

ATTENTION PRIOR LAKE RESIDENTS - REMEMBER CHANGES OF SPRINKLING RESTRICTIONS!

On September 17th, 2007 the Prior Lake City Council amended the Ordinance related to City Water Works System, which provided changes to the hours, time of day, uses of water, and penalties related to lawn watering restrictions.

Odd-Even Sprinkling Restriction Changes:

- Expanded restriction hours from 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. to **10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.**
- Expanded restriction months from **May 1st through October 1st.**

The following items are exempt from odd-even and day time watering restrictions:

- Hand held hose watering of vegetable or flower gardens, flower pots, hanging baskets, car washing and general use of power washers.
- City athletic complexes; Ponds Park, Ryan Park, and Lakefront Park.
- Landscaping, including newly seeded or laid sod, with in the first thirty (30) days of placement with the application and inspection of watering permit. (Permits may be obtained online at www.cityofpriorlake.com.)
- Private well for irrigation.
- Residents pumping from the Lake.

Municipal water customers who violate this ordinance are subject to the new increases of warnings or fines:

- First offense; Warning.
- Second offense; \$50.00
- Third offense; \$100.00
- Each subsequent offense fine shall double (\$200.00, \$400.00, \$800.00) for the same property owner within the same calendar year. The fine shall be added to the offender's next water bill.

LAWN SPRINKLING REGULATIONS

Residents with house addresses with the last digit being even may water lawns by hose or irrigation only on even numbered calendar days. Likewise, residents with house addresses with the last digit being odd may water lawn by hose or irrigation only on odd numbered calendar days.

*If you utilize a lawn or irrigation contractor it is important that you provide this information to them to prevent warnings or violations of the sprinkling ordinance.

More information is available on the City of Prior Lake website at www.cityofpriorlake.com under the Fast Find section at Water Restrictions, or you may call the Maintenance Center at 952-447-9830.

REMINDER, UTILITY BILLING IS NOW LOCATED AT CITY HALL AT 4646 DAKOTA STREET S.E.

Phone contact numbers for Utility Billing are as follows: 952-447-9843 or 952-447-9844 or by e-mail at utilitybilling@cityofpriorlake.com

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. If you have more questions about the vulnerability of Prior Lake water contact the Water Superintendent at 952-447-9830.

Surface Water Quality:

All ground water starts as surface water and the surface waters of Prior Lake are ultimately affected by what happens up stream on the land draining to them. Often the term "water quality" is taken to mean "water clarity"; however, a broad range of nutrients and pollutants go into the question of surface water quality. Pollutants that affect water quality include over abundant nutrients such as phosphorus or nitrates from fertilizers, bacteria, chlorides, a wide variety of toxic chemicals, and byproducts from automobiles such as oils, lubricants or solvents.

You can help keep our surface waters clean by taking a few simple efforts to control the sources of these pollutants.

Six simple things you can do to help keep surface waters clean:

1. Compost lawn clippings and leaves and never allow them to wash from the street into the drain.
2. Use lawn fertilizers sparingly, and only when a soil test recommends it, and never used banned phosphorus fertilizers.
3. Leave a buffer of natural vegetation between surface water and your manicured lawn.
4. Never dump household chemicals or motor oil down the drain or onto land. Dispose of these materials at an appropriate recycling facility.
5. Pick up pet waste and dispose of it in the trash.
6. Keep your automobile well tuned and leak free and wash cars on the lawn or at a car wash, not in a driveway or street.



Utility News

The City of Prior Lake is in the midst of some exciting changes and upgrades to our water system. First, the Water Treatment Facility is currently under construction and will be completed in September of this year. The WTF will remove iron and manganese from the water pumped from City wells. Along with the WTF, additional underground storage of 1.5 million gallons will be constructed at the site to assist with meeting peak demands.

