

This report has been prepared to meet the requirements of the U.S. EPA, Safe Drinking Water Act Consumer Confidence Report Rule. The purpose of the report is for the City of Hutchinson as the owner and operator of the Public Water Supply System, to keep you the consumer informed of the safety and quality of your drinking water. **For more information please contact Reg Jones, Director of Public Works, at 694-1900.**

If you are a business or organization that provides city water to your employees, students, tenants, etc., please post or provide a copy of this report for their viewing. Feel free to copy the report as needed. Additional copies may be obtained at the City of Hutchinson, Utility Billing & Customer Service Office, City Hall, 125 E. Avenue B.

Each year, the City of Hutchinson conducts many tests for drinking water contaminants. The state allows us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because these contaminants do not change frequently. During our most recent round of compliance monitoring, thirteen regulated contaminants were detected. None of the thirteen detected contaminants were found at levels which violated drinking water regulations. This report is a snapshot of the quality of water we provide. Included are details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) standards.

Your water comes from 16 municipal wells drilled to depths between 57 and 85 feet into an underground source of water called the Equus Beds Groundwater Aquifer. This aquifer has been shown to be susceptible to contamination due to its geological makeup and high recharge capability (*i.e. the soils above the groundwater rock and soil formations are very sandy and silty allowing for easy percolation of rainfall and surface water, potentially picking up and carrying contaminants down through the soil to the groundwater aquifer*). Seven (7) of the municipal water wells are located within the City in the urban environment. Nine (9) of the wells are located outside the City in the rural agricultural environment. We treat your water with chlorine as a disinfectant to protect you against microbial contaminants. An assessment of our source water has been completed. For the results of the assessment, please contact us or download the results at www.kdheks.gov/nps/swap/index.html.

**EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline
(800) 426-4791**

The Hutchinson City Council is the governing body for the Hutchinson Public Water Supply Utility. Discussions and decisions concerning the water utility take place at their regularly scheduled meetings. Meetings are held on the first and third Tuesday of each month at 9:00 a.m. at City Hall. Meeting agendas and live and taped broadcasts of the meetings are televised on cable channel 7.

A Message from EPA

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general public. Immuno-compromised persons such as those 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 (Environmental Protection Agency/Center for Disease Control) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the **EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791)**.

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 **EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline (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 land and 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 before it is treated:

- *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 stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining and farming.
- *Pesticides and herbicides*, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture and residential uses.
- *Radioactive contaminants*, which are naturally occurring.
- *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 stormwater runoff, and septic systems.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water supply systems. We provide water in accordance to these EPA regulations. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

**EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline
(800) 426-4791**

Table of Contaminant Detections

Primary	Date	Highest Value	Range	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Viol.	Typical Source
Arsenic	2006	1.2	nd – 1.2	ppb	10	0	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Barium	2006	0.18	0.05 – 0.18	ppm	2	2	No	Discharge from metal refineries
Chromium	2006	4.2	nd – 4.2	ppb	100	100	No	Discharge from steel and pulp mills
Fluoride	2006	0.82	0.29 – 0.82	ppm	4	4	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate	2007	7.1	1.0 – 7.1	ppm	10	10	No	Runoff from fertilizer use
Selenium	2006	18	1.8 – 18	ppb	50	50	No	Erosion of natural deposits

Microbiological	Result	MCL	MCLG	Viol.	Typical Source
Coliform (TCR)	In the month of October, 4% of samples returned as positive	For systems that collect 40 or more samples per month; No more than 5% positive monthly samples	0	No	Naturally present in the environment

Disinfection Byproducts	Date	Result	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Viol.	Typical Source
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)	2007	13	ppb	80	0	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Total Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	2007	5.2	ppb	60	0	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination

Lead and Copper	Monitoring Period	Result	Range	Unit	AL	over AL	Viol.	Typical Source
Lead	2005 – 2007	3.8*	1.0 – 6.2	ppb	15	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing
Copper	2005 – 2007	1.4*	0.016 -2.0	ppm	1.3	4	No	Corrosion of household plumbing

* This is the 90th percentile test concentration or the 27th highest sample of the 30 samples taken.

