

2020 Mahnomen Community Water Consumer Confidence Report (CCR)

Is my water safe?

The Fond du Lac Water & Wastewater Department is issuing the 2020 Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) results of monitoring done on its drinking water for the period from January 1st to December 31st, 2020, which is required by the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). Aside from the on-going Maximum Contaminant Level violations for Disinfection By-Products, all other water quality monitoring during 2020 met SDWA standards.

The purpose of this report is to advance consumers' understanding of drinking water and heighten awareness of the need to protect precious water resources. This report is a snapshot of 2020's water quality. The FDL Water & Wastewater Department is committed to providing you with information because informed customers are our best allies. Should you have any questions, please contact us at 878-7595.

Do I need to take special precautions?

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/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 Water Drinking Hotline (800-426-4791) or at the website:

<https://healthfinder.gov/FindServices/Organizations/Organization.aspx?code=HR3664>

The Mahnomen Community Water System has been under a Maximum Contaminant Violation (MCL) for Disinfection By-Products. The constituents are a result of very high levels of naturally occurring organic compounds in our raw water being pumped from groundwater aquifers. The organic compounds are not harmful. As a department we disinfect with chlorine to protect from harmful contaminants such as bacteria, viruses and others. The result of the chlorine disinfectant, combined with the naturally occurring organic compounds has caused the water system to have exceeded the MCL for Disinfection By-Products. As a department we are taking steps to solve including drilling of new pilot wells in search of better quality source water, and new treatment.

Where does my water come from? The community residents of Mahnomen are provided drinking water by means of two (2) community groundwater wells, averaging in depth of 163.5 ft and cased to 143 ft.

Source water assessment and its availability. A Source Water Assessment (SWA, complete) and Protection Plan (draft) is complete for this community water supply and available upon request.

Why are there contaminants in 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 water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Safe Drinking Water Hotline (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 surface of 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 urban stormwater 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 stormwater 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 stormwater runoff, and septic systems. Radioactive contaminants, can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities. In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. 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?

The Fond du Lac Water & Wastewater Department is looking to update the site sampling plan for various water quality parameters in the community of Mahnomon. As a resident, we would ask you to contact the department if you would be interested in learning more, and we as a department would determine participation.

Description of Water Treatment Process

Your water is treated by filtration and disinfection. Filtration removes particles suspended in the source water. Particles typically include clays and silts, natural organic matter, iron and manganese, and microorganisms. Your water is also treated by disinfection. Disinfection involves the addition of chlorine or other disinfectants to kill bacteria and other microorganisms (viruses, cysts, etc.) that may be in the water. Disinfection is considered to be one of the major public health advances of the 20th century. The department also fluoridates to prevent early childhood tooth decay.

Water Conservation Tips:

Did you know that the average U.S. household uses approximately 400 gallons of water per day or 100 gallons per person per day? Luckily, there are many low-cost and no-cost ways to conserve water. Small changes can make a big difference – try one today and soon it will become second nature.

- Take short showers - a 5 minute shower uses 4 to 5 gallons of water compared to up to 50 gallons for a bath.
- Shut off water while brushing your teeth, washing your hair and shaving and save up to 500 gallons a month.
- Use a water-efficient showerhead. They're inexpensive, easy to install, and can save you up to 750 gallons a month.
- Run your clothes washer and dishwasher only when they are full. You can save up to 1,000 gallons a month.

- Water plants only when necessary.
- Fix leaky toilets and faucets. Faucet washers are inexpensive and take only a few minutes to replace. To check your toilet for a leak, place a few drops of food coloring in the tank and wait. If it seeps into the toilet bowl without flushing, you have a leak. Fixing it or replacing it with a new, more efficient model can save up to 1,000 gallons a month.
- Adjust sprinklers so only your lawn is watered. Apply water only as fast as the soil can absorb it and during the cooler parts of the day to reduce evaporation.
- Teach your kids about water conservation to ensure a future generation that uses water wisely. Make it a family effort to reduce next month's water bill!
- Visit www.epa.gov/watersense for more information.

