

2008 Consumer Confidence Report

RICE LAKE WATERWORKS, PWS ID 60301384



Rice Lake Utilities

"2008" Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

Rice Lake Utilities is pleased to present to you this year's Annual Drinking Water Quality Report. This report is designed to inform you about the quality water and services delivered to you every day. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. Rice Lake Utilities wants you to understand the efforts that are made to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. Rice Lake Utilities is committed to ensuring the quality of your water. Rice Lake Utilities has approximately 60 miles of watermain with (4) groundwater wells supplying our quality water. The operators are all state certified and attend continued education courses to maintain their certification and keep up with the latest information on municipal water supply. There are 570 hydrants, all color-coded based on the flow capability for fire fighting. Our water source is groundwater which comes from a Cambrian Sandstone Aquifer.

Scott Reimer, CEO/GM of Rice Lake Utilities is pleased to report that our drinking water is safe and meets Federal and State requirements.

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your Water Utility, please contact **Water/Wastewater Manager Wally H. Thom at Rice Lake Utilities, 320 W. Coleman St., Rice Lake WI 54868 or call him at (715) 234-7004.**

We want our valued customers to be informed about their Water Utility. If you want to learn more, please feel free to attend any of our regularly scheduled meetings. They are held on the second Thursday of each month in the Conference Room located at 320 W. Coleman Street. Meeting time is 3:45 p.m. and the meeting is 'Open to the Public'. If there is any change in dates or times, it will be posted in the local newspaper and on the bulletin board outside the office entrance.

A source water assessment was completed by May 6, 2004. The assessment identifies land areas that contribute water to each system, significant potential contaminant sources within those areas, and the susceptibility of the drinking water systems to contamination. This report is available on the DNR Website. This report will not be directly delivered, but is published in the Rice Lake Chronotype and the Early Bird. A copy can be requested and picked up at the Rice Lake Utility office at 320 W. Coleman St. between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m.

2008 Consumer Confidence Report

RICE LAKE WATERWORKS, PWS ID 60301384

Water system Information

If you would like to know more about the information contained in this report, please contact Wally Thom at (715) 234-7004.

Health Information:

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 safe-drinking water hotline (800) 426-4791.

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 systems 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 Environmental Protection Agency's safe drinking water hotline (800) 426-4791.

Source(s) of Water:

1	Groundwater	450
2	Groundwater	464
4	Groundwater	450
5	Groundwater	309

A summary of the source water assessment for RICE LAKE WATERWORKS is available at: (715) 234-7004

Educational Information:

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

Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

1. Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations and wildlife.
2. 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.
3. Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff and residential uses.
4. 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.

2008 Consumer Confidence Report

RICE LAKE WATERWORKS, PWS ID 60301384

5. 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 that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which shall provide the same protection for public health.

NUMBER OF CONTAMINANTS REQUIRED TO BE TESTED

This table displays the number of contaminants that were required to be tested in the last five years. The CCR may contain up to five years worth of water quality results. If a water system tests annually, or more frequently, the results from the most recent year are shown on the CCR. If testing is done less frequently, the results shown on the CCR are from the past five years.

Contaminant Group	# of Contaminants
Inorganic Contaminants	16
Microbiological Contaminants	2
Radioactive Contaminants	3
Volatile Organic Contaminants	20
Synthetic Organic Contaminants including Pesticides and Herbicides	23

Microbiological Contaminants

Contaminant	MCL	MCLG	Level Found	Range	Sample Date (if prior to 2008)	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
Coliform (TCR)	Presence of coliform bacteria in >=5% of monthly samples	0	4			YES	Naturally present in the environment

Inorganic Contaminants

Contaminant	MCL	MCLG	Level Found	Range	Sample Date (if Prior to 2008)	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
ARSENIC (ppb)	10	n/a	1	1		NO	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
BARIUM (ppm)	2	2	.006	.003-.006		NO	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
CADMIUM (ppb)	5	5	.3	.1-.3		NO	Corrosion of galvanized pipes; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from metal refineries; runoff from waste batteries and paints.
CHROMIUM (ppb)	100	100	2	1-2		NO	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; Erosion of natural deposits.
COPPER (ppm)	AL=1.3	1.3	.9	1 of 20 results			Corrosion of household plumbing systems;

2008 Consumer Confidence Report

RICE LAKE WATERWORKS, PWS ID 60301384

				were above the action level			Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives
FLUORIDE (ppm)	4	4	.1-.2			NO	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
LEAD (ppb)	AL=15	0	1.50	0 of 20 results were above the action level		NO	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
NICKEL (ppb)	100		1.8000	.8600-1.8000		NO	Nickel occurs naturally in soils, groundwater and surface waters and is often used in electroplating, stainless steel and alloy products
NITRATE (N03-N)(ppm)	10	10	1.40	.19-1.40		NO	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
SELENIUM (ppb)	50	50	3	2-3		NO	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from mines
SODIUM (ppm)	n/a	n/a	4.70	3.60-4.70		NO	n/a

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

Health Effects for any Contaminants With MCL Violations

CONTAMINANT	HEALTH EFFECTS
Coliform (TCR)	Coliforms are bacteria which are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially-harmful, bacteria may be present. Coliforms were found in more samples than allowed and this was a warning of potential problems.

CCR Health Effects

Further Coliform collecting and testing took place with no further violations. Temporary chlorination was set up to provide an additional level of protection. We are proud that our drinking water meets or exceeds federal and state requirements. We have learned through our continued monitoring and testing that some constituents have been detected. The EPA has determined that your water is safe at these levels.

In our continued efforts to maintain a safe and dependable water supply, it may be necessary to make improvements in our water system. The cost of these improvements will be reflected in the rate structure. In 2008, a System Leak Study was again conducted to pin point underground leaks for repair, this will save cost with less pumping of water when leaks are repaired. As Department of Natural Resources continues to make code changes, these changes will have an impact on water quality, treatment and cost. One such change that will be signed into law in early to mid 2010, will be the mandatory disinfection of all municipal water systems in the

2008 Consumer Confidence Report

RICE LAKE WATERWORKS, PWS ID 60301384

State of Wisconsin. This is something that will be a reality and we are currently looking at the most cost-effective way to disinfect and still maintain good water quality. Continual disinfection will also eliminate the potential of exceedances with coliform.

“We at the Rice Lake Utilities work around the clock to provide top quality water at the tap,” said Wally Thom. We ask that all our customers help us protect our water sources, which is the heart of our community, our way of life, and our children’s future.

2008

Additional copies of the CCR report can be picked up at the front desk at: 320 W. Coleman Street, Rice Lake WI.

DEFINITION OF TERMS

AL	Action Level; the concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or 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	Nephelemetric Turbidity Units
pCi/l	Picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)
ppm	Parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/l)
ppb	Parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (ug/l)
ppt	Parts per trillion, or nanograms per liter
ppq	Parts per quadrillion, or picograms per liter
TCR	Total Coliform Rule
TT	Treatment Technique: A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.