Radionuclides	Date	High	Detect. Range	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Viol.	Typical Source
Gross Alpha	2006	13	nd – 13	pCi/L	15	0	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium, Combined	2006	2.1	nd – 2.1	pCi/L	5	0	No	Erosion of natural deposits

Secondary	Date	High	Detection Range	Unit	SMCL	Viol.	Typical Source
Alkalinity, Total	2007	286	206 – 286	ppm	300	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Aluminum	2006	0.16	nd – 0.16	ppm	0.05	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Calcium	2007	130	65 – 130	ppm	200	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Chloride	2006	280	12 – 280	ppm	250	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Conductivity	2007	1700	580 – 1700	µmhos/L	1500	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Corrosivity	2006	0.58	-0.34 – 0.58	LI	0	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Total Hardness	2006	430	200 – 430	ppm	400	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Iron	2006	1.6	0.024 – 1.6	ppm	0.3	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Magnesium	2006	22	12 – 22	ppm	150	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Manganese	2006	0.53	0.001 – 0.53	ppm	0.05	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Nickel	2006	0.0051	0.0021 – 0.0051	ppm	0.1	No	Erosion of natural deposits
pH	2007	8.0	7.4 – 8.0	s.u.	6.5 – 8.5	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Phosphorus	2006	0.053	0.02 – 0.053	ppm	5	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Potassium	2006	6.8	2.2 – 6.8	ppm	100	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Silica	2006	28	18 – 28	ppm	50	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Sodium	2006	190	38 – 190	ppm	100	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Solids, Total Dissolved	2006	1000	350 – 1000	ppm	500	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Sulfate	2006	200	62 – 200	ppm	250	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Zinc	2006	0.23	0.008 – 0.23	ppm	5	No	Erosion of natural deposits

Terms and abbreviations used in the table:

- > **Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG):** the “goal” 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.
- > **Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL):** 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 best available treatment technology.
- > **Secondary Maximum Contaminant Level (SMCL):** recommended level for a contaminant that is not regulated and has no MCL
- > **Action Level (AL):** the concentration of a contaminant which, when exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
- > **Non-Detects (nd):** lab analysis indicates that the contaminant is not present
- > **Parts per Million (ppm):** or milligrams per liter (mg/L)
- > **Parts per Billion (ppb):** or micrograms per liter (µg/L)
- > **Picocuries per Liter (pCi/L):** a measure of the radioactivity in water

Water Quality Data

Primary contaminants have legally enforceable standards to protect public health by limiting the levels of contaminants in drinking water. Secondary contaminants are generally water quality based guidelines used for aesthetic purposes (taste, odor, or color) and are not enforceable standards. The table lists all primary and secondary drinking water contaminants that were detected during the most recent compliance sampling performed through December 2007. The presence of these contaminants in the water does not necessarily mean that the water poses a health risk. The City of Hutchinson is currently on a reduced sampling schedule for most primary and secondary contaminants. Monitoring for certain contaminants at a frequency of less than once per year is allowed, because the concentration of these contaminants is not expected to vary significantly from year to year. **The bottom line is that the water provided to you is safe.**

Other Water Quality Information

About 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. The highest level of nitrate in our water based on 2007 testing was 7.1 ppm.

About Copper: Copper is an essential nutrient, but some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over a relatively short amount of time could experience gastrointestinal distress. Some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over many years could suffer liver or kidney damage. People with Wilson’s Disease should consult their personal doctor.

About 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. Your water system 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 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>.

Microbiological Quality

Our system tested a minimum of 40 samples per month in accordance with the Total Coliform Rule for microbiological contaminants. Although usually harmless, coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other potentially harmful bacteria may be present. When coliform bacteria are found, special follow-up tests are done to determine if harmful bacteria are present in the water supply. If this limit is exceeded, the City of Hutchinson will notify the public.

2008 Water Quality Report



“Pursuing Excellence in Public Service”

Water

Consume It, Conserve It, Protect It

Water Maintenance & Production

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Information About This Report

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