



www.epa.gov/OGWDW/kids
www.health.state.mn.us/divs/eh/water
www.dnr.state.mn.us/waters
www.epa.gov/safewater
www.waterwisser.org

Internet Resources

EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline 800-426-4791
 Minnesota Department of Health 651-201-4670
 Minnesota Department of Natural Resources 651-296-6157

Contact Information

The City's web site (www.cityofpriorlake.com) contains information about Prior Lake's Public Works department, water system, water conservation, and lawn watering restrictions. If you'd like to learn more, use sources listed below.

The City of Prior Lake strives to provide safe drinking water and top-notch service to residents. We also encourage you to stay abreast of drinking water issues. Informed water customers are powerful advocates for safe drinking water.

Stay Informed about Drinking Water Issues



City of Prior Lake
 16200 Eagle Creek Ave.
 Prior Lake, MN 55372-1714

ERCWSS
 Postal Customer

Bulk Rate
 U.S. POSTAGE
 PAID
 Prior Lake, MN
 Permit No. 33

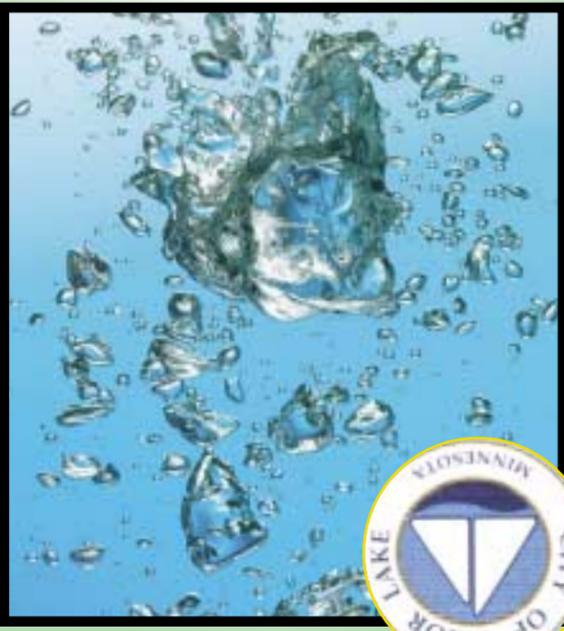
Spanish: Información importante. Si no la entiende, haga que alguien se la traduzca ahora.
 Hmong: Daim ntawv no tseem ceeb heev. Yog koj tsis to tauv, nrhiv tus neeg pab txhais rau koj sat.

This annual Water Quality Report is your guide to the quality and safety of the tap water provided by the City of Prior Lake Utilities Department. Please review this report, and let us know about your concerns. We encourage customers to stay informed on drinking water issues. For questions or concerns about tap water or information about opportunities for public participation in decisions that may affect the water quality, contact the Water Department at the Prior Lake Maintenance Center at 440-9675.

Prior Lake Resident:

May 2006

City of Prior Lake Water Quality Report



Prior Lake Drinking Water Found Safe in 2005

Before the City of Prior Lake delivers water to your home, it is thoroughly tested in certified laboratories that can detect trace amounts of contaminants. Prior Lake test results for last year are shown in the table at right. **No contaminants were detected that exceeded 2005 EPA limits in drinking water.**

EPA regulates substances that are potentially harmful to human health and have a reasonable possibility of being found in drinking water. Tests for some of these substances are as frequent as weekly, quarterly, or annually. The levels of some things however, change little over time, or the chances of detecting them is low. These are monitored less than annually. Substances that have been found in previous years' testing are also listed in the table, along with the year that they were found.



No contaminants were detected at levels that exceed limits for safe drinking water

Definition of Terms in the Table

The **Level Found** can be the highest amount found or the average of all samples analyzed, depending on the regulation for the particular substance.

Regulated substances have Maximum Contaminant Levels (**MCLs**) set by the EPA. This is the highest level of the substance legally allowed in drinking water. Some contaminants also have MCL goals (**MCLGs**). This is the level of a substance below which there is no known or expected health risk. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety. MCLs are set as close to MCLGs as feasible using the best available water treatment processes. **MRDL**: Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level **MRDLG**: Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal

Unregulated substances do not have MCLs. They are assessed by state standards known as health risk limits. If an unacceptable amount of any substance is ever found in our water, the City of Prior Lake will notify residents immediately and take corrective action to eliminate the problem. Monitoring for unregulated contaminants as required by U.S. Environmental Protection Agency was conducted in 2004. Results of the unregulated contaminant monitoring are available upon request from Cindy Swanson, Minnesota Department of Health, at 651-201-4656. The **Action Level (AL)** is the MCL for lead and copper. If 90% percent of all samples tested are not below the action level concentration, then the water utility is required to perform treatment processes that will help decrease pipe corrosion.

