

# SAFE DRINKING WATER REPORT



## AN ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PROCESS AND PRECAUTIONS WHICH PROVIDES QUALITY WATER TO MORE THAN 7,700 CUSTOMERS

In this report, you will find:

- Information about the source of your drinking water
- The treatment process that ensures you of the highest quality water
- Results of water quality testing and compliance with Water quality laws
- Additional educational information

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) requires drinking water utilities to provide an annual Consumer Confidence Report to help consumers understand where their drinking water comes from so they can make informed decisions about their health and protection of the environment.

### SPECIAL HEALTH INFORMATION AVAILABLE

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 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](tel:8004264791).

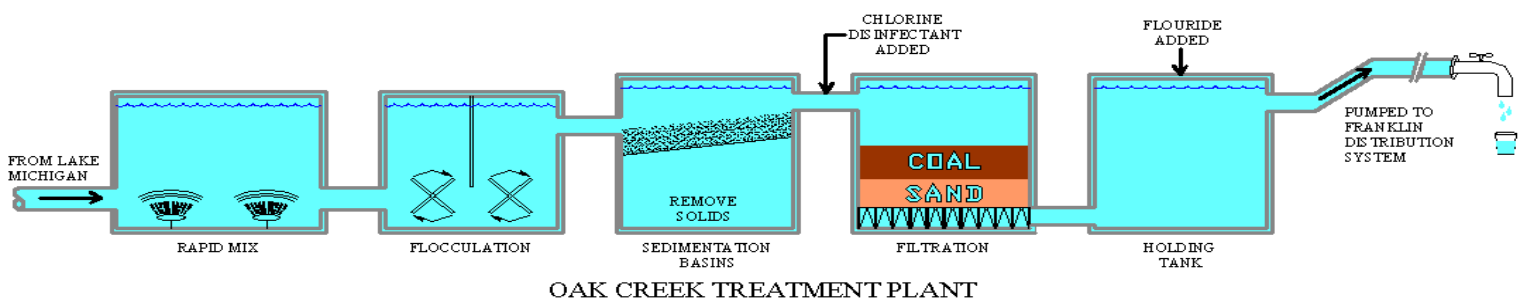
Drinking water – including bottled water – may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does *not* necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline at [\(800\) 426-4791](tel:8004264791).

### LEAD AND COPPER

Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with older service lines and home plumbing. The Franklin Water Utility 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 your tap for 30 seconds to two minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. Information on lead in drinking water, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline, [\(800\)-426-4791](tel:8004264791) or at [www.epa.gov/safewater/lead](http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead).

### SOURCE OF FRANKLIN'S DRINKING WATER

#### FLOW CHART OF THE TREATMENT OF FRANKLIN WATER



### TREATED WATER QUALITY

Listed on the next page are contaminants detected in Franklin's drinking water during 2010. All detects are less than federal and state regulations allow. Not listed are the nearly 3,000 tests conducted for approximately 150 contaminants that were not found during water testing.

The State Department of Natural Resources allows the Franklin Water Utility to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. Some of this data, though representative, is more than one year old.

The information enclosed is based on the testing conducted in the year 2010. Every year testing occurs; results for the year 2011 will be available in the next annual report. The Franklin Water Utility is committed to providing you with the highest quality drinking water that meets and exceeds standards more stringent than federal and state requirements. Please read this brochure for additional information.

#### How to Read the Annual Franklin Water Quality Report

1. Read the definitions below the contaminants tables to understand this report.
2. Choose a "Contaminant" on the chart.
3. Then check the "Ideal Goal" (Maximum Contaminant Level Goal) for that substance.
4. Note the "Highest Level Allowed" (Maximum Contaminant Level).
5. Compare the contaminant "Level Detected" in Franklin's water supply to the Ideal Goal and the Highest Level Allowed.

