

# *Annual Drinking Water Quality Report*

## *Wellsville*

### 2009

We're pleased to present to you this year's Annual Drinking Water Quality Report. This report is designed to inform you about the quality of the water and services we deliver to you every day. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water. Our water source is a spring that provides groundwater.

The Drinking Water Source Protection Plan for Wellsville City is available for your review. It contains information about source protection zones, potential contamination sources and management strategies to protect our drinking water. Potential contamination sources common in our protection areas are residential wastewater disposal systems, roads, and residences. Our source has a low susceptibility to potential contamination. We have also developed management strategies to further protect our sources from contamination. Please contact us if you have questions or concerns about our source protection plan.

There are many connections to our water distribution system. When connections are properly installed and maintained, the concerns are very minimal. However, unapproved and improper piping changes or connections can adversely affect not only the availability, but also the quality, of the water. A cross connection may let polluted water or even chemicals mingle into the water supply system when not properly protected. This not only compromises the water quality but can also affect your health. So, what can we do? Do not make or allow improper connections at your homes. Even that unprotected garden hose lying in the puddle next to the driveway is a cross connection. The unprotected lawn sprinkler system after you have fertilized or sprayed is also a cross connection. When the cross connection is allowed to exist at your home it will affect you and your family first. If you'd like to learn more about helping to protect the quality of our water, call us for further information about ways you can help.

#### **I'm pleased to report that our drinking water meets federal and state requirements.**

This report shows our water quality and what it means to you our customer.

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact Don Hartle (435) 245-3686. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled meetings. They are held on the first and third Wednesday of each month.

Wellsville City routinely monitors for constituents in our drinking water in accordance with the Federal and Utah State laws. The following table shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1<sup>st</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2009. All drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may be reasonably 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.

In the following table you will find many terms and abbreviations you might not be familiar with. To help you better understand these terms we've provided the following definitions:

***Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/l)*** - one part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in \$10,000.

**Parts per billion (ppb) or Micrograms per liter (ug/l)** - one part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000.

**Parts per trillion (ppt) or Nanograms per liter (nanograms/l)** - one part per trillion corresponds to one minute in 2,000,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000,000.

**Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU)** - nephelometric turbidity unit is a measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.

**Action Level (AL)** - the concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

**Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL)** - The “Maximum Allowed” (MCL) is 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.

**Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG)** - The “Goal”(MCLG) is 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.

TEST RESULTS							
Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Level Detected ND/Low-High	Unit Measurement	MCLG	MCL	Date Sampled	Likely Source of Contamination
<b>Radioactive Contaminants</b>							
Alpha emitters	N	3-4	pCi/l	0	15	2008	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium 228	N	1	pCi/l	0	5	2008	Erosion of natural deposits
<b>Inorganic Contaminants</b>							
Antimony	N	ND-1	ppb	6	6	2008	Discharge from petroleum refineries; fire retardants; ceramics; electronics; solder
Barium	N	123-124	ppb	2000	2000	2008	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride	N	200	ppb	4000	4000	2008	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Chromium	N	4	ppb	100	100	2008	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate (as Nitrogen)	N	700-800	ppb	10000	10000	2009	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Selenium	N	1000	ppt	50000	50000	2008	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from mines
Sodium	N	25	ppm	None set by EPA	None set by EPA	2008	Erosion of natural deposits; discharge from refineries and factories; runoff from landfills.

Sulfate	N	11	ppm	1000*	1000*	2009	Erosion of natural deposits; discharge from refineries and factories; runoff from landfills, runoff from cropland
TDS (Total Dissolved solids)	N	299-323	ppm	2000**	2000**	2008	Erosion of natural deposits

We periodically monitor for Volatile Organic chemical constituents in the water supply to meet all factory requirements. In 2009 we failed to take the required samples. Testing for Volatile Organic chemicals is used to ensure that the public is provided with safe drinking water. This violation does not necessarily pose a health risk. We have reviewed why we failed to take the required samples and will take steps to ensure that it does not happen again. In early 2010, we did test for VOC and there were no detections.

All sources of drinking water are subject to potential contamination by constituents that are naturally occurring or are man made. Those constituents can be microbes, organic or inorganic chemicals, or radioactive materials. All 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 1-800-426-4791.

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/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by cryptosporidium and other microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

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. Wellsville 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. 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 [www.epa.gov/safewater/lead](http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead).

We at Wellsville City 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.