

2013 CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT

RATHBUN REGIONAL WATER ASSOCIATION, INC.

Water quality is our primary commitment at Rathbun Regional Water Association. We believe that the best way to assure you that your drinking water is safe is to provide you with accurate facts. The information in this *Consumer Confidence Report* summarizes the results of our water monitoring program as required by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) during 2012. Many of the analyses are required by the Safe Drinking Water Act and other regulations. However, we monitor for contaminants above and beyond the basic requirements.

If you have any questions about the information in this report, please contact us at (641) 647-2416.

Rathbun Regional Water Association, Inc. works around the clock to provide quality water to every tap. We continue to partner with our communities to protect and conserve our water sources and to provide an accessible, economical, safe and dependable supply of water now and into the future.

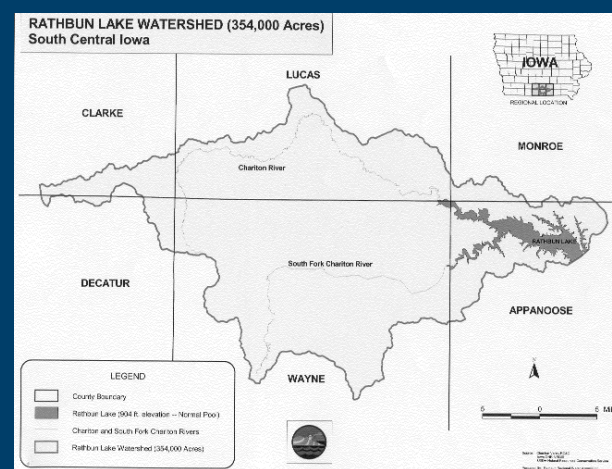


WHERE DOES MY WATER COME FROM?

Rathbun Regional Water Association, Inc. supplies quality drinking water and services to a large portion of south-central Iowa from its Rathbun facility. For more information call (641) 647-2416.

Rathbun Regional Water Association's (RRWA) source water is the Chariton River. This is a surface water source. An assessment of the watershed has been completed that identifies and prioritizes potential sources of water pollution in the Rathbun Lake watershed that may impair the quality of raw water for RRWA. These potential sources include wastewater treatment facilities, institutional, retail, and industrial facilities, recreational facilities, residential and commercial areas and land used for agricultural production with characteristics that increase the likelihood of eroded soil, chemicals, and livestock waste being carried in runoff to streams, rivers and the lake. For a summary of the watershed assessment results and additional information contact: RRWA at 16166 Hwy J29, Centerville, IA 52544 or call (641) 647-2416 or E-mail: rrwainc@rrwa.net

WATERSHED MAP



QUALITY WATER

Treatment Plant Construction Update

Building Crafts, Inc. of Wilder, Kentucky (General Contractor) is nearing the completion of RRWA's new six million gallon per day water treatment plant and high service pump building.

RRWA anticipates full completion of both buildings prior to August 1, 2013, but if construction continues at its current pace, the treatment plant and high service pump building could be substantially complete and producing drinking water before the end of June, while construction activities continue on items not essential to the production of safe drinking water.

Building Crafters completed the Rathbun Lake Intake and Power Building in December 2012, and they went into service in January 2013. The intake is designed to pump approximately 17 million gallons of water per day.

Additional Information

For more information on this *Consumer Confidence Report* or other water quality concerns, please contact:

Rathbun Regional Water Association, Inc.

Plant Superintendent
16166 Highway J29
Centerville, Iowa 52544-8307
Phone: (641) 647-2416
Fax: (641) 647-2217
E-mail: rrwainc@rrwa.net

Public Meeting Information

We encourage our customers to attend and participate in the meetings of our water utility. Rathbun Regional Water Association, Inc. has a seven member Board of Directors elected by the membership to three year terms. The Board meets on the Wednesday nearest the 15th of each month.

DRINKING WATER AND HEALTH INFORMATION FROM THE EPA

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems.

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 from their health care providers about drinking water. The EPA and Centers for Disease Control guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline.

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.

Many customers wish to know if bottled water is safer than regular tap water. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) establishes limits for contaminants in bottled water that must provide the same protection for public health. Any bottled water labeled "drinking water" has to meet EPA's drinking water regulations. 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 contacting the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline.

EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline:
1-800-426-4791
<http://water.epa.gov/drink>

AWWA Safe Drinking Water Web Site:
www.drinktap.org

WATER QUALITY

2012 WATER QUALITY RESULTS

SUBSTANCE	YEAR TESTED	VIOLATION YES/NO	HIGHEST LEVEL ALLOWED (MCL)	HIGHEST DETECTED LEVEL	UTILITY RANGE	EPA MCLG (EPA GOAL)	SOURCES OF CONTAMINANT
MICROBIOLOGICAL CONTAMINANT							
Turbidity (NTU)	2012	No	0.3	0.6 (99% of sample)	0.1-0.6	N/A	Soil runoff
INORGANIC CHEMICALS							
Sodium (ppm)	2012	No	N/A	24	N/A	N/A	Erosion of natural deposits; added to water during treatment Water additive which promotes strong teeth; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Fluoride (ppm)	2012	No	4	0.81	0.45-0.81	4	
ORGANIC CONTAMINANTS							
Total Trihalomethane TTHM (ppb)	2012	No	80	39 RAA	24-59	N/A	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
Total Haloacetic Acids HAA5 (ppb)	2012	No	60	18 RAA	15-24	N/A	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
SYNTHETIC ORGANIC CONTAMINANTS							
Atrazine (ppb)	2012	No	3	0.4 RAA	0-1	3	Runoff from herbicide used on row crops
Di(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate (ppb)	2011	No	6	0.06	N/A	0	Discharge from rubber and chemical factories
DISINFECTANTS							
Chlorine (ppm)	2012	No	4	3.3 RAA	0.04-4.5	4	Water additive used to control microbes
SOURCE WATER		% REMOVAL RANGE		% REMOVAL REQUIRED		SOURCES OF CONTAMINANT	
TOTAL ORGANIC CARBON							
Chariton River		31.75-57.5		30%		Naturally present in the environment.	
SUBSTANCE	YEAR TESTED	VIOLATION YES/NO	ACTION LEVEL	MAXIMUM 90% DETECTION	UTILITY RANGE	# OF SAMPLES ABOVE ACTION LEVEL	SOURCES OF CONTAMINANT
COPPER AND LEAD - Regulated at Customer Tap							
Copper (ppm)	2011	No	1.3	0.22	0.05-0.51	0 of 30	Corrosion of home plumbing; erosion of natural deposits
Lead (ppb)	2011	No	15	2	0-5	0 of 30	Corrosion of home plumbing; erosion of natural deposits

NOTE: The EPA requires monitoring of over 80 drinking water contaminants. Those listed above are the only contaminants detected in your drinking water. For a complete list, contact Rathbun Regional Water Association.

Definitions

Action Level (AL) The concentration of a contaminant that, if exceeded, triggers a treatment or other requirement that a water system must follow.

Inorganic Contaminants Such as salts and metals, which can occur naturally or come from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining or farming.

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) The highest level of a contaminant 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.

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.

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.

Microbiological Contaminants Very small organisms, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations and wildlife.

NA Not applicable.

ND Not detected at testing limit.

NTU Nephelometric Turbidity Units.

Organic Contaminants Including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are industrial and petroleum process byproducts and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff and septic systems.

pCi/l Picocuries per liter.

ppb Parts of contaminant per billion parts of water. One part per billion (ppb) is equivalent to a single penny in ten million dollars. ppb may also be referred to as ug/l or micrograms per liter.

ppm Parts of contaminant per million parts of water. One part per million (ppm) is equivalent to a single penny in ten thousand dollars. ppm may also be referred to as mg/l or milligrams per liter.

Pesticides and Herbicides May come from agriculture, urban stormwater runoff and residential use.

RAA Running Annual Average

Radioactive Contaminants Occur naturally or result from oil and gas production and mining activities.

TOC Total organic carbon in untreated water.

Treatment Technique (TT) A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

Atrazine

Some people who drink water containing atrazine in excess of the MCL over many years may experience problems with their cardiovascular system or reproductive difficulties.

Chlorine Disinfectant

The most common drinking water treatment is disinfection. Disinfection is considered to be the primary mechanism to kill bacteria and other germs to prevent the spread of waterborne diseases. Chlorine is the most widely used disinfectant. Disinfectants combine with organic and inorganic matter present in water to form chemicals called disinfection byproducts. EPA sets standards for controlling the levels of disinfectants and disinfectant byproducts in drinking water. The chart above reflects these standards and the utility's ability to meet those standards.

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. Rathbun Regional Water Association 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 www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

Nitrate

Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 10 ppm is a health risk for infants less than 6 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 agriculture activity. If you are caring for an infant, you should ask for advice from your healthcare provider.

TTHMs (Total Trihalomethanes)

Some people who drink water containing trihalomethanes in excess of the MCL over many years may experience problems with their liver, kidneys, or central nervous system and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

Turbidity

Turbidity has no health effects. However, turbidity can interfere with disinfection and provide a medium for microorganisms that can cause symptoms such as nausea, cramps, diarrhea and associated headaches.

Simazine

Some people who drink water containing simazine in excess of the MCL over many years could experience problems with their blood.

Unregulated Contaminants

EPA requires systems of our size to take samples in an assessment monitoring phase for Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Regulations (UCMR). There were no detectable levels in our drinking water. For more information about unregulated contaminants, please contact us at (641) 647-2416.