Results of Laboratory Testing City of Prior Lake Drinking Water

January 1 to December 31, 2005

Units of Measurement Key:

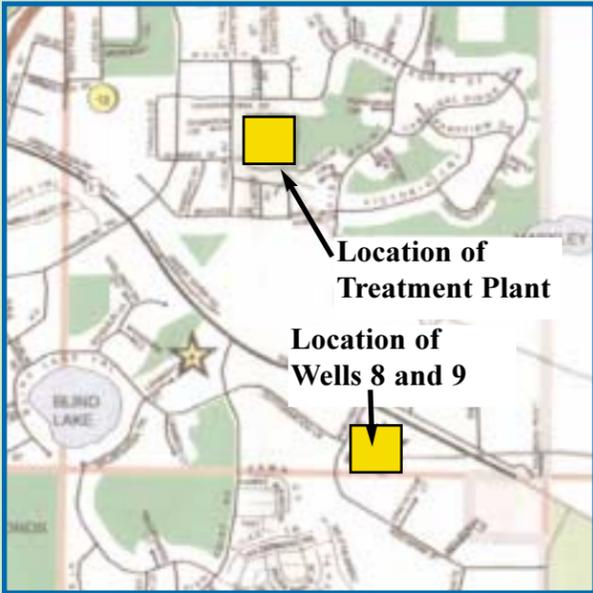
ppm: parts per million, or milligrams per liter
ppb: parts per billion, or micrograms per liter
pCi/L: picoCuries per liter, a measure of radioactivity
ND: Not Detected



Detected Substance(units) <i>MCL (highest level allowed in water by EPA)</i> <i>MCLG (level where there is no known health risk)</i>	*Test Date	Results for Prior Lake Tap Water		Typical Source of Substance in Drinking Water <small>*Annual monitoring is not required for all substances. For this reason, results in the table are for when the substance was last analyzed and detected, which may have been prior to 2005.</small>
		Level Found	Range of Detections	
Fluoride (ppm) <i>MCL: 4.0; MCLG: 4.0</i>	2005	1.1	1.0-1.2	Additive for strong teeth; erosion of natural deposits; fertilizer and aluminum factories.
Lead (ppb) <i>AL: 15 (90% of samples tested must be <15 ppb)</i>	2004	90% of samples < 7.0	1 out of 30 samples tested > 15 ppb	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits.
Copper (ppm) <i>AL: 1.3 (90% of samples tested must be <1.3 ppm)</i>	2004	90% of samples < 0.67	0 out of 30 samples tested > 1.3 ppm	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits.
Sodium (ppm) <i>No established EPA limits</i>	2004	6.1	—	Erosion of natural deposits.
Sulfate (ppm) <i>No established EPA limits</i>	2004	19	—	Erosion of natural deposits.
Radon (pCi/L) <i>Limit not yet established</i>	2005	660.75	636-719	Erosion of natural deposits.
Alpha Emitters (pCi/L) <i>MCL: 15.4; MCLG: 0</i>	2003	3.9	—	Erosion of natural deposits.
Total Trihalomethanes (ppb) <i>MCL: 80; MCLG: 0</i>	2005	13.9	—	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
Barium (ppm) <i>MCL: 2.0; MCLG: 2.0</i>	2005	0.37	nd-0.371	Discharge of drilling wastes, metal refineries and erosion of natural deposits.
Combined Radium (pCi/L) <i>MCL: 5.4; MCLG: 0</i>	2003	0.29	—	Erosion of natural deposits.
Haloacetic Acid (HAA5) (ppb) <i>MCL: 60; MCLG: 0</i>	2005	3.9	—	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
Chromium (ppb) <i>MCL: 100; MCLG: 100</i>	2005	20	nd-20	Erosion of natural deposits; discharge from steel and pulp mills.
Cyanide (ppb) <i>MCL: 200; MCLG: 200</i>	2005	190	nd-190	Discharge from steel/metal factories; Discharge from plastic and fertilizer factories.
Chlorine (ppm) <i>MRDL: 4.0; MRDLG: 4.0</i>	2005	0.83 Highest Quarterly Avg	0.7-1.0 Monthly Avg.	Water additive used to control microbes.
Nickel (ppb) <i>No established EPA limits</i>	2005	10.7	ND-10.7	Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from industrial sites.
Arsenic (ppb) <i>MCL: 50; MCLG: 0</i>	2005	7.61	2.0-7.61	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards, glass and electronics production wastes.



What You Should Know About the Prior Lake Water Supply System



New Water Improvements in Prior Lake

The City is actively planning for the construction of a water treatment plant (WTP) in the Brooksville Hills area, adjacent to wells 3, 4 and 7. The City Council has appointed a committee consisting of Council members, City staff, and two citizen representatives. The committee's role will be to assist with keeping residents informed of the processes related to construction, and provide input to the Council for selection of a consultant for the WTP design.

