



CASS RURAL WATER USERS DISTRICT ANNUAL DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT

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2013

Cass Rural Water Users District (CRWD) is a political subdivision of the State of North Dakota pursuant to Chapter 61-35 of the North Dakota Century Code, operating a water system serving all of Cass County as well as parts of Traill, Barnes, and Richland counties. CRWD currently serves over 4,100 users through a distribution system of approximately 2,300 miles of PVC (plastic) pipe. CRWD was formed in 1973 and was constructed over the next seven years in three separate phases. Each phase was constructed with its own well field, treatment plant, and pumping stations. CRWD has its annual membership meeting in March.

CRWD, as required by the Federal Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA), has prepared and is distributing to our customers our 16th annual drinking water quality report. This is our opportunity to share information on the quality of water we provide to your home, apartment, or business. In addition, this report is an educational tool that allows us to inform you of the source of our water, our treatment facilities, and processes. It is our daily goal to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water.

If you own or manage an apartment complex or have renters, we encourage you to share this report with them. If you have any questions regarding this report please call Gregg Christensen, our chief systems operator, at 701-428-3139. If you are aware of non-English speaking individuals who need help with a language translation, please call Gregg at the number listed above.

CASS RURAL WATER DISTRICT'S WATER SOURCES:

1. Source water for CRWD on all three phases is well water. CRWD does not use lakes, rivers, or streams. Phase I source water (West Fargo Aquifer) comes from four wells. Well water enters the treatment facility at the same location which can produce 880 gallons per minute (gpm) of finished water. In a typical 24-hour period, 500,000 gallons of water are treated and pumped.
2. Source Water for CRWD Phase II (Sheyenne Delta Aquifer) comes from six wells. Well water enters the treatment facility at the same location which can produce 600 gpm of finished water. In a typical 24-hour period, 500,000 gallons of water are treated and pumped.
3. Source water for CRWD Phase III (Page Aquifer) comes from three wells. Well water enters the treatment facility at the same location which can produce 600 gpm of finished water. In a typical 24-hour period, 400,000 gallons of water are treated and pumped. CRWD system-wide daily output is 1,200,000 to 1,500,000 gallons per day (mgd).
4. Source water for the following Townships 139-49 Section 32 N ½ and 138-49 sections 1, 2, 11, 12, 13, 14, 23, 24, 25, 26, 35 and 138-48 section 7, 18, 19, 30, 31 and 140-49 sections 1, 2 SE, 12 and 13 are provided by the City of Fargo via three metered vaults.

SOURCE WATER ASSESSMENT:

CRWD is involved in the Wellhead Protection program. For any questions referring to Wellhead Protection please call CRWD at 701-428-3139. Our public water system, in cooperation with the North Dakota Department of Health, has completed the delineation and contaminant/land use inventory elements of the North Dakota Source Water Protection Program. Based on the information from these elements, the North Dakota Department of Health has determined that our source water for Phase 1, 2 and 3 is not susceptible to potential contaminants.

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 materials, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

This report has required definitions of terms, language requirements, tables of water quality data, and other information you may find interesting and educational. To help you better understand these terms we have provided the following definitions:

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, 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 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, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems.

Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

ENSURING SAFE WATER

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) 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 EPA's Safe Drinking Water hotline (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 infection. 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 Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

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

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG) - 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.

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) - The highest level of contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG) - The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL) - The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

Treatment Technique (TT) - A required process intended to reduce the level of contaminant in drinking water.

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

Non-Applicable (N/A) - does not apply

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 million.

Picocuries per liter (pcil) - Picocuries per liter is a measure of the radioactivity in water.

MCLs are set at very stringent levels. To understand the health effects described for many regulated contaminants, a person would have to drink two liters of water every day at the MCL level for a lifetime to have a one-in-a-million chance of having the described health effect.

EPA requires monitoring of over 80 drinking water contaminants. Those contaminants listed in the following tables are the only contaminants **detected** in your drinking water.

Table of Detected Regulated Contaminants

The data presented is for 2013 or the most recent in accordance with the state and federal regulations.

