

City of Zimmerman

2015 Water

Quality Report

Dear Resident,

The City of Zimmerman strives to provide quality drinking water for the period of January 1 to December 31, 2015. The purpose of this report is to advance consumer's understanding of drinking water and heighten awareness of the need to protect precious water resources.

Source of Water

The source of the city's water supply are two wells that are from 351 to 400 feet deep. They draw water from the Mt. Simon and Mt. Simon-Fond Du Lac aquifers.

The Minnesota Department of Health has determined that the source(s) used to supply your drinking water is not particularly susceptible to contamination. If you wish to obtain the entire source water assessment regarding your drinking water, please call 651-201-4700 or 1-800-818-9318 (and press 5) during normal business hours. Also you can view it on line at www.health.state.mn.us/divs/eh/water/swp/swa.

If you have questions about the drinking water in the City of Zimmerman or would like information about opportunities for public participation in decisions that may affect the quality of water, please call 763-856-4666, ext. 23 or email tgrote@sherbtl.net.

Compliance with National Primary Drinking Water Regulations

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.

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 run off, 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 be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) prescribes regulations, which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health.

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 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 at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDS guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection of *Cryptosporidium* are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

Results of Monitoring

No contaminants were detected at levels that violated federal drinking water standards. However, some contaminants were detected in trace amounts that were below legal limits. The table on the next page shows the contaminants that were detected in trace amounts last year. Some contaminants are sampled less frequently than once a year; as a result, not all contaminants were sampled in 2015). If any of these contaminants were detected the last time they were sampled for, they are included in the table along with the date that the detection occurred.



We ask that landlords, employers and anyone who receives the water bill for other water users, share this report. Additional copies are available at City Hall or can be emailed by request.

Lawn Watering Restrictions Effective

Immediately

If your house number ends in an **ODD NUMBER**, you may water on **ODD NUMBERED DAYS ONLY**. If your house number ends in an **EVEN NUMBER**, you may water on **EVEN NUMBERED DAYS ONLY**.

Watering allowed between 8:00 PM and 8:00 AM. There is less evaporation if you water in the early morning or late evening. Avoid watering in the heat of the day.

Key to abbreviations:

MCLG: (Maximum Contaminant Level Goal) The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which

MCL: (Maximum Contaminant Level) The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCL's are set as close to the MCLG's as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

AL: (Action Level) The concentration of a contaminant, which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirement that a water system must follow.

MRDL: Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level

MRDLG: Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal

pCi/l: Pico Curies per liter (a measure of radioactivity in water)

Ppb: Parts per billion, which can also be express as micrograms per liter (ug.1).

Ppm: Parts per million, which can also be express as milligrams per liter (mg/1).

90th Percentile Level: This is the value obtained after disregarding 10 percent of the samples taken that had the highest levels. (For example, in a situation in which 10 samples were taken, the 90th percentile level is determined by disregarding the highest result, which represents 10 percent of the samples). **Note:** In situations in which only 5 samples are taken, the average of the two with the highest levels is taken to determine the 90th percentile level.

Contaminant (units)	MCLG	MCL	Level Found		Typical Source of Contaminant	Meets Standard
			Range (2015)	Average Results*		
Alpha Emitters (pCi/l) (04/02/2014)	0	15.4	N/A	6.9	Erosion of natural deposits.	✓
Arsenic (ppb) (10/08/2013)	0	10	N/A	5.46	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronics production wastes.	✓
Combined Radium (pCi/l) (04/02/2014)	0	5.4	N/A	3.4	Erosion of natural deposits	✓
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	.77-1.3	1.28	State of Minnesota requires all municipal water systems to add fluoride to the drinking water to promote strong teeth; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.	✓
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (ppb)	0	60	N/A	16.5	By-product of drinking water disinfection.	✓
TTHM (Total trihalomethanes) (ppb)	0	80	N/A	25.5	By-product of drinking water disinfection.	✓

* This is the value used to determine compliance with federal standards. It sometimes is the highest value detected and sometimes is an average of all the detected values. If it is an average, it may contain sampling results from a previous year.

Some people who drink water containing fluoride in excess of the MCL over many years could get bone disease, including pain and tenderness of the bones. Fluoride in drinking water at half the MCL or more may cause mottling of children's teeth, usually in children less than nine years old. Mottling, also known as dental fluorosis, may include brown staining and/or pitting of the teeth, and occurs only in developing teeth before they erupt from the gums.