Some major items of work on the WTF the past couple of weeks:

- *Installed the 3-24" backwash waste lines and the return and waste lines to the reclaim tank.
- *Working on footings for the garage and admin/ chemical area.
- *Electrician is installing conduit below grade.
- *Plumber has been working on plumbing below floors, water to various process areas and installing roof drain leader piping through the building.
- *Installation of process piping has started in area below the Aerators.
- *The contractor should be complete with all major concrete pours with the exception of the floors by the end of May.



Secondly, Well #10 is set to go to bid this fall. This additional well will help us meet growing water demands in the summer months and help our Water Treatment Facility meet the designed capacity.

Aesthetic Water Quality

Not only is the water tested for regulated contaminants, the city also monitor for 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



Artist rendering of the new Treatment Facility, which will be completed at the end of September 2008.

City of Prior Lake Water Quality Report 2008

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 952-447-9830.

Spanish: Informacion importante. Si no la entiende, haga que alguien se la traduzca ahora.

Hmong: Daim ntawv no tseem ceeb heev. Yog koj tsis to taub, nrhiav tus neeg pab txhais rau koj sai.

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.

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.

Contact Information

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

Internet Resources

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



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Prior Lake, MN 55372-1714

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Postal Customer

Prior Lake Water is Groundwater

All water delivered to residents is groundwater. The City operates seven wells, ranging in depth from 345 to 640 feet deep, that draw water from the Jordan aquifer. Two other wells draw water from the Franconia-Ironton-Galesville aquifers and help us meet our increased summer demands. The water provided to customers may meet drinking water standards, but the Minnesota Department of Health has also made a determination as to how vulnerable the source of water may be to future contamination incidents. If you wish to obtain the entire source water assessment regarding your drinking water, please call 651-201-4700 or 1-800-201-4700 during normal business hours. Also, you can view it online at: www.health.state.mn.us/divs/ch/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 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. daily ban effective May 1 through October 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 Adelman St. SE., by contacting the maintenance center at 952-447-9830 or online at www.cityofpriorlake.com. 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 10am to 5pm.

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.

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 byproducts 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).

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).

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 table to the right.

Prior Lake Drinking Water Found Safe in 2007

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 2007 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 2007. 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.

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.

Lead

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. City of Prior Lake 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 the 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>.

Results of Laboratory Testing City of Prior Lake Drinking Water January 1 to December 31, 2007



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
		Level Found	Range of Detections	
Fluoride (ppm) <i>MCL: 4.0; MCLG: 4.0</i>	2007	1.07	0.94-1.2	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>	2007	90% of samples < 3.0	0 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>	2007	90% of samples <0.71	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>	2007	6.1	3.3-6.9	Erosion of natural deposits.
Sulfate (ppm) <i>No established EPA limits</i>	2007	17.5	2.72-17.5	Erosion of natural deposits.
Radon (pCi/L) <i>Limit not yet established</i>	2005	719	—	Erosion of natural deposits.
Alpha Emitters (pCi/L) <i>MCL: 15.4; MCLG: 0</i>	2007	5.5	nd-5.5	Erosion of natural deposits.
Total Trihalomethanes (ppb) <i>MCL: 80; MCLG: 0</i>	2007	20.4	—	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
Barium (ppm) <i>MCL: 2.0; MCLG: 2.0</i>	2005	0.37	—	Discharge of drilling wastes, metal refineries and erosion of natural deposits.
Combined Radium (pCi/L) <i>MCL: 5.4; MCLG: 0</i>	2007	1.93	nd-2.3	Erosion of natural deposits.
Haloacetic Acid (HAA5) (ppb) <i>MCL: 60; MCLG: 0</i>	2007	7	—	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
Chlorine (ppm) <i>MRDL: 4.0; MRDLG: 4.0</i>	2006	0.76 Highest Quarterly Avg	0.2-1.7 Monthly Avg.	Water additive used to control microbes.
Arsenic (ppb) <i>MCL: 10; MCLG: 0</i>	2005	7.61	—	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards, glass and electronics production wastes.
Toluene (ppm) <i>MCL: 1; MCLG: 1</i>	2007	0.003	nd - 0.0066	Discharge from petroleum factories.