2013 TEST RESULTS OF "DETECTED" REGULATED CONTAMINANTS 090-1060 Phase I								
Lead/Copper								
Date	Inorganic Contaminants	Violation Yes/No	Level Detected	Unit of Measure	MCLG	MCL	Range of Detection	Likely Source of Contamination
9/14/12	Copper*	No	0.758 90th%	ppm	N/A	AL=1.3 ppm	N/A	Corrosion of household plumbing, erosion of natural deposits
9/14/12	Lead*	No	3.98 90th%	ppb	N/A	AL=15 ppb	N/A	Corrosion of household plumbing, erosion of natural deposits

*No sites exceeded action level for copper and lead

Inorganic Contaminants								
Date	Inorganic Contaminants	Violation Yes/No	Level Detected	Unit of Measure	MCLG	MCL	Range of Detection	Likely Source of Contamination
5/13/10	Arsenic	No	1.1	ppb	0	10	N/A	Runoff from orchards, erosion of natural deposits, glass and electronic factory runoff
3/16/09	Barium	No	0.171	ppm	2	2	N/A	Discharge of drilling wastes, discharge from metal refineries, erosion of natural deposits
3/16/09	Chromium	No	1.56	ppb	100	100	N/A	Discharge from steel and pulp mills, erosion of natural deposits
3/16/09	Fluoride	No	1.2	ppm	4	4	N/A	Erosion of natural deposits, water additive to promote strong teeth, discharge of fertilizer and aluminum factories
2/20/13	Nitrate-Nitrite	No	0.11	ppm	10	10	N/A	Runoff of fertilizer use, erosion of natural deposits
3/16/09	Selenium	No	1.06	ppb	50	50	N/A	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries, erosion of natural deposits, discharge from mines

Radioactive Contaminants								
Date	Inorganic Contaminants	Violation Yes/No	Level Detected	Unit of Measure	MCLG	MCL	Range of Detection	Likely Source of Contamination
1/8/09	Gross Alpha, Including RA, Excluding RN & U	No	4.77	PCI/L	15	15	N/A	Erosion of natural deposits
1/8/09	Radium, Combined (226, 228)	No	0.779	PCI/L		5	N/A	Erosion of natural deposits
1/8/09	Uranium, Combined	No	0.63	ppb		30	N/A	Erosion of natural deposits

Disinfectants								
Date	Contaminant	Violation Yes/No	Level Detected	Unit of Measure	MRDL	MRDL	Range of Detection	Likely Source of Contamination
8/31/13	Chlorine	No	2.9	ppm	4	4	2.387 to 3.555	Water additive used to control microbes

2013 TEST RESULTS OF "DETECTED" REGULATED CONTAMINANTS 090-1124 Phase II								
Lead/Copper								
Date	Contaminant	Violation Yes/No	Level Detected	Unit of Measure	MCLG	MCL	Range of Detection	Likely Source of Contamination
9/7/12	Copper*	No	0.599 90th%	ppm	N/A	AL=1.3 ppm	N/A	Corrosion of household plumbing, erosion of natural deposits
9/7/12	Lead*	No	2.22 90th%	ppb	N/A	AL=15 ppb	N/A	Corrosion of household plumbing, erosion of natural deposits

*No sites exceeded action level for copper and lead

Inorganic Contaminants								
Date	Inorganic Contaminants	Violation Yes/No	Level Detected	Unit of Measure	MCLG	MCL	Range of Detection	Likely Source of Contamination
5/19/10	Arsenic	No	2.49	ppb	0	10	N/A	Runoff from orchards, glass and electrical factory runoff, erosion of natural deposits
3/16/09	Barium	No	0.164	ppm	2	2	N/A	Discharge of drilling wastes, discharge from metal refineries, erosion of natural deposits
3/16/09	Chromium	No	1.37	ppb	100	100	N/A	Discharge from steel and pulp mills, erosion of natural deposits
3/16/09	Fluoride	No	1.15	ppm	4	4	N/A	Erosion of natural deposits, water additive to promote strong teeth, discharge of fertilizer and aluminum factories
2/20/13	Nitrate-Nitrite	No	0.14	ppm	10	10	N/A	Runoff of fertilizer use, erosion of natural deposits
Radioactive Contaminants								
Date	Contaminant	Violation Yes/No	Level Detected	Unit of Measure	MCLG	MCL	Range of Detection	Likely Source of Contamination
7/27/10	Gross Alpha, Including RA Excluding RN & U	No	0.33	pCi/l	15	15	N/A	Erosion of natural deposits
7/27/10	Radium, Combined (226, 228)	No	0.453	pCi/l		5	N/A	Erosion of natural deposits
7/27/10	Uranium, Combined	No	2.2	ppb		30	N/A	Erosion of natural deposits
Disinfectants								
Date	Contaminant	Violation Yes/No	Level Detected	Unit of Measure	MRDL	MRDL	Range of Detection	Likely Source of Contamination
6/30/13	Chlorine	No	1	ppm	4	4	0.733 to 1.36	Water additive used to control microbes

