

2009

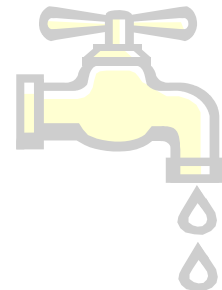
TOWN OF OWENSVILLE WATER QUALITY REPORT FOR JANUARY 1 – DECEMBER 31, 2008

This report is intended to provide you with important information about your drinking water and the efforts made by the water system to provide safe drinking water. For more information regarding this report contact Randall J. Ross, Water Operator for the Town of Owensville at 812-724-4151.

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre el agua que usted bebe. Tradúzcalo ó hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

DO I NEED TO TAKE SPECIAL PRECAUTIONS?

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised people, such as people with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, people who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other kinds of 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 at (800) 426-4791.



WHERE DOES OUR WATER COME FROM?

The Town of Owensville gets its water from a ground water system or what is known as an underground aquifer. There is no filtration system. Raw water from the aquifers is treated at the plant with three chemicals. Chlorine is added to kill pathogens, which are diseases causing organisms, fluoride is added to protect teeth, and phosphate is used to prevent non-corrosiveness in the plumbing. The system has four wells. Two wells run simultaneously to bring nitrate concentration levels in the water below the maximum contamination level set by the Indiana Department of Environmental Management.

Source Water Information

| Source Water Name | | Type of Water | Report Status | Location |
|-------------------|--------------------------------|---------------|---------------|--------------------------|
| Well #1 | North of Water Treatment Plant | GW | | Water Department Grounds |
| Well #2 | North of Water Treatment Plant | GW | | Water Department Grounds |
| Well #2A | North of Water Treatment Plant | GW | | Water Department Grounds |
| Well #3 | North of Water Treatment Plant | GW | | Water Department Grounds |

WHY ARE THERE CONTAMINANTS IN MY DRINKING WATER?

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of these contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and their potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

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, or can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or human activity.

Contaminants that may be present in the raw, untreated water may 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 that result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, and mining or farming operations.
- **Pesticides and Herbicides**, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses.
- **Organic Chemical Contaminants**, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production operations, and can also, come from gas stations, urban stormwater 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 which limit the amount of certain contaminants in the water provided by public water systems. FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

WATER QUALITY DATA

The table on the next page lists all the contaminants that we detected during the 2008 calendar year. The presence of these contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. Unless otherwise indicated, the data presented in this table is from testing done between January 1 and December 31, 2008. The Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) requires us to monitor for certain contaminants at a frequency less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from one year to another. Some of the data, though representative of the water quality, may however be more than one year old.

Some of the terms and abbreviations used in this report are:

| | |
|---------------|--|
| MCL: | Maximum Contaminant Level, the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. |
| MCLG: | Maximum Contaminant Level Goal, the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. |
| MRDL: | Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level, the highest level of disinfectant allowed in drinking water. |
| MRDLG: | Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal, the level of drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. |
| AL: | Action Level; the concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a system must follow. |
| ALC: | Action Level Goal; the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. ALGs allow for a margin of safety. |
| TT: | Treatment Technique, a required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water. |
| NTU: | Nephelometric Turbidity Unit, a measure of the clarity (or cloudiness) of water. |
| ppm: | Parts per million, a measure for concentration equivalent to milligrams per liter. |
| ppb: | Parts per billion, a measure for concentration equivalent to micrograms per liter. |
| pCi/L: | Picocuries per liter a measure of radiation. |
| P*: | Potential violation, one that is likely to occur in the near future once the system has sampled for four quarters. |
| n/a: | Either not available or not applicable. |
| ND: | Not Detected, the result was not detected at or above the analytical method detection level. |

