



LOCH ALPINE SANITARY AUTHORITY

4530 W. Huron River Drive • Ann Arbor, MI 48103 • 734.426.4545

2002 Annual Water Quality Report

KEEPING YOU INFORMED!

The Loch Alpine Sanitary Authority (LASA) of Webster and Scio Townships provides your drinking water and is pleased to present you with this fourth annual water quality report. This report follows the guidelines set by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ). Our goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable drinking water supply. This report will illustrate that we are achieving our goal.

WATER QUALITY RESULTS

LASA contracts the operation and maintenance of its water facilities to Tetra Tech MPS. Operators from Tetra Tech MPS routinely monitor your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. The table on the inside of this report shows the results of monitoring for the period of January 1st to December 31st, 2002, unless otherwise noted. The test results show that your drinking water meets or surpasses all Federal and State requirements.

WHERE DOES YOUR WATER COME FROM?

Your drinking water is drawn from underground through three different wells. This raw well water benefits from natural filtration as it travels underground through sand and gravel. In addition, treatment equipment injects the water with chlorine (to inactivate potentially harmful bacteria in the water) and polyphosphate (to control iron). Finished water is distributed directly to customers or stored in a 125,000 gallon elevated tank for use during peak demands.

FOR PEOPLE WITH SPECIAL HEALTH CONCERNS

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons 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. Federal guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by cryptosporidium and other microbiological contaminants are also available from EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline, 800.426.4791.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Interested citizens are welcome to attend LASA Board meetings to participate in the decisions affecting our water system. Meetings are held each quarter at 7:30 p.m. at the Webster Township Hall located at 5665 Webster Church Road in Dexter. Check the Dexter Leader for dates or call Neil Gerl, Chairman of the Board at 426.2934.

QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

Water system operations staff work year-round to provide quality water to residents. If you have any questions or comments, or would like to receive more specific information about LASA's water system, please feel free to call Dave Ruhlig, System Operator from Tetra Tech MPS at 426.4545, or Neil Gerl, Chairman of the Board at 426.2934. Additional copies of this report are available through either contact.

HEALTH and SAFETY INFORMATION

Drinking water, including bottled water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of these contaminants does not necessarily pose a health risk.

The sources of both tap and bottled drinking water include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive materials, and can also pick up substances resulting from animal or 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 stormwater 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, septic systems, and urban or agricultural runoff (i.e., pesticides and herbicides)
- *Radioactive contaminants*, which can be naturally occurring or the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

All of these contaminants were below the level of concern in your water. To ensure that tap water is safe, the EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The Food and Drug Administration is in the process of establishing limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health.

WATER AESTHETICS AND IMPROVEMENTS

LASA began construction on its green sand filter for iron removal in October 2002. The filter will help minimize aesthetic concerns, such as the staining of appliances and clothing. System testing is scheduled for April 2003.

In May 2002, a new radio telemetry communication system became operational. The system allows well pump operations to be based on water tower levels rather than system pressure providing greater efficiency, and automatically alternates pumping among the three wells.

To further improve the aesthetic quality of LASA's drinking water, the water distribution system is flushed every spring and fall to remove mineral deposits. Flushing improves the taste of the water and deters water from appearing rusty in color.



IMPORTANT CONTACTS (clip and save this for future reference)

- Water System Emergencies:** 888.218.0395 (24-hour pager)
- System Operator, Dave Ruhlig: 734.426.4545
- Chairman of the Board, Neil Gerl: 734.426.2934
- Scio Township Hall: 734.665.2123
- Webster Township Hall: 734.426.5103
- EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline: 800.426.4791
- Loch Alpine Website: www.lochalpine.org
- EPA Website/On-Line Report: www.epa.gov/safewater/dwinfo/mi.htm
- (under water system name enter <Loch Alpine> county <Washtenaw>)

WATER QUALITY TEST RESULTS FOR 2002

Here are the contaminants that were detected in our water. ALL ARE BELOW ALLOWED LEVELS. Not listed are the hundreds of contaminants tested for, and not detected in our water. Monitoring frequency varies by contaminant, so some of the test results are several years old because it is the most recent information.

<i>contaminant</i>	<i>test date</i>	<i>unit</i>	<i>low</i>	<i>high</i>	<i>MCLG</i>	<i>MCL</i>	<i>likely sources</i>
Regulated Inorganic Parameters (sampled at the treatment system tap)							
Arsenic ¹	2001	ppb	1.0	1.0	none	10	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
Barium	2001	ppm	.09	.12	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride	2001	ppm	0.2	0.2	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories; we do not add fluoride to our water
Mercury	2001	ppb	nd	0.1	2	2	Erosion of natural deposits; discharge from refineries and factories; runoff from landfills; runoff from cropland
Selenium	2001	ppb	1.0	1.0	50	50	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from mines

Copper and Lead Testing (sampled in the distribution system at individual taps)

Copper ²	2002	ppb	90th=340	1300	AL		Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Lead ²	2002	ppb	90th = 1	15	AL		Erosion of natural deposits. ³

Unregulated Parameters (sampled at the treatment system tap)

Sodium	2001	ppm	10	12	none	none	Erosion of natural deposits
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1. The MCL for arsenic is currently 50 ppb. Effective January 23, 2006, the MCL for arsenic will be 10 ppb.
2. None of our copper or lead results exceeded the Action Levels.
3. There are no lead service lines in our system. Any detections of lead result from the erosion of natural deposits.

DEFINITIONS

Parts per million (ppm) and parts per billion (ppb) - One ppm can be equated to 4 teaspoons of salt in a standard 24-foot backyard pool. One ppb is one teaspoon of salt in an Olympic-sized pool.

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) - The MCL is the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in the drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible, using the best available treatment technology. MCLs are set at very stringent levels by the State and Federal government. To understand the possible health effects, a person would have to drink about two liters (quarts) of water every day at the MCL level for a lifetime to have a one-in-a-million chance of having the associated health effect.

nd - not detectable at testing limit.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG) - The MCLG is the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected health risk. MCLGs provide for a margin of safety.

Action Level (AL) - The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other required actions a water system must follow.

90th percentile (90th) - Lead and Copper testing compliance is based on the 90th percentile, where 9 out of 10 samples must be below the Action Level.

More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 800.426.4791