**2013 TEST RESULTS OF "DETECTED" REGULATED CONTAMINANTS
090-1131 Phase III**

Lead/Copper								
Date	Contaminant	Violation Yes/No	Level Detected	Unit of Measure	MCLG	MCL	Range of Detection	Likely Source of Contamination
9/5/12	Copper*	No	1.27 90th%	ppm	N/A	AL=1.3 ppm	N/A	Corrosion of household plumbing, erosion of natural deposits*
9/5/12	Lead*	No	2.82 90th%	ppb	N/A	AL=15 ppb	N/A	Corrosion of household plumbing, erosion of natural deposits*

*No sites exceeded action level for copper and lead

Inorganic Contaminants								
Date	Inorganic Contaminants	Violation Yes/No	Level Detected	Unit of Measure	MCLG	MCL	Range of Detection	Likely Source of Contamination
5/17/10	Arsenic	No	6.17	ppb	0	10		Runoff of orchards, glass and electrical factory runoff, erosion of natural deposits
3/9/09	Barium	No	0.0427	ppm	2	2	N/A	Discharge of drilling wastes, discharge from metal refineries, erosion of natural deposits
3/9/09	Fluoride	No	1.08	ppm	4	4	N/A	Erosion of natural deposits, water additive to promote strong teeth, discharge of fertilizer factories
Radioactive Contaminants								
Date	Inorganic Contaminants	Violation Yes/No	Level Detected	Unit of Measure	MCLG	MCL	Range of Detection	Likely Source of Contamination
1/8/09	Gross Alpha, Including RA Excluding RN & U	No	ND	pCi/l	15	15	N/A	Erosion of natural deposits
1/8/09	Radium, Combined (226, 228)	No	0.484	pCi/l		5	N/A	Erosion of natural deposits
1/8/09	Uranium, Combined	No	2.67	ppb		30	N/A	Erosion of natural deposits

Disinfectants								
Date	Contaminants	Violation Yes/No	Level Detected	Unit of Measure	MRDL	MRDL	Range of Detection	Likely Source of Contamination
7/31/13	Chlorine	No	1.3	ppm	4	4	0.99 to 1.747	Water additive used to control microbes

**2013 TEST RESULTS OF "DETECTED" REGULATED CONTAMINANTS
090-1482 Fargo North -- Highland Park, North River and Stockman's Subdivisions**

Date	Inorganic Contaminants	Violation Yes/No	Level Detected	Unit of Measure	M.C.L.G.	M.C.L.	Range of Detection	Likely Source of Contamination
8/7/13	Copper*	No	0.267	ppm	N/A	AL= 1.3 ppm	N/A	Corrosion of household plumbing, erosion of natural deposits
8/7/13	Lead*	No	No Detect	ppb	N/A	AL= 15 ppb	N/A	Corrosion of household plumbing, erosion of natural deposits

*No sites exceeded Action Level for Copper and Lead

Disinfectants								
Date	Contaminant	Violation Yes/No	Level Detected	Unit of Measure	MRDL	MRDL	Range of Detection	Likely Source of Contamination
1/31/13	Chloramine	No	3	ppm	4	4	2.53 to 3.29	Water additive used to control microbes

Stage 2 Disinfection By-products (HAA5/TTHM)

Date	Contaminant	Violation Yes/No	Level Detected	Unit of Measure	MCL	MCLG	Range of Detection	Likely Source of Contamination
12/31/13	HAA5	No	13	ppb	60	N/A	9.13 to 13.2	By-product of drinking water chlorination
12/31/13	TTHM	No	14	ppb	80	N/A	11.77 to 13.73	By-product of drinking water chlorination

Stage 2 data begins 4/1/2012 and goes through 12/31/2013

**2013 TEST RESULTS OF "DETECTED" REGULATED CONTAMINANTS
090-1483 Fargo South -- East of I-29 from 52nd Ave South to County Road 16**

Date	Inorganic Contaminants	Violation Yes/No	Level Detected	Unit of Measure	M.C.L.G.	M.C.L.	Range of Detection	Likely Source of Contamination
8/9/13	Copper*	No	0.312	ppm	N/A	AL= 1.3 ppm	N/A	Corrosion of household plumbing, erosion of natural deposits
8/9/13	Lead*	No	1.67	ppb	N/A	AL= 15 ppb	N/A	Corrosion of household plumbing, erosion of natural deposits