Section I - Contaminants Detected

| Coliform Bacteria | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|---|---|-----------|---------------------------------------|
| MCLG | Total Coliform MCL | Highest No. of Positive | Fecal Coliform or E. Coli MCL | Total # of Positive E. Coli or Fecal Coliform Samples | Violation | Likely Sources |
| 0 | 1 positive monthly sample | 1 | Fecal Coliform or E. Coli MCL: A routine sample and a repeat sample are total coliform positive and one is also fecal coliform or E coli positive | 1 | No | Naturally present in the environment. |

| Lead and Copper | | | | | | | | |
|------------------------|--------------|------|-----|-----------------------------|-----------------|-------|-----------|--|
| | Date Sampled | MCLG | AL | 90 th Percentile | # Sites Over AL | Units | Violation | Likely Sources |
| Copper | 2006 | 1.3 | 1.3 | 0.324 | | ppm | No | Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives; Corrosion of household plumbing systems |
| Lead(see special note) | 2006 | 0 | 15 | 4 | No | ppb | No | Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits. |

| Regular Contaminants | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|-----|---------|-----------|--|
| Disinfectants and Disinfection By-Products | Collection Date | Highest Level Detected | Range of Levels Detected | MCLG | MCL | Units | Violation | Likely Sources |
| Total Haloacetic Acids (haa5)* | 8/5/08 | 2 | 1.6 – 1.6 | No goal for the total | 60 | ppb | No | By-product of drinking water chlorination |
| Not all sample results may have been used for calculating the Highest Level Detected because some results may be part of an evaluation to determine where compliance sampling should occur in the future. | | | | | | | | |
| Total Trihalomethanes (tthm) | 8/5/08 | 14 | 14 - 14 | 8.5 No goal for the total | 80 | ppb | No | By-product of drinking water chlorination |
| Not all sample results may have been used for calculating the Highest Level Detected because some results may be part of an evaluation to determine where compliance sampling should occur in the future. | | | | | | | | |
| Inorganic Contaminants | | | | | | | | |
| Inorganic Contaminants | Collection Date | Highest Level Detected | Range of Levels Detected | MCLG | MCL | Units | Violation | Likely Sources |
| Barium | 3/4/08 | 0.269 | 0.0276-0.269 | 2 | 2 | ppm | No | Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits. |
| Fluoride | 3/4/08 | 0.87 | 0.76 – 0.87 | 4 | 4.0 | ppm | No | Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories. |
| Nitrate (see special note) | 2008 | 8 | 5.23 – 10 | 10 | 10 | ppm | No | Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits. |
| Radioactive Contaminants | | | | | | | | |
| Radioactive Contaminants | Collection Date | Highest Level Detected | Range of Levels Detected | MCLG | MCL | Units | Violation | Likely Sources |
| Beta/photon emitters | 10/08 | 3.1 | 3.1 – 3.1 | 0 | 4 | mrem/yr | No | Decay of natural and man-made deposits. |
| Gross Alpha excluding radon and uranium | 10/08 | 1.6 | 1.6 – 1.6 | 0 | 15 | pCi/L | No | Erosion of natural deposits. |
| Uranium | 10/08 | 0.5 | 0.5 – 0.5 | 0 | 30 | ug/l | No | Erosion of natural deposits. |
| Special Note on 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. We are 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 . | | | | | | | |
| Special Note on Nitrate: | Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 10 ppm is a health risk for infants of less than six months of age. High nitrate levels in drinking water can cause blue baby syndrome. Nitrate levels may rise quickly for short periods of time because of rainfall or agricultural activity. If you are caring for an infant, you should ask for advice from your health care provider. | | | | | | | |

HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED?

If you have any questions about the contents of this report, please contact Mr. Randy Ross at 812-724-3909. Or you can join us at our Board Meetings, which are held on the second Monday of each month beginning at 6:30p.m. The meetings are held at the Owensville Town Hall at 108 W. Brummitt Street, Owensville, IN 47665. We encourage you to participate and to give us your feedback.

WELLHEAD PROTECTION PLAN

In March 2002, the Town along with the Wellhead Protection Planning Team developed and adopted a wellhead protection plan. This plan is available for public viewing at the Owensville Town Hall during normal business hours.

PLEASE SHARE THIS INFORMATION

Large water volume customers (like apartment complexes, hospitals, schools, and/or industries) are encouraged to post extra copies of this report in conspicuous locations or to distribute them to your tenants, residents, patients, students, and/or employees. This "good faith" effort will allow non-billed customers to learn more about the quality of the water that they consume.

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WATER QUALITY REPORT
2008

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