Goals for the committee are as follows:

2006

1. Informational meeting
2. Choose a design consultant

2007

1. Complete final design
2. Bid and award project

2007 - 2009

1. Construction of WTP

2009

1. Start up of WTP

The WTP will remove iron and manganese from the water pumped from City wells. Along with the WTP, the committee is looking at additional water storage to coincide with the construction of the WTP to utilize space and better serve the residents.

Wells 8 and 9, identified in the 2005 Consumer Confidence Report, will be ready for use this summer and will assist in meeting summer demand. Additional studies and pump tests related to the improvements to Prior Lake's water infrastructure are ever increasing with the structured growth of the Community by following the updated Comprehensive Potable Water System Plan.



Vulnerability Assessments

Prior Lake is making efforts to protect your water source. To reduce the vulnerability to drinking water supplies, the city has added chain link fencing around wells, locks on hydrants and increased lighting to all well structures as pictured above. If you have more questions about the vulnerability of Prior Lake water contact the Water Superintendent at 952-440-9675.

Keep your transmitter accessible and free of obstructions



Prior Lake Water is Groundwater

All water delivered to residents is groundwater. The City operates five wells, ranging in depth from 345 to 640 feet deep. Four of these wells draw water from the Jordan Sandstone Aquifer. The fifth well taps into the Franconia-Ironton-Galesville aquifer, another sandstone formation that can produce high-capacity wells.

The Minnesota Department of Health has determined that one or more sources of your drinking water is potentially susceptible to contamination. If you wish to obtain the entire source water assessment regarding your drinking water, please call 651-201-4670 during normal business hours. Also, you can view it online at www.health.state.mn.us/divs/eh/water/swp/swa.

Remember

Remember to keep the radio transmitter in your home (a gray box about 4" square, located near the water meter) accessible and free of obstructions. If the receiver is unable to detect a signal, City staff will have to visit your home and correct the problem.



Water Conservation

Over-depletion of our water supply resources is a real threat. Remember that the City of Prior Lake observes an odd/even sprinkling restriction, in conjunction with an 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. daily ban effective May 1 through September 1. You can save water and have a green lawn by following a few wise-use water tips:

If your grass springs back when you step on it, it doesn't need watering.

If it rains an inch or more, wait at least five days to water again.

Use a sprinkler that delivers large drops, rather than a fine mist.

Mow your grass to a length of 2" to 3", and let the clippings lie on the ground. This shades the soil to prevent evaporation.

Sod Watering Permits

New sod watering permits are available at the maintenance center at 17073 Adelmann St. SE. or by contacting the maintenance center at 952-440-9675. The permits are only available if you have installed new sod, seeding or landscaping and must be inspected by maintenance personnel prior to being allowed. This permit is only good for thirty days which allows watering everyday excluding the hours of 11am to 5pm.

The Laboratory Tests

Your water is thoroughly tested as it is pumped from the ground and from locations throughout the city. Contaminants that may be present in source water are divided into five basic testing categories:

Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural operations, and wildlife.

Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can occur naturally or come from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.

Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses.

Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are industrial and petroleum process by-products and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems.

Radioactive contaminants, which can occur naturally or result from oil and gas production and mining.

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 poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

What You Need to Know about Drinking Water Regulations

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that must provide the same protection for public health.

Contaminant Information from EPA

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants found 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/Centers for Disease Control guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants can be obtained by calling the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

Radon

Radon is a radioactive gas which is naturally-occurring in some groundwater. It poses a lung cancer risk when gas is released from water into air (as occurs during showering, bathing, or washing dishes or clothes) and a stomach cancer risk when it is ingested. Because radon in indoor air poses a much greater health risk than radon in drinking water, EPA is assessing two limits for drinking water. One limit is an Alternative Maximum Contaminant Level (AMCL) of 4000 pCi/L. It will apply to states that have adopted an Indoor Air Program, which compels citizens, homeowners, schools and communities to reduce the radon threat from indoor air. The second limit, which will apply to states without an indoor air program, may be set at 300 pCi/L. Minnesota plans to adopt an Indoor Air Program once the Radon Rule is finalized.

Arsenic

While your drinking water meets the EPA's standards for arsenic, it does contain low levels of arsenic. The EPA's standard balances the current understanding of arsenic's possible health effects against the cost of removing arsenic from drinking water. The EPA continues to research the health effects of low levels of arsenic, which is a mineral known to cause cancer in humans at high concentrations and is linked to other health effects such as skin damage and circulatory problems.

Source Water Testing

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, 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, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or humans. Water from the wells is thoroughly tested for contaminants like these, and lab test results for Prior Lake water are listed on the reverse side of this report.

Aesthetic Water Quality

Not only is the water tested for regulated contaminants, the city also monitors other parameters important to water quality. Use this information when selecting and adjusting home treatment devices:

pH	7.2	
Total Hardness	330 ppm	19.3 grains/gal
Calcium	210 ppm	12.3 grains/gal
Magnesium	120 ppm	7.0 grains/gal
Iron	0.10 ppm	0.006 grains/gal
Manganese	0.074 ppm	0.004 grains/gal