

Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

Page, North Dakota

2006

We're pleased to present to you this year's Annual Drinking Water Quality Report. This report is designed to inform you about the safe clean water we deliver to you every day. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water. Prior to November 9, 2006, our water source was one municipal well located in the southwest corner of town. The one well had a production rate of 270 GPM. The City of Page drew its water from the Page-Galesburg Aquifer. Effective November 9, 2006, the City of Page began purchasing treated groundwater from Cass Rural Water Users, Inc. (Phase III). All three wells are 126 feet deep. Water treatment includes iron and manganese removal, addition of polyphosphates, fluoridation, and chlorination.

Cass Rural Water District Phase III and the City of Page are participating in North Dakota's Wellhead Protection Program. The North Dakota Department of Health has prepared a Source Water Assessment for Cass Rural Water Users, Inc. and the City of Page. This is available for review by contacting Cass Rural Water Users, Inc. or the City Auditor at (701) 668-2226. Our public water system, in cooperation with the North Dakota Department of Health, has completed the delineation and contaminant/land use inventory elements of the North Dakota Source Water Protection Program. Based on the information from these elements, the North Dakota Department of Health has determined that our source water is determined to be not likely susceptible to potential contaminants. This information is available to the public by contacting the City Auditor at (701) 668-2226.

The City of Page is pleased to report that our drinking water is safe and meets 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 Judy Johnson, City Auditor, at (701) 668-2226. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled meetings. They are held on the first Monday of each month, at 5:30 PM, at the Page City Hall. If you are aware of non-English speaking individuals who need help with the appropriate language translation, please call Judy Johnson at the number listed above.

The City of Page would appreciate it if large volume water customers post copies of the Annual Drinking Water Quality Report in conspicuous locations or distribute them to tenants, residents, patients, students, and/or employees, so individuals who consume the water, but do not receive a water bill can learn about our water system.

Page routinely monitors for contaminants in our drinking water according to Federal and State laws. The tables included in this report show the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1st to December 31st, 2006. As you will notice two separate tables have been included to show results of our water system prior to connecting to Cass Rural Water Users District and the results of Cass Rural Water Users District testing. As authorized and approved by EPA, the state has reduced monitoring requirements for certain contaminants to less often than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year. Some of our data [e.g., for inorganic contaminants], though representative, is more than one year old.

EPA requires monitoring of over 80 drinking water contaminants. Those contaminants listed in the table are the only contaminants detected in your drinking water. As you can see by this table, our system had no violations. We are proud that your drinking water meets or exceeds all Federal and State requirements. We have learned through our monitoring and testing that some contaminants have been detected. The EPA has determined that your water IS SAFE at these levels.

Unregulated contaminants are those for which EPA has not established drinking water standards. The purpose of unregulated contaminant monitoring is to assist EPA in determining the occurrence of unregulated contaminants in drinking water and whether future regulation is warranted. Your water system is pleased to report that none of the 33 unregulated organic contaminants that were tested for have been detected in our water supply.

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 (EPA) Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791). The sources of drinking water (both tap 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 from human activity.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, that 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, 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 (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

In the table you will find many terms and abbreviations you might not be familiar with. To help you better understand these terms we have provided the following definitions:

Not Applicable (N/A).

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 (µg/l) - 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.

Positive samples/month – Number of samples taken monthly that were found to be positive.

Action Level (AL) - The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

Treatment Technique (TT) - A treatment technique is a required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

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.

TEST RESULTS FOR THE CITY OF PAGE

Contaminants	MCLG or MRDLG	MCL TT or MRDL	Level Detected	Range	Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
Inorganic Contaminants:							
Arsenic (ppb)	0	10	19.1	N/A	2005	**No	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
Barium (ppm)	2	2	0.0269	N/A	2001	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Chromium (ppb)	100	100	4.51	N/A	2001	No	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; Erosion of natural deposits
Copper (ppm)	1.3	AL=1.3	0.052285 90 th % Value	N/A	2004	*No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives

TEST RESULTS FOR THE CITY OF PAGE (cont'd)

Contaminants	MCLG or MRDLG	MCL TT or MRDL	Level Detected	Range	Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	0.21	N/A	2001	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Lead (ppb)	0	AL=15	0 90 th % Value	N/A	2004	*No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate+Nitrite (AS N) (ppm)	10	10	< 0.02	N/A	2005	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks; sewage; Erosion of natural deposits

Radioactive Contaminants:

Gross Alpha, Includng RA, Excludng RN & U (pCi/L)	15	15	4.95	N/A	2003	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Uranium, Combined (ppb)	0	30	4.16	N/A	2003	No	Erosion of natural deposits

Disinfectants:

Chlorine (ppm)	4	4	2.4	0.47 to 4.2	2006	No	Water additive used to control microbes
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Disinfection Byproducts:

Total trihalomethanes (TTHM) - ppb	0	80	2	ND to 1.86	2007	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
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**No sites exceeded the lead or copper action levels in 2004.*

***Additional information regarding Arsenic – Some people who drink water containing arsenic in excess of the MCL over many years could experience skin damage or problems with their circulatory system, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.*

On November 1, 2005, the North Dakota State Department of Health granted the City of Page an Arsenic Rule Exemption under the Safe Drinking Water Act. This exemption would expire on January 23, 2009. In November of 2006, the City of Page began purchasing water from Cass Rural Water Users District, Inc. Since this system is in compliance with the arsenic rule, our water system is also in compliance. The arsenic exemption is no longer necessary and was terminated.

TEST RESULTS – CASS RURAL WATER DISTRICT PHASE III

Contaminants	MCLG or MRDLG	MCL TT or MRDL	Level Detected	Range	Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
Inorganic Contaminants:							
Arsenic (ppb)	0	10	4.4	N/A	2005	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
Radioactive Contaminants:							
Gross Alpha, Inclndg RA, Exclndg RN & U (pCi/L)	15	15	4.2	N/A	2003	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Uranium, Combined (ppb)	0	30	4.72	N/A	2003	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium, Combined (226,228) pCi/l		5	2.01	N/A	2003	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Disinfectants:							
Chlorine (ppm)	4	4	.9	0.31 to 1.59	2004	No	Water additive used to control microbes
Disinfection Byproducts:							
Total trihalomethanes (TTHM) – ppb	0	80	10	7.89 to 10.17	2004	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination

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 levels 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 Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

MCL's are set at very stringent levels. To understand the possible health effects described for many regulated contaminants, a person would have to drink 2 liters of water every day at the MCL level for a lifetime to have a one-in-a-million chance of having the described health effect.

In our continuing efforts to maintain a safe and dependable water supply it may be necessary to make improvements in your water system. The costs of these improvements may be reflected in the rate structure. Rate adjustments may be necessary in order to address these improvements.

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/Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (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 (1-800-426-4791).

Tampering with a public water system is a federal offense. Report suspicious activity to local law enforcement immediately.

Please call Judy Johnson, City Auditor, at (701) 668-2226 if you have questions concerning your community water system.

The City of Page works diligently to provide top quality water to every tap. We ask that all our customers help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community, our way of life and our children's future.

Richard Pederson, Mayor of Page

City Council Members

Tom Atkinson, Shane Larck, Richard Bjerke, Chris Kleven

City Auditor, Judy Johnson

City Maintenance Engineer, Robert Stevens