Cross Connection Control Survey

The purpose of this survey is to determine whether a cross-connection may exist at your home or business. A cross connection is an unprotected or improper connection to a public water distribution system that may cause contamination or pollution to enter the system. We are responsible for enforcing cross-connection control regulations and ensuring that no contaminants can, under any flow conditions, enter the distribution system. If you have any of the devices listed below please contact the department so we can discuss the issue, and if needed, survey your connection and assist you in isolating it if that is necessary.

- Boiler/ Radiant heater (water heaters not included)
- Underground lawn sprinkler system
- Pool or hot tub (whirlpool tubs not included)
- Additional source(s) of water on the property
- Decorative pond
- Watering trough

Source Water Protection Tips: Protection of drinking water is everyone's responsibility. You can help protect your community's drinking water source in several ways:

- Eliminate excess use of lawn and garden fertilizers and pesticides – they contain hazardous chemicals that can reach your drinking water source.
- Pick up after your pets.
- If you have your own septic system, properly maintain your system to reduce leaching to water sources or consider connecting to a public water system.
- Dispose of chemicals properly; take used motor oil to a recycling center.
- Volunteer in your community. Find a watershed or wellhead protection organization in your community and volunteer to help. If there are no active groups, consider starting one. Use EPA's Adopt Your Watershed to locate groups in your community, or visit the Watershed Information Network's How to Start a Watershed Team.
- Organize a storm drain stenciling project with your local government or water supplier. Stencil a message next to the street drain reminding people "Dump No Waste - Drains to River" or "Protect Your Water." Produce and distribute a flyer for households to remind residents that storm drains dump directly into your local water body.

Additional Information for 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. Danielson 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 at a cost to you as a resident of that dwelling. 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>.

Water Quality Data Table

The table below lists all of the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the calendar year of this report. Although many more contaminants were tested, only those substances listed below were found in your water. All sources of drinking water contain some naturally occurring contaminants. At low levels, these substances are generally not harmful in our drinking water. Removing all contaminants would be extremely expensive, and in most cases, would not provide increased protection of public health. A few naturally occurring minerals may actually improve the taste of drinking water and have nutritional value at low levels. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table is from testing done in the calendar year of the report. The EPA or the State requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not vary significantly from year to year, or the system is not considered vulnerable to this type of contamination. As such, some of our data, though representative, may be more than one year old. In this table you will find terms and abbreviations that might not be familiar to you. To help you better understand these terms, we have provided the definitions below the table.

Point of Entry Filtration Units

In late December of 2020, the Band worked with Arrowhead Water to install Point of Entry granular activated carbon units in each home of the Mahnomen community. These units have been successful in reducing TTHM below the 80 ug/L. USEPA had required the Band, as part of an agreed upon Consent Order, to install units to mitigate for TTHM exposure via inhalation. The department collects monthly samples to monitor TTHM removal; with the use of these units TTHM and HAA5 are substantially lower than Maximum Contaminant Levels inside the homes of the Mahnomen residents.

Public Notices

The department issued Public Notices for this community water systems for on-going quarterly Maximum Contaminant Violations for Disinfection By-Products. The following is a date summary:

