



# 2009 Water Quality Report

## Neenah Water: Quality From the Tap

This is the twelfth annual report on the quality of water delivered by the Neenah Water Utility. This report meets the Federal Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) requirements for "Consumer Confidence Reports", and contains information on the source of Neenah's water, its constituents, and the health risks associated with the contaminants.

## Lake Winnebago is Primary Source of Neenah Drinking Water

The Neenah Water Treatment Plant is supplied by surface water from Lake Winnebago. We also have an emergency intake in the Fox River near Riverside Park. 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 human activity. Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

- Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations and wildlife.
- Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining or farming.
- Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff and residential uses.
- Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff and septic systems.
- Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which shall provide the same protection for public health.

## Plumbing Is Source of Lead

Infants and young children are typically more vulnerable to lead in drinking water than the general population. It is possible that lead levels at your home may be higher than at other homes in the community as a result of materials used in your home's plumbing. If you are concerned about elevated lead lev-

els in your home's water, you may wish to have your water tested and flush your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using tap water. Additional information is available from the Environmental Protection Agency's safe drinking water hotline (800-426-4791).

## For More Information on Any Topic in This Report, Call the Numbers Listed Below:

- Larry Wattering Director: 886-6182      E-mail: lwattering@ci.neenah.wi.us
- Water Quality, Treatment, Leaks and Main Breaks: 886-6190
- Billing Questions, Name Changes, and Final Readings: 886-6149

## Water Commission Meeting Schedule

The Neenah Water Commission meets at 4:30 on the third Monday of each month. The meetings are in the Council Chambers at City Hall, 211 Walnut Street, Neenah.

## EPA Sets Limits for Contaminants in Drinking Water

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 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. Immunocompromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune systems 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 Environmental Protection Agency's safe drinking water hotline (800-426-4791).

## Update

Neenah replaced 59 lead services in 2009, from the water main to the curb stop. Of those replaced, only 4 property owners chose to replace the remainder of the lead service from the curb stop to the house. Neenah will replace 90 lead services in 2010, from the water main to the curb stop.

## NUMBER OF CONTAMINANTS REQUIRED TO BE TESTED

This table displays the number of contaminants that were required to be tested in the last five years. The CCR may contain up to five years worth of water quality results. If a water system tests annually, or more frequently, the results from the most recent year are shown on the CCR. If testing is done less frequently, the results shown on the CCR are from the past five years.

Contaminant Group	# of Contaminants	Term	Definition
Disinfection Byproducts	2	AL	Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
Inorganic Contaminants	16	MCL	Maximum Contaminant Level: 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.
Microbiological Contaminants	1	MCLG	Maximum Contaminant Level Goal: 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.
Radioactive Contaminants	3	MFL	million fibers per liter
Synthetic Organic Contaminants including Pesticides and Herbicides	27	mrem/year	millirems per year (a measure of radiation absorbed by the body)
Unregulated Contaminants	34	NTU	Nephelometric Turbidity Units
Volatile Organic Contaminants	20	pCi/l	picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)
		ppm	parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/l)
		ppb	parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (ug/l)
		ppt	parts per trillion, or nanograms per liter
		ppq	parts per quadrillion, or picograms per liter
		TCR	Total Coliform Rule
		TT	Treatment Technique: A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

### Disinfection Byproducts

Contaminant (units)	MCL	MCLG	Level Found	Range	Sample Date (if prior to 2009)	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
HAA5 (ppb)	60	60	32	12- 35		NO	
THM (ppb)	80	0	44.4	24.8- 55.9		NO	By-product of drinking water chlorination

### Inorganic Contaminants

Contaminant (units)	MCL	MCLG	Level Found	Range	Sample Date (if prior to 2009)	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
BARIUM (ppm)	2	2	.004	.004		NO	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
CADMIUM (ppb)	5	5	.1	.1		NO	Corrosion of galvanized pipes; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from metal refineries; runoff from waste batteries and paints
CHROMIUM (ppb)	100	100	2	2		NO	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; Erosion of natural deposits
COPPER (ppm)	AL=1.3	1.3	.044	0 of 60 results were above the action level.		NO	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives
FLUORIDE (ppm)	4	4	1.1	1.1		NO	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
LEAD (ppb)	AL=15	0	12.00	2 of 60 results were above the action level.		*	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
NICKEL (ppb)	100		.8000	.8000		NO	Nickel occurs naturally in soils, ground water and surface waters and is often used in electroplating, stainless steel and alloy products.
NITRATE (NO3-N) (ppm)	10	10	.28	.28		NO	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
SODIUM (ppm)	n/a	n/a	10.00	10.00		NO	n/a

\* Systems exceeding a lead and/or copper action level must take actions to reduce lead and/or copper in the drinking water. The lead and copper values represent the 90th percentile of all compliance samples collected. If you want information on the NUMBER of sites or the actions taken to reduce these levels, please contact your water supply operator.

### Radioactive Contaminants

Contaminant (units)	MCL	MCLG	Level Found	Range	Sample Date (if prior to 2009)	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
RADIUM, (226 + 228) (pCi/l)	5	0	1.0	1.0		NO	Erosion of natural deposits

### Unregulated Contaminants

Contaminant (units)	MCL	MCLG	Level Found	Range	Sample Date (if prior to 2009)	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
1,2,4-TRIMETHYLBENZENE (ppb)	n/a	n/a	.18	.18	06/27/2007	NO	n/a
BROMODICHLOROMETHANE (ppb)	n/a	n/a	4.73	3.50- 6.90		NO	n/a
CHLOROFORM (ppb)	n/a	n/a	34.50	21.00- 49.00		NO	n/a
DIBROMOCHLOROMETHANE (ppb)	n/a	n/a	.27	nd- .43		NO	n/a
SULFATE (ppm)	n/a	n/a	31.00	31.00		NO	n/a

### Corrective Actions Taken

For the Spring 2009 sampling period, 9 of the 60 lead samples were higher than 15 ppb. the 90 percentile level was 18 ppb. Since then, due to chemistry changes at the water treatment plant, Neenah passed the Autumn 2009 sampling period. The 90 percentile level was 12 ppb. Neenah also passed the Spring 2010 sampling period. The 90 percentile level was also 12 ppb.

## En Español

El informe contiene información importante sobre la calidad del agua en su comunidad. Tradúzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.