
- ND -- Not detected
- RAA – Running Annual Average
- Treatment Technique (TT) – A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
- Action Level (AL) – The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

- Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG) - The level of a drinking water 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.
- Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL) - 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.
- SGL – Single Sample Result
- TCR – Total Coliform Rule

GENERAL INFORMATION

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 posed a health risk. More information about contaminants or potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

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).

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. LEMARS WATER DEPARTMENT 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>.

SOURCE WATER ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

This water supply obtains its water from the sandstone of the Dakota aquifer. The Dakota aquifer was determined to have low susceptibility to contamination because the characteristics of the aquifer and overlying materials provide natural protection from contaminants at the land surface. The Dakota wells will have low susceptibility to surface contaminants such as leaking underground storage tanks, contaminant spills, and excess fertilizer application. A detailed evaluation of your source water was completed by the Iowa Department of Natural Resources, and is available from the Water Operator at 712-546-5555.

CONTACT INFORMATION

For questions regarding this information or how you can get involved in decisions regarding the water system, please contact LEMARS WATER DEPARTMENT at 712-546-5555.

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CONTACT INFORMATION

Decisions regarding the water system are made at the Council meetings held on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of each month at 12:00 p.m. at City Hall 40 Central Ave SE and are open to the public.

The Le Mars Water Department is happy to provide information and assistance on any question concerning the operation and quality of our water and services. We strive to provide quality water to every tap and every customer. Water is an important natural resource that we use in so many wonderful ways: Drinking, bathing, cooking, food processing, and gardens. That's why at the water department we take seriously our responsibility to ensure that we provide you the best water and services possible.

Since we have no violations the DNR does not require us to mail each customer a copy of the CCR (consumer confidence report). **We are putting the report in the Le Mars Daily Sentinel paper and on the radio station KLEM 1410 which also will have it on its web site. It will be on the agenda of the City council meeting and on the City of Le Mars web site lemarsiowa.com under water utilities and on the IRWA web site to help inform all our customers. Flyers will also be available at City Hall, Water Department and the Library; we will also deliver copies to retirement homes, hospital and large employers to mention a few to help reach citizens, visitors and workers from out of town.**

Information on setting softeners: Le Mars's water depending on the wells being pumped runs between 32 – 37 grains of hardness. We usually recommend setting your softener for 37 grains.

This report is on the agenda for City Council 4/04/2017

Thank you
Water Superintendent
Gayle Sitzmann

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