

# 2015 WATER QUALITY REPORT FOR INDEPENDENCE WATER DEPT

This report contains important information regarding the water quality in our water system. The source of our water is groundwater. Our water quality testing shows the following results:

CONTAMINANT	MCL - (MCLG)	Compliance		Date	Violation	Source
		Type	Value & (Range)			
Total Trihalomethanes (ppb) [TTHM]	80 (N/A)	LRAA	26.00 (26 - 26)	09/30/2015	No	By-products of drinking water chlorination
Total Haloacetic Acids (ppb) [HAA5]	60 (N/A)	LRAA	9.00 (9 - 9)	09/30/2015	No	By-products of drinking water disinfection
Lead (ppb)	AL=15 (0)	90th	10.40 (ND - 34) 2 sample(s) exceeded AL	2015	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Copper (ppm)	AL=1.3 (1.3)	90th	0.155 (0.0113 - 0.453)	2015	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives
<b>950 - DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM</b>						
Chlorine (ppm)	MRDL=4.0 (MRDLG=4.0)	RAA	1.0 (0.25 - 1.92)	12/31/2015	No	Water additive used to control microbes
Fluoride (ppm)	4 (4)	RAA	0.36 (ND - 0.810)	03/31/2015	No	Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
<b>01 - TAP IN MHI HOUSE, EAST, #8</b>						
Combined Radium (pCi/L)	5 (0)	SGL	2.6	06/16/2015	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Arsenic (ppb)	10 (0)	SGL	2.30	06/04/2013	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronic production wastes
Fluoride (ppm)	4 (4)	SGL	0.4	06/04/2013	No	Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Barium (ppm)	2 (2)	SGL	0.533	06/04/2013	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Sodium (ppm)	N/A (N/A)	SGL	6.9	06/04/2013	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Added to water during treatment process
<b>03 - FINISHED WATER TAP AT WELL #3</b>						
Combined Radium (pCi/L)	5 (0)	SGL	1.7	05/08/2012	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Selenium (ppb)	50 (50)	SGL	3.50	06/04/2013	No	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from mines
Barium (ppm)	2 (2)	SGL	0.077	06/04/2013	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm)	4 (4)	SGL	0.2	06/04/2013	No	Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Thallium (ppb)	2 (0.5)	SGL	0.40	06/04/2013	No	Leaching from ore-processing sites; Discharge from electronics, glass, and drug factories

Sodium (ppm)	N/A (N/A)	SGL	5.8	06/04/2013	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Added to water during treatment process
04 - FINISHED WATER TAP AT WELL #4						
Barium (ppm)	2 (2)	SGL	0.139	06/04/2013	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm)	4 (4)	SGL	0.2	06/04/2013	No	Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Selenium (ppb)	50 (50)	SGL	1.80	06/04/2013	No	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from mines
Sodium (ppm)	N/A (N/A)	SGL	23.1	06/04/2013	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Added to water during treatment process
Nitrate [as N] (ppm)	10 (10)	SGL	7.100 (4.600 - 7.100)	2015	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
05 - FINISHED WATER TAP AT WELL #6						
Fluoride (ppm)	4 (4)	SGL	0.2	06/04/2013	No	Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Barium (ppm)	2 (2)	SGL	0.0631	06/04/2013	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Sodium (ppm)	N/A (N/A)	SGL	14.6	06/04/2013	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Added to water during treatment process
06 - FINISHED WATER TAP AT WELL #7						
Arsenic (ppb)	10 (0)	SGL	1.00	06/04/2013	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronic production wastes
Fluoride (ppm)	4 (4)	SGL	0.4	06/04/2013	No	Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Barium (ppm)	2 (2)	SGL	0.094	06/04/2013	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Sodium (ppm)	N/A (N/A)	SGL	8.7	06/04/2013	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Added to water during treatment process

Note: Contaminants with dates indicate results from the most recent testing done in accordance with regulations.

## DEFINITIONS

- Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) – 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 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.
- ppb -- parts per billion.
- ppm -- parts per million.
- pCi/L – picocuries per liter
- N/A – Not applicable
- ND -- Not detected
- RAA – Running Annual Average
- LRAA – Locational Running Annual Average
- Treatment Technique (TT) – A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
- Action Level (AL) – The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

- Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level goal (MRDLG) – The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLG's 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.
- SGL – Single Sample Result
- TCR – Total Coliform Rule

## GENERAL 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 posed a health risk. More information about contaminants or 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 chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorder, 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 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. INDEPENDENCE WATER DEPT 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 and 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>.

## ADDITIONAL HEALTH INFORMATION

Infants and young children are typically more vulnerable to lead in drinking water than the general population. It is possible that lead levels at your home may be higher than at other homes in the community as a result of materials used in your home's plumbing. If you are concerned about elevated lead levels in your home's water, you may wish to have your water tested and flush your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using tap water. Additional information is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 10 ppm is a health risk for infants of less than six months of age. High nitrate levels in drinking water can cause 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.

## OTHER VIOLATIONS

In September 2015 we failed to monitor for Nitrate. Adverse health effects, if any, are not known. Monitoring procedures have been corrected to avoid future violations.

## SOURCE WATER ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

The Independence water supply obtains its water from the dolomite and limestone of the Silurian-Ordovician aquifer. The Silurian-Ordovician aquifer was determined to be slightly susceptible to contamination because the characteristics of the aquifer and overlying materials provide moderate protection from contaminants at the land surface. Independence's Silurian-Ordovician wells will be slightly susceptible to surface contaminants such as leaking underground storage tanks, contaminated spills, and excess fertilizer application. A detailed evaluation of your source water was completed by the Iowa Department of Natural Resources, and is available from the Water Operator at 319-334-6285.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

For questions regarding this information or how you can get involved in decisions regarding the water system, please contact INDEPENDENCE WATER DEPT at 319-334-6285.