



# Town of Menasha Utility District

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## TOWN OF MENASHA UTILITY DISTRICT PRESENTS THE 2009 WATER QUALITY REPORT FOR THE EAST SIDE

The Town of Menasha Utility District's standards continue to provide you and your family with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. Our water is safe and meets all State and Federal Requirements. This report covers the water service area to the East of Little Lake Butte Des Morts: The Town of Menasha and parts of the City of Menasha and the City of Appleton.

The Utility District's East Side water source is a combination of well water and surface water. Approximately 50% comes from Deep Well No. 5, located at 1665 University Drive, and 50% is purchased from the City of Menasha Surface Water Treatment Plant. Well No. 5 draws water from sandstone type formations. The water is then softened and chlorine is added for disinfecting purposes. At this point, water purchased from the City of Menasha is mixed with the well water in a one-million gallon reservoir. The City of Menasha water plant draws and treats water from Lake Winnebago.

All sources of drinking water are subject to potential contamination by constituents that are either naturally occurring or manmade. Those constituents can be microbes, organic or inorganic chemicals, or radioactive materials. All 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 the 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 at 1-800-426-4791. The Maximum Contaminant Levels (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 2 liters 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.

Both the Town of Menasha Utility District and the City of Menasha Surface Water Treatment Plant routinely monitor for contaminants according to State and Federal laws. The following charts describe the results of the testing for both the Town of Menasha Utility District and the City of Menasha Water Utility testing from January 1<sup>st</sup> through December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2008. As you may not be familiar with some of the terms used, the following definitions will help you understand the chart.

[Non-Detects \(ND\)](#) Laboratory analysis indicates that the constituent is not present.

[Parts per million \(ppm\) or Milligrams per Liter \(mg/l\)](#) One part per million is equal to one penny in \$10,000, or one minute in 2 years

[Parts per billion \(ppb\) or Micrograms per Liter \(ug/L\)](#) One part per billion corresponds to one penny in \$10,000,000, or one minute in 2,000 years.

[Action Level \(AL\)](#) If the concentration of a contaminant exceeds this level, the water system must take steps for treatment/correction.

[Treatment Technique](#) This is the 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. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs 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 not known or expected risk to health. Although MCLGs allow for a margin of safety, MCLs are set at very stringent levels. To understand the possible health effects described for many regulated constituents, a person would have to drink 2 liters 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.

[Microbiological Contaminants](#) The contaminant in this category that the Utility District tests for is Coliform bacteria, naturally present in the environment. The [Total Coliform](#) Rule requires water systems to meet a stricter limit for coliform bacteria. Coliform bacteria are usually harmless, but their presence in water can be an indication of disease-causing bacteria. 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 water supplier must notify the public by newspaper, television, or radio. All Utility District samples tested safe, zero detection.

All [Unregulated Contaminants](#) that were monitored were found to be less than the Minimum Reporting Level (MRL).

[Lead](#) in drinking water is rarely the sole cause of lead poisoning, but it can add to a person's total lead exposure. Infants and young children are typically more vulnerable to lead in drinking water than the general population. It is possible that lead levels at your home may be higher than at other homes in the community as a result of materials used in your home's plumbing, especially if the home is older. If you are concerned about the lead levels in your home's water, you

may wish to have your water tested and flush your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using tap water. All potential sources of lead in the household should be identified and removed, replaced, or reduced. Additional information is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline. Historically, in samples of the Town of Menasha water, all results were either low or none detected.

Well 5 was tested for [Nitrates](#). Results are as follows:

	<i>LOD</i>	<i>Unit</i>	<i>Level found</i>	<i>Typical source of contamination</i>
Nitrates as N	0.025	mg/L	0.058	Runoff from fertilizer, leaching septic tanks, natural occurrence

Water entering the distribution system at Plant #2 was tested for Radium and Gross Alpha and Gross Beta activity.

<i>Analysis Method</i>	<i>Result</i>	<i>Units</i>	<i>MCL</i>	<i>Typical source of contamination</i>
EPA 940.0 Radium 228 activity	0.14+/-0.31	pCi/L	5	Naturally occurring
EPA 900.0 – Gross Alpha Activity	4.45+/-2.18	pCi/L	15	Naturally occurring
EPA 900.0 – Gross Beta Activity	1.80+/-0.60	pCi/L	n/a	MCL units are in millirem/year. Calculation is not Possible unless level found is greater than 50 pCi/L

[City of Menasha](#) test results are as follows:

Contaminants (Units)	MCL	Level Found	Typical source of contamination
HAA5 (ppb) (Total Haloacetic Acids)	60	22(Average)	By-product of drinking water chlorination
TTHM (ppb) (Total Trihalomethanes)	80	24.3(Average)	By-product of drinking water chlorination
<a href="#">Inorganic Contaminants</a>			
Barium (ppm)	2	.024	Discharge of drilling wastes & metal refineries, natural deposits
Chromium (ppb)	100	2	Discharge from steel & pulp mills, erosion of natural deposits
Copper (ppm)	AL=1.3	.11 No results Above action level	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, natural deposits, leaching from wood preservatives
Fluoride (ppm)	4	1.4	Erosion of natural deposits, water additive which promotes strong teeth, discharge from fertilizer & aluminum factories.
Lead (ppb)	AL=15	9.60 1 in 30 results Above action level	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, natural deposits
Nickel (ppb)	100	1.1	Occurs naturally in soil & ground- & surface-waters
Nitrate (NO <sub>3</sub> -N)(ppm)	10	0.53	Runoff of fertilizer use, leaching of septic tanks, sewage, natural deposits
Sodium (ppm)	n/a	35.00	n/a
<a href="#">Unregulated Contaminants</a>			
Bromodichloromethane	n/a	4.18 (Average)	n/a
Chloroform (ppb)	n/a	19.25 (Average)	n/a
Dibromochloromethane (ppb)	n/a	.32 (Average)	n/a
Sulfate (ppm)	n/a	63	n/a
<a href="#">Radioactive Contaminants</a>			
Radium (226+228) pCi/L	5	2.3	Erosion of natural deposits

The City of Menasha Water Utility's latest improvements and plans are listed on the website at [www.menashautilities.com](http://www.menashautilities.com). If you have any questions, please call the Water Plant office at (920) 967-5195.

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 at 1-800-426-4791.

We have based this report on the blended water for the East Side of the Town of Menasha. It is our goal to assure you that your drinking water will always be safe. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. It is our sincere hope this publication has been helpful and informative. 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.

Thank you for taking time to read this article. If you have any questions, please feel free to phone or stop in the Town of Menasha Utility District office, 2340 American Drive, (920) 720-7175. Water Superintendent Jeff Roth will be happy to answer your questions regarding your drinking water. Utility District meetings are held the second and fourth Mondays of each month at the Town of Menasha Town Hall, 2000 Municipal Drive, at 5:00 pm.