



2013 CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT

Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

The Rib Mountain Sanitary District is pleased to present this year's Annual Water Quality Report. This report is designed to inform you of the quality water and services we deliver 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 drinking water.

Health Information

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 (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 chemo-therapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune systems 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 microbial contaminants are available from the Environmental Protection Agency's safe drinking water hotline (800-426-4791).

Quality Monitoring

All sources of drinking water are subject to potential contamination by constituents that are naturally occurring or are man-made. These constituents can be microbes, organic or inorganic chemicals, or radioactive materials. The Rib Mountain Sanitary District routinely monitors for constituents in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. The tables on pages 2 and 3 show the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1, 2013 to December 31, 2013. Following the tables is an explanation of health effects for several of the substances that are monitored.

Note: In all cases, our drinking water is below the Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL)

WARNING

The Rib Mountain Sanitary District is **Warning All Customers** that the use of "**Flushable Wipes**" may cause sewer back-ups. We strongly advise against using these products. While manufactures advertise these as biodegradable, it takes significant time to breakdown the fiber bonds. Before the fiber bonds breakdown this "cloth like" material can create blockage in sewer pipes that will lead to sewer back-ups. If the backup is a result of a plug in the customer's lateral, a plumber or someone who specializes in cleaning sewer laterals can be called to open the pipe.

The Sanitary District accepts No Responsibility for sewer backups.

Use of "Flushable Wipes is NOT ADVISED!"

3 EASY WAYS TO PAY YOUR BILLS

Drop Box: We have a drop box located outside our office door for after-hours payment. Just place payment (check & stub) in an envelope and deposit in the drop box.

Automatic: We offer automatic bill payment from your checking or savings account. For more information or to have an authorization form sent to you, call us at 359-6177.

Pay Stations: For your convenience, the following businesses will accept payment for utility bills:

BMO - RIB MOUNTAIN

**MARATHON SAVINGS BANK—RIB MOUNTAIN
QUALITY FOODS IGA—RIB MOUNTAIN**

These locations require the billing stub accompany the payment and may require payment by check. **(Please allow enough time for payment to reach the Sanitary District by the due date.)**

PLEASE NOTE: There will be a \$25.00 charge for any checks returned for non-sufficient funds.

Our Water Source

Our water is pumped from four wells located along the west bank of the Wisconsin River. Each well is approximately 90 feet deep and produces about 400 gallons per minute. The water is treated with a specialized system to remove most of the iron and manganese. Fluoride is added to help promote healthy teeth and chlorine is added to kill bacteria. The pH is also adjusted to make the water non-corrosive, so it does not damage your water pipes.

Number of Contaminants Required to be Tested

This table displays the number of contaminants that were required to be tested in the last five years. The CCR may contain up to five years worth of water quality results. If a water system tests annually, or more frequently, the results from the most recent year are shown on the CCR. If testing is done less frequently, the results shown on the CCR are from the past five years.

Contaminant Group	# of Contaminants tested for
Disinfection Byproducts	2
Inorganic Contaminants	16
Microbiological Contaminants	3
Radioactive Contaminants	4
Synthetic Organic Contaminants including Pesticides and Herbicides	23
Unregulated Contaminants	4
Volatile Organic Contaminants	20

Water Quality Test Results

Microbiological Contaminants

Contaminant	MCL	MCLG	Level Found	Sample Date (if prior to 2013)	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
COLIFORM (TCR)	presence of coliform bacteria in $\geq 5\%$ of monthly samples	0	1		NO	Naturally present in the environment

Disinfection Byproducts

Contaminant	MCL	MCLG	Level Found	Range	Sample Date (if prior to 2013)	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
HAA5 (ppb)	60	60	3	3		NO	
TTHM (ppb)	80	0	17.9	17.9		NO	By-product of drinking water chlorination

Unregulated Contaminants

Contaminant	MCL	MCLG	Level Found	Range	Sample Date (if prior to 2013)	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
BROMODICHLOROMETHANE (ppb)	n/a	n/a	5.70	5.70		NO	n/a
BROMOFORM (ppb)	n/a	n/a	1.30	1.30		NO	n/a
CHLOROFORM (ppb)	n/a	n/a	5.70	5.70		NO	n/a
DIBROMOCHLOROMETHANE (ppb)	n/a	n/a	5.20	5.20		NO	n/a

Radioactive Contaminants

Contaminant (units)	MCL	MCLG	Level Found	Range	Sample Date (if prior to 2013)	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
COMBINED URANIUM (ug/l)	30	0	0.0	0.0	9-13-2011	NO	Erosion of natural deposits
GROSS ALPHA, EXCL. R & U (pCi/l)	15	0	2.4	2.4	9-13-2011	NO	Erosion of natural deposits
GROSS ALPHA, EXCL. R & U (n/a)	n/a	n/a	2.4	2.4	9-13-2011	NO	Erosion of natural deposits
GROSS BETA PARTICLE ACTIVITY (pCi/l)	n/a	n/a	1.8	1.1-1.8	12-11-2009	NO	Decay of natural and man-made deposits. MCL units are in millirem/year. Calculation for compliance with MCL is not possible unless level found is greater than 50 pCi/l.
RADIUM, (226 + 228) (pCi/l)	5	0	1.1	1.1	9-13-2011	NO	Erosion of natural deposits

Inorganic Contaminants

Contaminant (units)	MCL	MCLG	Level Found	Range	Sample Date (if prior to 2013)	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
BARIUM (ppm)	2	2	.112	.041-.112	9-13-2011	NO	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
COPPER (ppm)	AL=1.3	1.3	.1670	0 of 20 results were above the action level.	6-30-2011	NO	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives
FLUORIDE (ppm)	4	4	.3	nd-.3	9-13-2011	NO	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
LEAD (ppb)	AL=15	0	3.36	0 of 20 results were above the action level.	6-30-2011	NO	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
NICKEL (ppb)	100		2.7600	1.1100-2.7600	9-13-2011	NO	Nickel occurs naturally in soils, ground water and surface waters and is often used in electroplating, stainless steel and alloy products.
NITRATE (NO3-N) (ppm)	10	10	2.10	1.20 – 2.10		NO	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
SODIUM (ppm)	n/a	n/a	86.40	41.10-86.40	9-13-2011	NO	n/a

* Systems exceeding a lead and/or copper action level must take actions to reduce lead and/or copper in the drinking water. The lead and copper values represent the 90th percentile of all compliance samples collected. If you want information on the number of sites or the actions taken to reduce these levels, please contact the Rib Mountain Sanitary District.

Definition of Terms

Term	Definition
AL	Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
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.
MFL	million fibers per liter
MRDL	Maximum residual disinfectant level: The highest level of disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.
MRDLG	Maximum residual disinfectant goal: 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.
mrem/year	millirems per year (a measure of radiation absorbed by the body)
NTU	Nephelometric Turbidity Units
pCi/l	picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)
ppm	parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/l)
ppb	parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (ug/l)
ppt	parts per trillion, or nanograms per liter
ppq	parts per quadrillion, or picograms per liter
TCR	Total Coliform Rule
TT	Treatment Technique: A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

Educational Information

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 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.

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

[Any Questions?](#)

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact Mike Heyroth, Director at (715) 359-6177. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regular monthly meetings. They are held on the third Wednesday of each month at 7:00 P.M. at the district administration office, 5703 Lilac Avenue.