SUBSTANCE	MCLG (Ideal Goals)	MCL (Highest Level Allowed)	Level DETECTED	VIOLATIO N	SOURCE OF CONTAMINANT
HAA5	60 ppb	60 ppb	13 ppb (avg) Range: 10 - 19 ppb	NO	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.
Antimony	6 ppb	6 ppb	.2 ppb	NO	Discharge petroleum refineries, fire retardants, ceramics, electronics, solder.
Barium	2 ppm	2 ppm	.018 ppm	NO	Natural deposits.
Chromium	100 ppb	100 ppb	1 ppb	NO	Natural deposits.
Copper <b>Sample Date: 10/14/2008</b>	1.3 ppm	AL = 1.3 ppm	.23 ppm (90 <sup>th</sup> percentile value) 0 of 31 results exceeded AL	NO	Natural deposits. Corrosion of household plumbing systems.
Fluoride	4 ppm	4 ppm	1.2 ppm average Range: 1.08 – 1.31 ppm	NO	Natural deposits. Water additive that promotes strong teeth.
Lead <b>Sample Date: 10/14/2008</b>	0 ppb	AL = 15 ppb	4 ppb (90 <sup>th</sup> percentile value) 2 of 31 results exceeded AL	NO	Natural deposits. Corrosion of household plumbing systems.
Nitrate	10 ppm	10 ppm	0.35 ppm	NO	Natural deposits, fertilizer, animal waste, sewage.
Radium, combined <b>Sample Date: 3/18/2009</b>	0 pCi/L	5 pCi/L	1.3 pCi/L	NO	Natural deposits.
Sodium	N/A	Unregulated	8.9 ppm	NO	Natural deposits.
Sulfate	N/A	Unregulated	22 ppm	NO	Natural deposits.
<b>Bromodichloro--methane</b>	N/A	Unregulated	7.68 ppb average Range: 5.6 – 9.9 ppb	NO	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.
Bromoform	N/A	Unregulated	.67 ppb average Range: .32 – 1 ppb	NO	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.
Chloroform	NA	Unregulated	9.83 ppb average Range: 7 – 15 ppb	NO	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.
Dibromochloro-methane	N/A	Unregulated	4.45 ppb average Range: 2.8 – 6.2 ppb	NO	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.
Trihalomethanes, Total	0 ppb	80 ppb	22.6 ppb average Range 15.7 – 32.1 ppb	NO	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.
Turbidity	N/A	TT= 1 NTU TT<0.3 NTU <b>95% of the time</b>	0.039 NTU average Range: .03 – .09 NTU	NO	Natural sediment.

#### DEFINITIONS

**AL = Action Level:** The concentration of a contaminant that triggers treatment or other requirements, which a water system must follow.

**Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL):** The highest level of a contaminant allowed by law in drinking water.

**Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG):** The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected health risk.

**mrem/year:** millirems per year (a measure of radiation absorbed by the body).

**NTU = Nephelometric Turbidity Units:** a measurement unit of turbidity, or water cloudiness, which is a good indicator of water quality.

**pCi/l:** Picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity).

**ppm:** Parts per million.

**ppb:** Parts per billion.

**TT = Treatment Technique:** A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

**Trihalomethanes:** chloroform, bromochloromethane, dibromochloromethane and bromoform.

\* Each contaminant range is from no detect (nd) to the maximum reported value.

Test results completed by Northern Labs

#### WATER CONSERVATION

Although tap water is a bargain at \$.0035 per gallon when compared to most other products we consume, the total cost of water usage can add up quickly when other factors such as drinking water treatment, facility improvements, wastewater treatment, and the energy used for treating, pumping, and heating water are factored in.

We must also remember that water is a limited resource; we will never have any more water on earth than what we have right now. So while it's necessary for us to use water to survive and to produce most of the products we use on a daily basis, it also pays for us to protect it as a natural resource for use by future generations.

Most of it is used in the bathroom. The largest water user in any household is the toilet and at 2-7 gallons per flush, this accounts for approximately 27% of the water used in a typical home. Showers, at over 2 gallons per minute, account for around 17% of the water used, while other bathroom uses such as baths and faucets account for around 10%. The second highest water user is the washing machine. At around 41 gallons per load, clothes washing accounts for about 22% of the water used in a typical household.

#### WATER LEAKS

It is estimated that around 14% of the water provided to most homes is lost through leaks. This is literally water and money down the drain. **Fix leaks.** Leaking toilets can account for a surprisingly large amount of water, as most leaks are located in the tanks where they can't be seen or heard. Leaking faucets, even those with small leaks of 60 drops per minute, can waste around 260 gallons per month. Most leaks at faucets and toilets can be repaired with simple tools and inexpensive parts available at most hardware stores.

**Use more efficient fixtures.** Replace inefficient showerheads with low-flow types and faucets fitted with aerators. Even larger items such as toilets, washing machines and dishwashers can pay for themselves in a relatively short period of time by replacing older models with newer, higher efficiency ones. Make older toilets more efficient by placing simple toilet "dams" or a plastic bottle filled with pebbles in the tank.

**Use water wisely.** Run washing machines and dishwashers only with full loads, or by using lower time and load size selections. Keep a filled pitcher of water in the refrigerator for drinking instead of letting the water run for several minutes to reach the desired temperature. Take shorter showers, turn off the water while brushing your teeth, and put food scraps in the garbage instead of the garbage disposal.

**Water lawns and gardens effectively.** While perfect looking lawns are nice, it's natural for grass to be less than bright green during dry periods. If you must water the lawn or garden, do it less frequently and avoid the middle of the day or on sunny, windy days where up to 50% of the water can be lost to evaporation.

#### CUSTOMER QUESTIONS WELCOME

Numerous opportunities exist to learn more about the Franklin Water Utility and water quality. If you have questions about drinking water quality, this report, or Water Commission meetings please call the Engineering Department at (414) 425-7510. Further information can be obtained by visiting the Oak Creek Water & Sewer website at [www.water.oak-creek.wi.us](http://www.water.oak-creek.wi.us) or by visiting the City of Franklin website at [www.franklinwi.gov](http://www.franklinwi.gov).