2008 WATER QUALITY REPORT FOR The City of Walcott, Walcott Waterworks

This report contains important information regarding the water quality in our water system. The source of our water is groundwater. Our groundwater is drawn from the Silurian aquifer(s). Our water quality testing shows the following results:

CONTAMINANT	MCLG	MCL	DETECTED LEVEL	DATE SAMPLED	RANGE OF DETECTION	VIOLATION	SOURCE
Lead (ppb)	0	AL=15	2	6/1/2003-9/30/2005	0-95	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Chlorine (ppm)	MRDLG =4.0	MRDL=4.0	0.7	5/1/2008-5/31/2008	0.5 – 0.8	No	Water additive used to control microbes
Lead (ppb)	0	AL=15	0	6/1/2003-9/30/2005	10	NO	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Copper (ppm)	1.3	AL=1.3	0-0.19	6/1/2003-9/30/2005	10	NO	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
TTHM (ppb) [Total trihalomethanes]	N/A	80	17	8/7/2007-8/7/2007	N/A	NO	By-products of drinking water disinfection
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (ppb)	N/A	60	N/A	8/7/2007-8/7/2007	15	NO	By-products of drinking water disinfection
Arsenic (ppb)	0	10	7	10/10/06-10/10/06	N/A	NO	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronic production wastes
Barium (ppm)	2	2	0.26	10/10/06-10/10/06	N/A	NO	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	0.3	10/10/06-10/10/06	N/A	NO	Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Sodium (ppm)	N/A	N/A	9.7	10/10/06-10/10/06	N/A	NO	Erosion of natural deposits; Added to water during treatment process
Nitrate [as N] (ppm)	10	10	0.4	1/1/2007-12/31/07	0.4	NO	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits

Note: Contaminants with dates indicate results from the most recent testing done in accordance with regulations.

DEFINITIONS

- Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) – 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.
- Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG) -- 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.
- ppb -- parts per billion.
- ppm -- parts per million.
- pCi/L – picocuries per liter
- N/A – Not applicable

- ND -- Not detected
- Treatment Technique (TT) – A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
- Action Level (AL) – The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
- Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG) - The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.
- Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL) - The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

GENERAL 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 posed a health risk. More information about contaminants or 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 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 (800-426-4791).

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. The City of Walcott 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.

Contaminant Violations: None

SOURCE WATER ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

The City of Walcott's water supply obtains its water from the Silurian aquifer. The Silurian aquifer was determined to be slightly susceptible to contamination because the characteristics of the aquifer and overlying materials limit the rate at which contaminants can move through the aquifer. The wells will be somewhat susceptible to activities such as dry cleaners, gas stations, industrial sites, and municipal wastewater dischargers. A detailed evaluation of your source water was completed by the IDNR, and is available from City of Walcott's Public Works Dept. at 212 W. Lincoln St., Walcott, IA or contact John L. Brockmann, Public Works Director @ 563-284-6571 Ext. 11 or 563-320-2406 on the City Cell phone.

OTHER INFORMATION

Radon is a radioactive gas that you can't see, taste, or smell. It is found throughout the U.S. Radon can move up through the ground and into a home through cracks and holes in the foundation. Radon can build up to high levels in all types of homes. Radon can also get into indoor air when released from tap water from showering, washing dishes, and other household activities. Compared to radon entering the home through soil, radon entering the home through tap water will, in most cases, be a small source of radon in indoor air. Radon is a known human carcinogen. Breathing air containing radon can lead to lung cancer. Drinking water containing radon may also cause increased risk of stomach cancer. If you are concerned about radon in your home, test the air in your home. Testing is inexpensive and easy. Fix your home if the level of radon in your air is 4 picocuries per liter of air (pCi/L) or higher. There are simple ways to fix a radon problem that aren't too costly. For additional information, call your state radon program (800-838-5992) or call EPA's Radon Hotline (800-767-7236).

Cryptosporidium is a microbial pathogen found in surface water throughout the U.S. Although filtration removes cryptosporidium, the most commonly-used filtration methods cannot guarantee 100 percent removal. Our monitoring indicated the presence of these organisms in our source water and/or finished water. Current test methods do not allow us to determine if the organisms are dead or if they are capable of causing disease. Ingestion of cryptosporidium may cause cryptosporidiosis, an abdominal infection. Symptoms of infection include nausea, diarrhea, and abdominal cramps. Most healthy individuals can overcome the disease within a few weeks. However, immuno-compromised people are at greater risk of developing life-threatening illness. We encourage immuno-compromised individuals to consult their doctor regarding appropriate precautions to take to avoid infection. Cryptosporidium must be ingested to cause disease, and it may be spread through means other than drinking water.

Our water utility is making every effort to protect the water system from potential security threats. You, as customers, can also help. If you see any suspicious activity near the water tower, treatment plant, wells or fire hydrants, please contact us at (563) 284-6571 Ext. 11 or (563) 320-2406 or 911, the local police/sheriff department. We appreciate your assistance in protecting the water system.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL) Calculation		
Actual Month/ Year	Monthly Average	Running Annual Average (RAA)*
Jan-07	0.8	
Feb-07	0.7	
Mar-07	0.6	0.7
Apr-07	0.6	
May-07	0.8	
Jun-07	0.7	0.7
Jul-07	0.6	
Aug-07	0.5	
Sep-07	0.6	0.5
Oct-07	0.7	
Nov-07	0.7	
Dec-07	0.8	0.7
		0.6

CONTACT INFORMATION

For questions regarding this information, please contact John L. Brockmann @ 563-284-6571 Ext. 11 or (563) 320-2406, during the following hours: 7A.M. to 3:30 P.M., Monday through Friday or Michael Baker, City of Camanche, (563) 259-1610.

Decisions regarding the water system are made at the Walcott City Council meetings held on 1st.and 3rd Mondays of each month at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall, 128 w. Lincoln St., Walcott, IA and are open to the public.