

## A word from your water supplier

Inside this report you will find information on drinking water quality from source to tap. We want to keep you informed about the quality of water that has been delivered to you over the past year. Our constant goal is to provide you a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We hope this report looks familiar to you. Every year we plan to mail a copy of this report to each customer.

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

Our water source is derived and purchased from the City of Blair, which draws surface water from the Missouri River. Chlorine is added to your water supply in precise amounts through an automatic feeder. Chlorine destroys bacteria and is a vital step in ensuring the health of our community.

All NRD employees responsible for operating and maintaining the system are trained and certified by the State. The NRD welcomes your comments; the Board of Directors meets at 8 PM on the second Thursday of every month at 8091 S. 154th Street, Omaha, NE. For a copy of the agenda, call the NRD at (402) 444-6222 or visit the NRD's web site at:

[www.papionrd.org](http://www.papionrd.org)

## About this Report

This report is meant to show substances that were detected in your water during the past calendar year. The U.S. Congress revised the Safe Drinking Water Act in 1996, requiring public water systems to send annual water quality reports to all customers served, or by advertising in a local paper. This report is paid by water customers through current water rates. If you have any questions about your water quality, contact Dick Sklenar, Project Manager, (402) 444-6222.

## What you should know: Contaminants found in your drinking water

All drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain naturally occurring minerals and 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 Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

Contaminants that may be present in the source water include:

- A) Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations and wildlife.
- B) 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.
- C) Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses.
- D) 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.
- E) Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

Infants and young children are typically more vulnerable to lead in drinking water than the general population. It is possible that lead levels in your home are higher than at other homes in your community as a result of materials used in your home's plumbing. If you are concerned about elevated lead levels, you may wish to have your water tested and flush your tap for ½ to 2 minutes before using tap water. More information can be obtained from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791 or the Dept. of Health & Human Services/ Office of Drinking Water at 402-471-2541.

## Notice to immuno-compromised persons

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons, such as those with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, those 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. The EPA and Center for Disease Control guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800 426-4791.

## Blair's Source Water Assessment Availability

The Nebraska Dept. of Environmental Quality (NDEQ) has completed the Source Water Assessment. Included in the assessment is a Wellhead Protection Area map, potential contaminant source inventory, vulnerability rating, and source water protection information. For more information, please contact the NDEQ at (402) 471-6988.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

Lead & Copper* (2006)								
Lead MCLG	Lead Action Level (AL)	Lead 90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	Sites Over Lead AL	Copper MCLG	Copper Action Level (AL)	Copper 90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	# of Sites Over Copper AL	Likely Source of Contamination
0 PPB	15 PPB	2.7 PPB	0	1.3 PPM	1.3 PPM	.477 PPM	0	Erosion of natural deposits; corrosion of household plumbing systems

**Inorganic Contaminants**

Contaminant	Violation?	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	Unit of measurement	MCLG	MCL	Likely source of Contamination
Fluoride (2004)	NO	.96	.38 -.96	PPM	4	4	Water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer; erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate-Nitrite	NO	4	N/A	PPM	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer; leaching from sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Barium (2007)	NO	.0235	.0234 -.0235	PPM	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes, metal refineries. Erosion of natural deposits.
Chromium (2007)	NO	1.36	1.29 -1.36	PPB	100	100	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; Erosion of natural deposits.
Nickel (2007)	NO	2.01	N/A	PPB	N/A	100	Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching.

**Synthetic Organic Contaminants (including pesticides & herbicides)**

Atrazine	NO	.194	N/A	PPB	3	3	Runoff from herbicides used on row crops
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**Disinfectants & Disinfectant By -Products\***

Total Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	NO	34.89	13.31 – 34.89	PPB	N/A	60	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs)	NO	95.57	54.0 – 95.57	PPB	N/A	80	By-product of drinking water chlorination

**Unregulated Contaminants**

Contaminant	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	Unit of Measurement
Sulfate (2007)	220	190-220	PPM
Bromodichloromethane	9.77	N/A	PPB
Chloroform	13	N/A	PPB
Dibromochloromethane	4.7	N/A	PPB
Total Alkalinity	224	164 - 224	PPM
Total Organic Carbon	7.44	1.95 - 7.44	PPM

\* = Collected by P-MRNRD. All others by City of Blair.

