

McKenna Annual Drinking Water Report 2001

Is my water safe?

We are proud to say that in the last year the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community water system completed and passed all tests required by the EPA. Water from the McKenna treatment facility is tested daily for chlorine and fluoride. The water is also tested for bacteria, pesticides and other contaminants. These tests are performed to ensure that tribal water is safe to drink. This report contains information on the water consumed in 2001, where it comes from and whether it meets all drinking water safety standards. For more information, on the contaminants tested for this past year, please see the water quality data table contained in this report.

The Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community Public Works Department is working to ensure that the water we provide you is always safe to drink, and we invite you to join us in this process. Please read this report for more information on what we are doing and how you can help. Informed customers are our best allies.

Do I need to take special precautions?

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immune-compromised persons such as those with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, organ transplant patients, people with HIV-AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. Persons with these conditions should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. The EPA/ Centers for Disease Control (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).

Where does my water come from?

The Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community water supply originates as water beneath the surface of the Earth called groundwater. Groundwater is naturally filtered as it travels through soil and rocks. The Community has a well in the Prairie du Chien-Jordan aquifer that draws water from approximately 220 feet below the land surface. This well pumps water back to the land surface where it is treated with chlorine, fluoride, and poly-phosphate. It is then made available for consumption.

Source water assessment and its availability.

The Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community developed a Wellhead Protection Plan to protect the quality of your drinking water. Community staff analyzed water quality data and water use levels from previous years and developed management zones and management goals. Management zones are areas on the surface where a spill or release could quickly affect the groundwater. Management goals address potential contaminants on the surface before they affect the water resource. The United States Environmental Protection Agency reviewed and endorsed the Wellhead Protection Plan. The plan was also submitted to the Minnesota Department of Health for review. This step was necessary because management zones extend off Community land.

The Plan is ready for General Council approval. It will be on an agenda during the summer of 2002. After approval by the General Council, Community staff will fully

McKenna Annual Drinking Water Report 2001

implement the plan and provide an additional level of protection for your drinking water. The plan will be updated as necessary, or within ten years of final approval by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Contact Information

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SMSC Wellhead Protection Coordinator

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How can contaminants get into my drinking water?

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 800-426-4791.) The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

- Microbial Contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.
- Inorganic Contaminants, such as salts and metals, can be naturally-occurring or result from storm water runoff, industrial, or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining or farming.
- Pesticides and Herbicides may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses.
- Organic Chemical Contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff and septic systems.
- Radioactive contaminants can be naturally occurring or the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The 2001 test results show there are no contaminants above an EPA established limit in the community water supply. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health.

How Can I Get Involved?

We encourage you to become more involved in community water issues. Please feel free to ask questions and present concerns to the Business Council. We invite you to call the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community Public Works Department for more information (496-6176).

McKenna Annual Drinking Water Report 2001

Water Quality Data Table

The table included in this report lists all of the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the calendar year of this report. The presence of contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table is from testing done in the calendar year of this report. The EPA requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. Some of the data, though representative of the water quality, may be more than one year old. The results in the table show that all detected contaminants are below the maximum allowable contaminant level for the McKenna water system.

Terms and Abbreviations used below:

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG): 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 and are set by the Environmental Protection Agency.

Maximum Contaminant Level: The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCL's are set as close to MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant, which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements, which a water system must follow.

ND: Non-Detected

Units Description:

ppm: parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/l)

ppb: parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (ug/l)

pCi/l: picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)

Inorganic chemicals	MCL	MCLG	Your water	Violation	Sample Date	Typical Source of Contamination
Copper	1.3 mg/l	1.3 mg/l	.535 mg/l	No	Dec. 2001	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Lead	.015 mg/l	0 mg/l	.003 mg/l	No	Dec. 2001	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Barium	2 mg/l	2 mg/l	.17mg/l	No	Dec. 2000	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits

McKenna Annual Drinking Water Report 2001

Radionuclide						
Alpha emitters	15pCi/l	0 mg/l	5.8 pCi/l	No	Nov. 2000	Erosion of natural deposits.

Copper Problem Solved: Our addition of a polyphosphate to the water has eliminated the copper exceedence we had in the year 2000. We did two additional tests for lead and copper in 2001. These tests have shown us that the chemical addition is doing the job to bring the copper level down. We will continue to use the polyphosphate addition to keep the copper level under control.

For more information contact:
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