February 25th, 2020

June 4th, 2020

August 24th, 2020

November 24th, 2020

Mahnomen Community Water System

Contaminants	MCLG	MCL,	Your	Range		Sample	Violation	Typical Source
	or	TT, or		Low	High			
Contaminants	MRDLG	MRDL	Water	Low	High	Date	Violation	Typical Source
Disinfectants & Disinfectant By-Products								
(There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants)								
Total Chlorine (Cl2) (ppm)	4	4	2.96	NA		2020	No	Water additive used to control microbes
Free Chlorine (Cl2) (ppm)	0.2	NA	0.27	NA		2020	No	Water additive used to control microbes
Inorganic Contaminants								
Nitrate [measured as Nitrogen] (ppm)	10	10	ND	NA		2020	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Nitrite [measured as Nitrogen] (ppm)	1	1	ND	NA		2020	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Lead (ppm)	0.015	0	Next sample due 2021	NA		Next sample due 2021	NA	Corrosion of plumbing material throughout the water system, including pipes, valves, solder, fixtures, and faucets
Copper (ppm)	1.3	1.3	Next sample due 2021	NA		Next sample due 2021	NA	Corrosion of plumbing material throughout the water system, including pipes, valves, solder, fixtures, and faucets
Microbiological Contaminants								
Total Coliform (positive samples/month)	0	1	0	NA		2020	No	Naturally present in the environment
Contaminants								
Contaminants	MCLG	AL	Your Water	Sample Date	# Samples Exceeding AL	Exceeds AL	Typical Source	
Inorganic Contaminants**								
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	0.69	2020	0	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories	
Disinfection By-Products								
LRAA* (ug/l)						Typical Source		
TTHMs ug/l						HAA5s (ug/l)		
Date	Quarter	Site 1	Site 2	Site 1	Site 2	A By-product of disinfection with naturally occurring organic in the source water/aquifer		
Jan - March 2020	1	189	223	157	134			
April - June 2020	2	141	220	131	132			
July - Sept 2020	3	142	202	135	125			
Oct - Dec 2020	4	184	201	143	130			
The FDL Water/Wastewater Department has provided an annual summary of the increased quarterly monitoring results from January to December 2020 which show that our system exceeds the standard, or maximum contaminant level (MCL), for TTHMs and HAA5s. The standard (MCL) for TTHMs is 80 ug/l and for HAA5s is 60 ug/l. It is determined by averaging all the samples collected at each sampling location for the four (4) quarters.								
Important Drinking Water Definitions								
Terms								
ppm (mg/L)	ppm: parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/L)							
ppb (ug/L)	ppb: parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (ug/L)							
positive samples/month	positive samples/month: Number of samples taken monthly that were found to be positive							
NA	NA: not applicable							
ND	ND: Not detected							
NR	NR: Monitoring not required, but recommended.							
MCLG	MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.							
MCL	feasible using the best available treatment technology.							
TT	TT: Treatment Technique: A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.							
AL	AL: Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.							
Variations and Exemptions								
Variations and Exemptions: State or EPA permission not to meet an MCL or a treatment technique under certain conditions.								
MRDLG	MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.							
MRDL	a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.							
MNR	MNR: Monitored Not Regulated							
MPL	MPL: State Assigned Maximum Permissible Level							
Additional Information and/or Follow-up?								

Please contact the FDL Water/Wastewater Department:
 Jordan Vandal
 Water/Wastewater Manager
 218-878-7595

Certification Form

Community Water Systems:

Mahnomen, PWSID: 55294801

Ridge Road, PWSID: 55294802

Danielson, PWSID: 55294803

The community water systems named above hereby confirms that its consumer confidence report has been distributed to customers (and appropriate notices of availability have been given). Further, the system certifies that the information contained in the report is correct and consistent with the compliance monitoring data previously submitted to the primacy agency.

Certified and Dated by:

Jordan Vandal

Water/Wastewater Manager

Fond du Lac Reservation

218-878-7595

Jordan Vandal, FDL Water/Wastewater Mgr. 5.24.2021

***You are not required by EPA rules to report the following information, but you may want to provide it to your state. Check all items that apply. ***

CCR was distributed by mail or other direct delivery. Specify other direct delivery methods:

"Good faith" efforts were used to reach non-bill paying consumers. Those efforts included the following methods as recommended by the primacy agency:

posting the CCR on the Internet at www.fdlrez.com

mailing the CCR to postal patrons within the service area. (attach zip codes used)

advertising availability of the CCR in news media (attach copy of announcement)

publication of CCR in local newspaper (attach copy)

posting the CCR in public places (attach a list of locations)

delivery of multiple copies to single bill addresses serving several persons such as:
apartments, businesses, and large private employers

delivery to community organizations (attach a list)

____(for systems serving at least 100,000 persons) Posted CCR on a publicly-accessible Internet site at the address: www._____

____Delivered CCR to other agencies as required by the primacy agency (attach a list)

List of Community Organizations where the 2020 Consumer Confidence Reports (CCR), are posted for the community water systems included therein above:

Fond du Lac Tribal Community Center
1720 Big Lake Road
Cloquet, MN 55720

Fond du Lac Housing
932 Trettle Lane
Cloquet, MN 55720

Brookston Community Center
8200 Belich Street
Cloquet, MN 55720

FDL Gas & Grocery
1510 Big Lake Rd
Cloquet, MN 55720