While your drinking water meets EPA's standard for arsenic, it does contain low levels of arsenic. EPA's standard balances the current understanding of arsenic's possible health effects against the costs of removing arsenic from drinking water. EPA continues to research the health effects of low levels of arsenic, which is a mineral known to cause cancer in humans at high concentrations and is linked to other health effects such as skin damage and circulatory problems..

Contaminant (units)	MRDLG	MRDL	****	*****	Typical Source of Contaminant	Meets Standard
Chlorine (ppm)	4	4	.6-1.8	1.27	Water additive used to control microbes.	✓

**** Highest and Lowest Monthly Average.

***** Highest Quarterly Average

Contaminant (units)	MCLG	AL	90% Level	#sites over AL	Typical Source of Contaminant	Meets Standard
Copper (ppm) (08/14/2014)	1.3	1.3	.63	0 out of 20	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits	✓
Lead (ppb) (08/14/2014)	0	15	3.4	0 out of 20	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits.	✓

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. City of Zimmerman is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 sec to 2 min 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 <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

Monitoring may have been done for additional contaminants that do not have MCL's established for them and are not required to be monitored under the Safe Drinking Water Act. Results may be available by calling 651-201-4700 or 1-800-818-9318 during normal business hours.

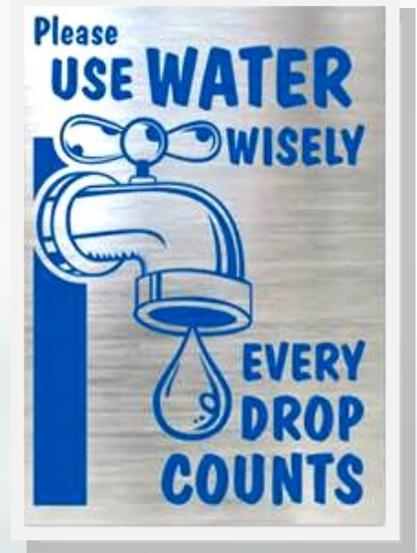


Enjoy Our Tap Water, But Conserve

The City has plenty of tap water for everyone to use. However, it's important to conserve this water whenever possible. The less water you use, the less energy is used and the lower your utility bill will be. The following are some conservation tips that can help your conservation efforts:

Save Water Outdoors!

- Water your lawn only when it needs it. A good way to see if your lawn needs water is to step on the grass, if it springs back up when you move, it doesn't need water. If it stays flat, fetch the sprinkler.
- Deep-soak your lawn. When you do water, water long enough for the moisture to soak down to the roots where it will do the most good. A light sprinkling can evaporate quickly and tends to encourage shallow root systems.
- Water during the cool parts of the day. Early morning is better than dusk since it helps prevent the growth of fungus.
- Don't water the gutter. Position your sprinklers so water lands on the lawn or garden, not on paved areas. Avoid watering on windy days.
- Plant drought-resistant trees and plants. Many beautiful trees and plants thrive with far less water than other species.
- Put a layer of mulch around trees and plants. Mulch will slow evaporation of moisture and discourage weed growth.
- Use a broom, not a hose, to clean driveways and sidewalks.
- Don't run the hose while washing your car. Clean the car with a pail of soapy water. Use the hose just to rinse it off.
- Check for leaks in pipes, hoses, faucets and couplings. Leaks outside the house may not seem as bad since they're not as visible. But they can be just as wasteful as leaks inside. Check frequently and keep them drip-free.



Save Water Indoors!

- Fill the sink or a glass with water instead of letting water run when you wash, brush teeth or shave! Keep showers short or take shallow baths. This will save you about 20 gallons of water.
- On average, 20% of toilets leak. Check your toilets for leaks and fix them promptly. Toilets account for almost 30% of all indoor water use.
- Place a one-gallon plastic jug of water in older toilets to displace toilet flows.
- Use your automatic dishwasher only for full loads. A full dishwasher is more efficient than washing the same load by hand.
- If you wash dishes by hand, don't leave the water running for rinsing.
- Don't let the faucet run while you clean vegetables.
- Keep a bottle of drinking water in the refrigerator.