Test Results (Collected in 2008 unless noted)

**Information about Violations/Exemptions of the Nebraska Safe Drinking Water Act for 2008:**

Rule or Contaminant	Violation Type	Date Issued	Violation Duration
Total Trihalomethanes	Average Maximum Contaminant Level	3/23/09	1/1/08 – 12/31/08
Health Effects:	Some people who drink water containing trihalomethanes in excess of the MCL over many years may experience problems with their liver, kidneys, or central nervous systems, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.		

**The WASHINGTON CO RW #2 has taken the following actions to return to compliance with the Nebraska Safe Drinking Water Act:**

Subsequent testing of the water supply has indicated that the average total trihalomethanes concentration has fallen below the MCL established by the Environmental Protection Agency. All other water quality standards continue to met

Note: The state requires monitoring of certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. Therefore, some of our data may be more than one year old.

MCL (Maximum contaminant level): 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 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. PPM (Parts per million) PPB (Parts per billion) PPT (Parts Per Trillion) pCi/L (pico curies per liter – a measurement of radioactivity)

Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 10 ppm is a health risk for infants of less than 6 months of age. High nitrate levels in drinking water can cause blue baby syndrome. Nitrate levels may rise quickly for short periods of time because of rainfall or agricultural activity. If you are caring for an infant, you should ask for advice from your health care provider. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is currently reviewing the drinking water standard for arsenic because of special concerns that it may not be stringent enough. Arsenic is a naturally occurring mineral known to cause cancer in humans at high concentrations.

Your Community Water system is required to test for the following contaminants: Coliform Bacteria, Antimony, Arsenic, Asbestos, Barium, Beryllium, Cadmium, Chromium, Copper, Cyanide, Fluoride, Lead, Mercury, Nickel, Nitrate, Nitrite, Selenium, Sodium, Thallium, Alachlor, Atrazine, Benzo(a)pyrene, Carbofuran, Chlordane, Dalapon, Di(2-ethylhexyl)adipate, Dibromochloropropane, Dinoseb, Di(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate, Diquat, 2,4-D, Endothal, Endrin, Ethylene Dibromide, Glyphosate, Heptachlor, Heptachlor epoxide, Hexachlorobenzene, Hexachlorocyclopentadiene, Lindane, Methoxychlor, Oxamyl (Vydate), Pentachlorophenol, Picloram, Polychlorinated biphenyls, Simazine, Toxaphene, Dioxin, Silvex, Benzene, Carbon Tetrachloride, o-Dichlorobenzene, Para-Dichlorobenzene, 1,2-Dichloroethane, 1,1-Dichloroethylene, Cis-1,2-Dichloroethylene, Trans-1,2-Dichloroethylene, Dichloromethane, 1,2-Dichloromethane, Ethylbenzene, Monochlorobenzene, 1,2,4-Trichlorobenzene, 1,1,1-Trichloroethane, 1,1,2-Trichloroethane, Trichloroethylene, Vinyl Chloride, Styrene, Tetrachloroethylene, Toluene, Xylenes (total) Gross Alpha (minus Uranium & Radium 226), Radkum 226 plus Radium 228, Sulfate, Chloroform, Bromodichloromethane, Chlorodibromomethane, Bromoform, Chloroform, Bromodichloromethane, Chlorodibromomethane, Bromoform, Chlorobenzene, m-Dichlorobenzene, 1,1-Dichloropropene, 1,1-Dichloroethane, 1,1,2,2-Tetrachloroethane, 1,2-Dichlorobenzene, 1,1-Dichloropropene, 1,1-Dichloroethane, 1,1,2,2-Tetrachloroethane, 1,2-Dichloropropane, Chloromethane, Bromomethane, 1,2,3-Trichloropropane, 1,1,1,2-Tetrachloroethane, Chloroethane, 2,2-Dichloropropane, o-Chlorotoluene, p-Chlorotoluene, Bromobenzene, 1,3-Dichloropropene, Aldrin, Butachlor, Carbaryl, Dicamba, Dieldrin, 3-Hydroxycarbofuran, Methonyl, Metolachlor, Metribuzin, Propachlor.