

City of Shawano

2011 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

This is our thirteenth Annual Drinking Water Quality Report. We want you to be informed about the water we deliver and you use every day. We are dedicated to providing you, our customer, with safe, clean and high quality drinking water. We want to share with you the results of our efforts.

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact the Director of Public Works at (715) 526-3512. To learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled Field Committee meetings. The meetings are usually held the last Monday of each month at 7:30 a.m. at the Public Works Department, 2905 E. Richmond St., Shawano.

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources website is also a great source of information on drinking water. The DNR's "Drinking Water and Groundwater" website can be accessed at <http://dnr.wi.gov/org/water/dwg>.

Where Our Water Comes From

The City of Shawano Public Works Department owns and operates the water supply and distribution system for most of the City of Shawano. The area along Green Bay Street east of Waukechon St. is served by Shawano Lake Sanitary District. The Shawano water system presently consists of five active ground water wells constructed in the Elk Mound Group of the Cambrian Sandstone, a 500,000 gallon elevated storage tank, a 2 million gallon ground storage reservoir and the water distribution system. The distribution system consists of approximately 56 miles of water main. The system pumps 1.35 million gallons of water per day from our five wells. The employees at the Shawano Public Works Department work around the clock to provide top quality water to every tap. 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.

Educational Information

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.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

- Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations and wildlife.
- Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining or farming.
- Pesticides and herbicides, which 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, which 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, which 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, EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which shall provide the same protection for public health.

DPW Tests for Water Quality

The DPW staff monitors over 60 different contaminants in your drinking water according to Federal and State Laws. In addition, we also monitor on a weekly basis for potential harmful bacteria. Out of the 60 plus constituents that we are required to test, only 20 had detectable levels, none of which were in violation.

The EPA has determined that your water is safe at these levels. We are proud to report that the water provided by the City of Shawano meets or exceeds established Federal and State water quality standards.

Tests Results for 2010

Here are the number of contaminants that were required to be tested in the last five years. This report may contain up to five years worth of water quality results. If a water system tests annually, or more frequently, the results from the most recent year are shown. If testing is done less frequently, the results shown are from the past five years.

<u>Contaminant Group</u>	<u># of Contaminants</u>
Disinfection Byproducts	2
Inorganic Contaminants	16
Microbiological Contaminants	2
Radioactive Contaminants	3
Synthetic Organic Contaminants including Pesticides and Herbicides	25
Unregulated Contaminants	4
Volatile Organic Contaminants	20

The following table shows the detection results of our monitoring for the period of January 1—December 31, 2010. The state requires monitoring certain constituents less than once a year because concentrations of these constituents are not expected to vary significantly from year to year. Some of our data (e.g., for organic constituents), though representative, are more than one year old.