*No sites exceeded Action Level for Copper and Lead

Disinfectants								
Date	Contaminant	Violation Yes/No	Level Detected	Unit of Measure	MRDL	MRDL	Range of Detection	Likely Source of Contamination
8/31/13	Chloramine	No	2.7	ppm	4	4	2.195 to 3.015	Water additive used to control microbes

Stage 2 Disinfection By-products (HAA5/TTHM)

Date	Contaminant	Violation Yes/No	Level Detected	Unit of Measure	MCL	MCLG	Range of Detection	Likely Source of Contamination
9/30/13	HAA5	No	10	ppb	60	N/A	5.16 to 13	By-product of drinking water chlorination
9/30/13	TTHM	No	9	ppb	80	N/A	1.52 to 16.31	By-product of drinking water chlorination

Stage 2 data begins 4/1/2012 and goes through 12/31/2013

**2013 TEST RESULTS OF "DETECTED" REGULATED CONTAMINANTS
090-1484 Fargo West -- Osgood Subdivision West of 57th Street**

Date	Inorganic Contaminants	Violation Yes/No	Level Detected	Unit of Measure	M.C.L.G.	M.C.L.	Range of Detection	Likely Source of Contamination
8/8/13	Copper*	No	0.3	ppm	N/A	AL= 1.3 ppm	N/A	Corrosion of household plumbing, erosion of natural deposits
8/8/13	Lead*	No	1.02	ppb	N/A	AL= 15 ppb	N/A	Corrosion of household plumbing, erosion of natural deposits

*No sites exceeded Action Level for Copper and Lead

Disinfectants

Date	Contaminant	Violation Yes/No	Level Detected	Unit of Measure	MRDL	MRDL	Range of Detection	Likely Source of Contamination
9/30/13	Chloramine	No	2.5	ppm	4	4	2.14 to 2.74	Water additive used to control microbes

Stage 2 Disinfection By-products (HAA5/TTHM)

Date	Contaminant	Violation Yes/No	Level Detected	Unit of Measure	MCL	MCLG	Range of Detection	Likely Source of Contamination
12/31/13	HAA5	No	27	ppb	60	N/A	15.6 to 27.2	By-product of drinking water chlorination
12/31/13	TTHM	No	21	ppb	80	N/A	14.97 to 21.05	By-product of drinking water chlorination

Stage 2 data begins 4/1/2012 and goes through 12/31/2013

2013 TEST RESULTS OF "DETECTED" REGULATED CONTAMINANTS
Results provided by City of Fargo for the areas of Fargo North, Fargo South, and Fargo West.
Please see your specific table below for your lead, copper, TTHM and HAA5 results.

Inorganic Contaminants

Date	Contaminant	Violation Yes/No	Level Detected	Unit of Measure	MCL	MCLG	Range of Detection	Likely Source of Contamination
6/14/10	Barium	No	0.0135	ppm	2	2	N/A	Runoff of fertilizer use, erosion of natural deposits
6/14/10	Fluoride	No	1.21	ppm	4	4	N/A	Runoff of fertilizer use, erosion of natural deposits
4/8/13	Nitrate - Nitrite	No	0.31	ppm	10	10	N/A	Runoff of fertilizer use, erosion of natural deposits
6/14/10	Selenium	No	1.43	ppb	50	50	N/A	Runoff of fertilizer use, erosion of natural deposits

Radioactive Contaminants

Date	Contaminant	Violation Yes/No	Level Detected	Unit of Measure	MCL	MCLG	Range of Detection	Likely Source of Contamination
2/8/10	Gross Alpha, Including RA, Excluding RN & U	No	0.402	pCi/l	15	15	N/A	Erosion of natural deposits

Radioactive Contaminants

Date	Contaminant	Violation Yes/No	Level Detected	Unit of Measure	MCL	MCLG	Range of Detection	Likely Source of Contamination
2/8/10	Radium, Combined (226, 228)	No	0.546	pCi/l	5		N/A	Erosion of natural deposits
2/8/10	Uranium, Combined	No	0.6	ppb	30		N/A	Erosion of natural deposits

Disinfectants

Date	Contaminant	Violation Yes/No	Level Detected	Unit of Measure	MRDL	MRDL	Range of Detection	Likely Source of Contamination
1/31/13	Chloramine	No	3	ppm	4.0	4	2.39 to 3.5	Water additive used to control microbes

