

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 performed to determine if harmful bacteria are also present in the water supply. If this limit is exceeded, the water supplier must notify the public by newspaper, television or radio. DPW treats the water with chlorine as a disinfectant. We are not required to add chlorine, but do so as a precautionary measure.

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 developing the described health effect.



Drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may reasonably be 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. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by

calling the Environmental Protection Agency's safe drinking water hot line (1-800-426-4791).

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised 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 microbial contaminants are available from the Environmental Protection Agency's safe drinking water hotline (1-800-426-4791) or from their web site at [www.epa.gov/safewater/hfacts.html](http://www.epa.gov/safewater/hfacts.html).

As you can see by the table, **our system has no violations**. We're proud that your drinking water meets or exceeds all Federal and State Requirements

All sources of drinking water are subject to potential contamination by constituents that are naturally occurring or man made. Constituents can be microbes, organic or inorganic chemicals, or radioactive materials.

The fact that our system is based on deep well water reduces the risk of certain contaminants associated with surface water systems, such as cryptosporidium.

The total cost to our customers in 2010 for monitoring and testing the water system in order to maintain the level of quality as shown above was just under \$22,000.

## What's New for 2011?

Water main replacements that are coordinated with 2011 street reconstruction projects are in the following areas: Third Street from Riverside to Lafayette, Picnic Street from Bartlett to Franklin, Riverside Drive from First to Third, Division Street from Washington to Main, and Maurer Street from Cleveland to Prospect.

We have updated our SCADA system which controls the wells, reservoir and water tower. The SCADA system provides alarms when the tower level is too high or low and when there is a power outage that requires the operators to use standby generators.

Last year we completed the reconditioning of well number 6. The well was pulled for maintenance following the construction of the geothermal heating system for the new elementary school. During the winter of 2010 and 2011 we reconditioned well number 8 and updated the standby generation at wells 7 and 9.

The DPW provides clean safe water to all of its customers. We are also responsible to inspect the plumbing in your building to make sure that there is no possibility that it could contaminate the city water supply. Cross-Connection inspections will be done at 200 businesses and 300 residences during 2011. If your home or business is to be inspected this year you will be notified by mail to schedule an inspection. If you would like to have your service scheduled for inspection call the DPW .



## City of Shawano — Public Works Department

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