

## **CITY OF MAUSTON WATERWORKS**

### **2012 WATER QUALITY REPORT**

**This report describes Mauston's drinking water sources, quality, and programs that protect the high quality of our water supply. This publication conforms to the federal regulation requiring water utilities to provide this information annually.**

**In this report, we attempt to balance your right to know against the sheer volume of information that we could provide. If some of this information appears complex, it's because drinking water is a complex business. For more information, please call us at 847-6676.**

**Safe drinking water is an essential resource for our citizens. The bottom line is this: "Our water is safe to drink!" We have no water quality violations and our water quality meets or exceeds state and federal standards.**

**The information in this report is also submitted formally and routinely to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, the Wisconsin Division of Health as well as to the United States Environmental Protection Agency. Both agencies monitor our water compliance with the many regulatory standards and testing protocols required to assure safe drinking water.**

**This is important information. Please take a few minutes to read the following report. Our office will be happy to help you with any questions you may have.**

**Sincerely,**

**Rob Nelson  
Director of Public Works**

**CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT  
ANNUAL DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT  
THE WATER WE DRINK  
CITY OF MAUSTON WATERWORKS**

We're pleased to provide you with this year's Annual Water Quality Report. The City of Mauston provides 448,000 gallons of water per day for personal and manufacturing use and fire protection. Currently we supply water to 1205 residential users, 212 commercial users and 17 industrial users through 27 miles of water main and 318 fire hydrants. We want to keep you informed about the excellent water and services we have delivered to you over the past year. Our goal is and always has been, to provide to you a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. Mauston's water is supplied from three (3) 350-foot deep drilled rock wells. Once pumped into the distribution system, the water is stored in either the existing 500,000 gallon in ground reservoir on top of Mile Bluff or in the 400,000-gallon water tower located east of I90/94 next to the Hill Top Substation. We are capable of pumping in excess of 2650 gallons per minute which equals 3,816,000 gallons per day.

This report shows our water quality and what it means. If you have any questions about this report or concerning your waterworks, please contact our office at 847-4070. We want our valued customers to be informed about their waterworks. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled Public Works Committee meetings which are held normally on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays of each month at 6:00 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers.

The City of Mauston Waterworks routinely monitors for constituents in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. This table shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1<sup>st</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2012. All drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. **It's important to remember that the presence of these contaminants does not necessarily pose a health risk.**

In this table you will find many terms and abbreviations you might not be familiar with. To help you better understand these terms we've provided the definitions as follows:

**DEFINITION OF TERMS**

<b>Term</b>	<b>Definition</b>
AL	Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment of other requirements which a water system must follow.
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.
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.
MFL	Million fibers per liter
mrem/year	millirems per year (a measure of radiation absorbed by the body)
NTU	Nephelometric Turbidity Units
pCi/l	picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)
ppm	parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/l)(corresponds to one minute in 2 years)
ppb	parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (ug/l)(corresponds to one minute in 2000 years)
ppt	parts per trillion, or nanograms per liter (corresponds to one minute in 2,000,000 years)
ppq	parts per quadrillion, or picograms per liter (corresponds to one minute in 2,000,000,000 years)
TCR	Total Coliform Rule
TT	Treatment Technique: A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water

**PWS ID 72901290 MAUTON WATERWORKS FOR 2012**

**Inorganic Contaminants**

Contaminant (units)	MCL	MCLG	Level Found	Range	Date of Sample	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
COPPER (ppm)	AL=1.3	1.3	.124	0 of 20 results were above the action level	8/3/11	NO	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives
LEAD (ppb)	AL=15	0	9.15	1 of 20 results were above the action level	8/3/11	*	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
BARIUM (ppm)	2	2	.50	.020 - .050	7/13/11	NO	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
NITRATE (NO3-N) (ppm)	10	10	2.70	.13-2.70		NO	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
SODIUM (ppm)	N/A	N/A	16.70	14.10 – 16.70	7/13/11	NO	N/A
FLUORIDE (ppm)	4	4	1.0	.1-1.0	7/13/11	NO	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
MERCURY (ppb)	2	2	.1	nd-.1	7/13/11	NO	Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from refineries and factories; Runoff from landfills; Runoff from cropland

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

**Disinfection Byproducts**

Contaminant (units)	MCL	MCLG	Level Found	Range	Date of Sample	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
HAA5 (ppb)	60	60	6	1 – 6	7/12/11	NO	
TTHM (ppb)	80	0	5.7	nd – .57	7/12/11	NO	By-product of drinking water chlorination

**Unregulated Contaminants**

Contaminant (units)	MCL	MCLG	Level Found	Range	Date of Sample	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
BROMODICHLORMETHANE (ppb)	N/A	N/A	1.01	nd-1.01	7/12/11	NO	N/A
BROMOFORM (ppb)	N/A	N/A	2.04	nd-2.04	7/12/11	NO	N/A
CHLOROFORM (ppb)	N/A	N/A	2.64	nd-2.64	7/12/11	NO	N/A
DIBROMOCHLOROMETHANE (ppb)	N/A	N/A	2.15	nd-2.15	7/12/11	NO	N/A

The state requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year. Some of our data though representative is more than one year old.

Possible Health Effects of detected contaminants:

Nitrates:

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 advice from your health care provider.

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 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 at 1-800-426-4791.

As you can see by the table, our system had no violations. We're proud that your drinking water meets or exceeds all Federal and State requirements. We have learned through our monitoring and testing that some constituents have been detected. The EPA has determined that your water **IS SAFE** at these levels.

All sources of drinking water are subject to potential contamination by constituents that are naturally occurring or are man made. Those constituents can be microbes, organic or inorganic chemicals or radioactive materials.

All 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 the 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 at 1-800-426-4791.

MCL's are set at very stringent levels. To understand the possible health effects described for many regulated constituents, 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.

Nitrates: As a precaution we will notify physicians and health care providers in this area if there is ever a higher than normal level of nitrates in the water supply.

Lead: Lead in drinking water is rarely the sole cause of lead poisoning, but it can add to a person's total lead exposure. All potential sources of lead in the household should be identified and removed, replaced or reduced.

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. EPA/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 at 1-800-426-4791.

Director of Public Works, Rob Nelson, states "Mauston Waterworks will continue to provide top quality water to every customer and I urge all customers to help protect our water sources."