Disinfectant By-products

Date	Contaminant	Violation Yes/No	Level Detected	Unit of Measure	MCL	MCLG	Range of Detection	Likely Source of Contamination
8/31/13	Bromate	No	4	ppb	10	0	ND to 13	By-product of drinking water disinfection

Total Organic Carbon Removal								
Date	Contaminant	Violation Yes/No	Level Detected	Unit of Measure	MRDLG	MRDL	Range of Detection	Likely Source of Contamination
4/30/13	Alkalinity Source	No	297	MG/L	N/A	N/A	174.00 to 297.00	Naturally present in the environment
3/31/13	Carbon, Total Organic (TOC) - Finished	No	8.25	MG/L	N/A	N/A	3.84 to 8.25	Naturally present in the environment
3/31/13	Carbon, Total Organic (TOC) - Source	No	12.5	MG/L	N/A	N/A	6.26 to 12.50	Naturally present in the environment
Unregulated Contaminants								
Date	Contaminant	Violation Yes/No	Level Detected	Unit of Measure	MRDLG	MRDL	Range of Detection	Likely Source of Contamination
12/9/13	Bromide	No	0.399	ppm	N/A	N/A	ND to 0.399	N/A
Stage 2 Disinfection By-Products (HAA5/TTHM)								
Stage 2 data begins 4/1/2012 and goes through 12/31/2013								
Date	Contaminant	Violation Yes/No	Level Detected	Unit of Measure	MCL	MCLG	Range of Detection	Likely Source of Contamination
9/30/13	HAA5	No	15	ppb	60	N/A	2.51 to 33.54	By-product of drinking water chlorination
9/30/13	TTHM	No	18	ppb	80	N/A	1.08 to 32.14	By-product of drinking water chlorination

Surface water treatment rule monitoring data

Lowest monthly percentage of samples meeting turbidity limits = 100

Highest single measurement = 0.3

Your water supplier, the City of Fargo, was selected by EPA to sample for 21 unregulated contaminants during 2013. Samples were taken 4 times from both the entry point to the distribution system and from the maximum residence time in the distribution system.

Unregulated contaminants are those for which EPA has not established drinking water standards. The purpose of unregulated contaminant monitoring is to assist EPA in determining the occurrence of unregulated contaminants in drinking water and whether future regulation is warranted. Should you have any questions, please contact our office.

The following unregulated contaminants were the only contaminants detected during this sampling. Results are from sampling points at the entry point to the distribution system and the maximum residence time in the distribution system.

Unregulated Contaminants	Minimum Reporting Level (µg/L)	Average value at the entry point to distribution system (µg/L)	Range of detection at the entry point to distribution system (µg/L)
Chromium (total)	0.2	0.815	0.561 - 1.548
Molybdenum	1	2.88	2.576 - 3.548
Stontium	0.3	188.668	146.907 - 257.025
Vanadium	0.2	0.862	0.685 - 1.099
Chromium-6	0.03	0.617	0.524 - 0.765

Unregulated Contaminants	Minimum Reporting Level (µg/L)	Average value at maximum residence time in distribution system (µg/L)	Range of detection at maximum residence time in distribution system (µg/L)
Chromium (total)	0.2	0.714	0.537 - 1.022
Molybdenum	1	2.727	2.503 - 2.907
Stontium	0.3	183.292	142.467 - 213.726
Vanadium	0.2	0.861	0.557 - 1.234
Chromium-6	0.03	0.765	0.47 - 1.109

As you can see by the tables, our system had **no** violations. We are proud that your drinking water meets or exceeds all federal and state requirements. We have learned through our monitoring and testing that some contaminants have been detected. The EPA has determined that your water IS SAFE at these levels. As you read the enclosed tables please note there are three tables of results – one for each phase. Read corresponding results for the phase you are in. You can request additional copies by calling 701- 428-3139.

We at Cass Rural Water 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 an important part of our way of life and our children's futures. Thank you for taking the time to read this important report.

Arsenic – 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.

Lead – 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. Cass Rural Water District is responsible for providing high-quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. **Use water from the cold tap for drinking and cooking. 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 two minutes before using water for drinking or cooking.** If you are concerned about lead in your drinking 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>.

Nitrate – Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 10 ppm is a health risk for infants of less than six months of age. Infants below the age of six months of age who drink water containing Nitrate in excess of 10 ppm water can become seriously ill and, if left untreated, may die. Symptoms include shortness of breath and "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 advice from your health care provider.