

Tap Water vs Bottled Water

Tap Water	Bottled Water
Regulated by EPA	Regulated by FDA

Cannot have confirmed E. coli or fecal coliform bacteria.	A certain amount of any bacteria is allowed.
Filtered and/or disinfected.	No federal filtration or disinfection requirements.
Violation of drinking water standards are grounds for enforcement.	Bottled water in violation of standards can still be sold.
Utilities must have their water tested by certified laboratories	Such testing is not required for bottlers.
Tap water results must be reported to state or federal officials.	There are no reporting requirements for bottlers.
Water system operators must be certified.	Bottled water plant operators do not have to be certified.
Water suppliers must issue consumer confidence reports annually.	There are no public right-to-know requirements for bottlers.
Costs pennies a day .	Cost \$.80 to \$4.00 per gallon.
Contains essential nutrients for the body such as calcium and iron.	Natural minerals are removed by filtration.
Chlorine residual in water to prevent bacteria growth.	No disinfectant present to kill bacteria in bottles.

We suggest that you take an empty water bottle or your favorite sports bottle, rinse it thoroughly and fill it with tap water. If you object to the chlorine taste, just keep the bottle in the refrigerator for at least 8 hours. The chlorine taste will dissipate.

Ongoing Efforts

Stoughton Municipal Utilities is replacing watermains in Main Street, Milwaukee Street and Page Street during the 2003 construction. Replacing undersized water mains and eliminating dead end mains is an integral part of our 20-year

Capital Projects Program. Learn more about our service to our neighbors at www.stoughtonutilities.com

Water Production & Distribution Profile

annual system demand	465 million gallons
maximum peak day	2.05 million gallons
daily avg demand	1.27 million gallons
number of wells	5
average well depth	1037 feet
ground storage facility	400,000 gallons
elevated storage facilities	2 towers with 600,000 gallons
number of water meters	4,549
number of fire hydrants	505
number of valves	894

Stormwater Pollution

Stormwater Pollution comes from multiple natural and human-made sources and occurs when rain, lawn watering, or car washing runoff water flows down the street and gutter and into the storm sewer drain inlets located along the gutter. Pollution occurs when runoff water travels across the ground-picking up litter, debris and other contaminants that are not easily seen-and washes down the storm drain. Unlike the City's sanitary sewer system, water that enters the storm sewer drain is untreated and dumped into the Yahara River. Pollutants that end up in the Yahara River erode the beauty of the City's river and endanger aquatic life and drinking water.

Common Stormwater Pollutants

- Lawn and garden chemicals, such as fertilizers, herbicides and insecticides.
- Litter and leaves that build up in the gutters.
- Brake fluid, oil, grease, and antifreeze.
- Paint and other house hold chemicals
- Pet wastes



City of Stoughton 2002 Drinking Water Quality Report

For more information

**Customer Service Information.....873-3379 Ext.
110**

- Open new or transfer accounts
- Billing inquiries
- Water conservation
- Water, sewer and electric rates
- Automatic payment plans
- Credit card payments



INTRODUCTION

The Stoughton Municipal Water Utility is very pleased to provide you with this year's Annual Drinking Water Quality Report. We want to keep you informed about the excellent water quality that has been delivered to you over the past year. Our goal is, and always has been since 1886, to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water.

We are proud to report that our drinking water is safe and meets Federal and State requirements.

The source of our water supply is deep sandstone wells that draw water from the Mt. Simon aquifer from five wells. The wells are located in the following areas: Well 3 is located in Bjoin Park, Well 4 is located at 921 N. Van Buren Street, Well 5 is located at 1424 W. South Street, Well 6 is located at 1215 S. Academy Street and Well 7 is located in Virgin Lake Park. We are pleased to report that our drinking water is safe and meets all Federal and State requirements. This report shows our water quality and what it means.

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact:

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

bkardasz@stoughtonutilities.com

DISCUSSION

Again, please note that the Stoughton Municipal Water Utility's 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

The Stoughton Municipal Water Utility 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, 2002, through December 2002 (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 Municipal Water Utility. 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

Table A

Radioactive Contaminates

Substance	MCL	MCLG	Level Detected	Range	Likely Source of Substance
Alpha Emitters	15	0	6.9	1.3-10.0	Erosion of natural deposits
Gross Beta	n/a	n/a	5.7	1.6-8.0	Decay of natural and man made deposits
Combined Radium	5	0	3.3	2.5-4.1	Erosion of natural deposits

Inorganic Contaminates

Substance	MCL	MCLG	Level Detected	Range	Likely Source of Substance
Barium	2	2	0.26	.020-.031	Erosion of natural deposits
Copper	AL=1.3	1.3	.108	.106	Corrosion of household plumbing system
Fluoride	4	4	1.0	.1-1.3	Water additive promoting strong teeth
Lead	AL=15	0	11.2	11.2	Corrosion of household plumbing system
Nitrate	10	10	1.14	nd-5.69	Runoff from fertilizers
Sodium	N/A	N/A	3.84	2.50-8.70	N/A
Chromium	100	100	0	nd-1	Erosion of natural deposits

Unregulated Contaminates

Substance	MCL	MCLG	Level Detected	Range	Likely Source of Substance
Bromoform	n/a	n/a	.37	nd-2.20	N/A
Sulfate	n/a	n/a	19.50	14.30-30.80	N/A

Volatile Organic Contaminates

Substance	MCL	MCLG	Level Detected	Range	Likely Source of Substance
THM (ppb)	100	0	0	-	By-product of drinking water chlorination