2015 Consumer Confidence Report

Town of Rock River
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We're pleased to present to you this year's Annual Consumer Confidence Report. This report is designed to inform you about the quality water and services we deliver to you every day. Our primary 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 continued high quality of your water. Our sole water source is surface water drawn from Rock Creek.

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact Rick Stricklin at (307) 378-2386 or (307) 460-8441. 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 on the first Monday of every month at 7:00 PM at the Town Hall.

The Town of Rock River 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 1st to December 31st2015. As water travels over the land or underground it can pick up substances or contaminants such as microbes, inorganic and organic chemicals, and radioactive substances. All drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some constituents. It's important to remember that the presence of these constituents does not necessarily pose 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.

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 following definitions:

Non-Detects (ND) - laboratory analysis indicates that the laboratory does not detect the constituent.

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 - one part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in $10,000,000.

Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU) - nephelometric turbidity unit is a measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.

Action Level - 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. MCL's are set as close to the MCLG's 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. MCLG's allow for a margin of safety.

TEST RESULTS						
Contaminant	Violatio Y/N	Level Detected	Unit Measurement	MCL G	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Microbiological Contaminants	N	1/100 ml	Presence/absence	0	0	Man Made/Natural
Turbidity (highest level-Oct 2015)	N	0.485*	NTU	N/A	0.3	Soil runoff
Chemical Contaminants						
Sodium (October 2015)	N	2.6	ppm	None	None	Naturally occurring
Inorganic Chemicals	N	ND	ppm	Varies	Varies	Naturally occurring
Nitrate	N	ND	ppm	0	10	Soil runoff
Volatile Organic Chemicals	N	3.3 Xylenes (total)	ppb	None	Varies	Man Made
Disinfectants and Disinfection Byproducts	N					By-product of drinking water chlorination
TTHMs		16	ppb	N/A	80	
(Total trihalomethanes)	N	16	ppb	N/A	80	By-product of drinking water chlorination
HAA5s	N	19	ppb	N/A	60	
(Haloacetic Acids) (2015 Average)	N	3.15	ppb	N/A	60	
Lead						
Sample #1	N	.003	Mg/L	N/A	.015	
Sample #2	N	ND	Mg/L	N/A	.015	
Sample #3	N	ND	Mg/L	N/A	.015	
Sample #4	N	.001	Mg/L	N/A	.015	
Sample #5	N	ND	Mg/L	N/A	.015	
Copper						
Sample #1	N	.14	Mg/L	N/A	1.3	
Sample #2	N	.07	Mg/L	N/A	1.3	
Sample #3	N	.12	Mg/L	N/A	1.3	
Sample #4	N	.12	Mg/L	N/A	1.3	
Sample #5	N	.04	Mg/L	N/A	1.3	

- Reported High Turbidity to EPA, except that it was the result of cleaning/ calibration of meter and not a real Violation
- Received 1 TCR Violation From Aug 2015. TCR Sample unknowingly got lost at the lab. Re-sample at this location was taken on 9/24/2015 and results were Absent Satisfactory.

We test for over 80 different contaminants. Most of those which were not detected or at minute levels are not included in the table. A list is available upon request.

Certain chemical contaminants are monitored less than once a year. Our sampling frequency complies with EPA drinking water regulations.

The sources of drinking water include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it can dissolve naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive materials. The water can also pick up substances such as:

Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural 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 waste water discharges, oil and gas production, mining or farming.

Pesticides and Herbicides, which may come from agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses.

Organic chemical contaminants, which can come from industrial processes, gas stations, urban storm water runoff and septic systems.

Radioactive contaminants, can be naturally occurring or as a result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant woman and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. The Town of Rock River 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 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.

In order to insure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA establishes regulations, which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The Food and Drug Administration establishes limits for contaminants in bottled water.

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 a half gallon 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.

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/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 (800-426-4791) or EPA (800-227-8917).

We at the Town of Rock River work around the clock 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.