Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

Ames Lake Water Association

We're 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 we deliver to you every day. Our constant 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 quality of your water. Our water source is a series of six wells that draw from local aquifers. We protect these six wells from possible contamination through a Wellhead Protection Plan. A copy of the Wellhead Protection Plan is available from our office that provides more information such as potential sources of contamination.

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact Scott Hemingway, Operations Manager at 425-222-7003. We want our valued members to be informed about their water utility. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled meetings. They are held on the second Tuesday of the month, beginning at 7:30 pm at the Ames Lake Water Association's office 33404 SE Redmond-Fall City Road, Suite 120.

Ames Lake Water Association routinely monitors for over 80 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 31st, 2006**.** 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.

TEST RESULTS						
Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Unit Measurement	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Microbiological Contaminants						
Total Coliform Bacteria	No	1		0	1 positive monthly sample	Naturally present in the environment
Fecal coliform and *E.coli*	No	0		0	a routine sample and repeat sample are total coliform positive, and one is also fecal coliform or *E. coli* positive	Human and animal fecal waste
Inorganic Contaminants						
Arsenic*	Yes	0-19	ppb	n/a	10	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
Lead	No	4	ppb	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate (as Nitrogen)	No	0 – 2.4	ppm	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits

*Some people who drink water containing arsenic in excess of the MCL over many years could experience skin damage or problems with their circulatory system, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

ppm - parts per million or milligrams per liter (mg/l) - one part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in $10,000.

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

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 "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.

MCLG - 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. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

In 2006 the arsenic MCL was lowered from 50 parts per billion to 10 parts per billion. Of our six wells one has arsenic concentrations in excess of 10 parts per billion. The potential health effects of arsenic are that some people who drink water containing arsenic in excess of the MCL over many years could experience skin damage or problems with their circulatory system, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer. 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.

The Ames Lake Water Association is currently in the process of modifying the treatment system on the well with the arsenic to reduce the concentration below the MCL. These modifications should be completed before the end of 2007.

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.

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).

Please call our office if you have questions.