

We ask that our customers help us to protect our water resources, which are the heart of our community, our way of life and our children's future.

### **HOUSEHOLD TIPS FOR PROTECTING OUR DRINKING WATER SUPPLY**

- Reduce the amount of fertilizers, pesticides, or other hazardous chemicals that you use. Buy only what you need so that you don't have to dispose of leftovers. Read all the labels and follow directions.
- Use organic lawn and garden alternatives that do not contain synthetic chemical poisons. Reduce the use of products that contain any of the following words on their labels: caution, warning, danger, poison, flammable, volatile, caustic, or corrosive.
- Recycle used oil, automotive fluids, batteries, and other products. Don't dispose of hazardous products in toilets, storm drains, wastewater systems, creeks, alleys, or the ground. This pollutes the water supply.
- Store your household hazardous waste for Tox-Away Day, held each spring at the Putnam County Fairgrounds. For more information call 1-800-211-2750.

### **CALL BEFORE YOU DIG!**

Underground utilities may be dangerous if encountered while digging. Before digging holes on your property, for things such as putting in a new mailbox or planting trees and shrubs, call Holey Moley at 811. You must call at least two full working days before you dig to locate underground utilities.

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. Bainbridge Utilities 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 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>.

### **MORE INFORMATION**

- For more information on Wellhead Protection, contact Mr. Jim Nelson at (765) 522-6238.
- To learn more about groundwater protection and other drinking water resources, contact the Indiana Department of Environmental Management at (317) 308-3388 or visit their website at [www.in.gov/idem](http://www.in.gov/idem)

We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact Mr. Jim Nelson at (765) 522-6238. If you want to learn more, you are welcome to attend any of our regularly scheduled Utility Board meetings that are held on the second Thursday of each month at 6:00 PM.

**Bainbridge Utilities**  
**201 Grant Avenue**  
**Bainbridge, Indiana 46105**  
**(765) 522-6238**

**2009 Annual Drinking Water  
Quality Report**



**Bainbridge Utilities**  
*Bainbridge, Indiana*

Bainbridge Utilities is pleased to present this year's Annual Drinking Water Quality Report. This report is designed to keep you informed about the quality of your drinking water over the past year. Our goal is, and always has been, to provide you, the customer, with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We are pleased to report that our water is safe and meets all federal and state requirements.

### **WELLHEAD PROTECTION**

The source of Bainbridge's drinking water is groundwater produced from three wells located at two separate well fields. To help protect our water supply wells from potential contamination, Bainbridge Utilities is currently implementing a Wellhead Protection Plan. The Wellhead Protection Plan focuses on public awareness and education and spill prevention and reporting. Emergency responders have been trained in spill response procedures. Educational information has been mailed to landowners and businesses in and around the Wellhead Protection Areas. The Wellhead Protection Plan and other educational materials are available to the public at the Bainbridge Utilities Office.

## TABLE NOTES

<sup>(1)</sup> - Levels reported for copper and lead represent the 90th percentile value as calculated from a total of 10 samples.

<sup>(2)</sup> - Fluoride levels are monitored weekly. The level presented in the table represents the maximum level detected. The range of fluoride levels detected during 2009 was 0.9 to 1.2 PPM.

All analyses performed in 2009 except arsenic, barium, nickel, sodium, sulfate (tested in 2008) and radioactive constituents, (tested in 2002). The state allows us to monitor for some contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. Therefore, some of our data while representative, is more than one year

Sources of drinking water (both tap 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.

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 the 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 (800) 426-4791.

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, stormwater runoff, and residential uses.
- Organic chemicals, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems.
- Radioactive materials, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

## AVERAGE WATER QUALITY DATA FOR 2009

Bainbridge Utilities routinely monitors for constituents in your drinking water according to all Federal and State laws. The following table provides the results for only those constituents that were detected as part of our 2009 monitoring.

NAME OF SUBSTANCE	Violation Yes/No	Maximum Level Detected	Unit Measurement	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Substance in Drinking Water
<b><u>Radioactive Constituents</u></b>						
Gross Beta	No	3.1	pCi/L	0	50	Erosion of natural deposits.
<b><u>Inorganic Constituents</u></b>						
Arsenic	No	4.3	PPM	N/A	N/A	Erosion of natural deposits.
Barium	No	0.5	PPM	2	2	Erosion of natural deposits.
Nitrate	No	1.3	PPM	10	10	Erosion of natural deposits.
Copper	No	1.2 <sup>(1)</sup>	PPM	1.3	AL = 1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits.
Lead	No	0.0021 <sup>(1)</sup>	PPB	0	AL = 15	Corrosion of household plumbing, erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride	No	1.1 <sup>(2)</sup>	PPM	4	4	Water additive which promotes strong teeth.
Nickel	No	1.0	PPB	N/A	N/A	Erosion of natural deposits.
Sodium	No	24	PPM	N/A	N/A	Erosion of natural deposits, urban runoff.
Sulfate	No	1.2	PPM	N/A	N/A	Erosion of natural deposits.
<b><u>Disinfection Byproducts and Precursors</u></b>						
Total Trihalomethanes	No	6.7	PPB	0	80	Product of drinking water chlorination.
Total Haloacetic Acids	No	5.1	PPB	0	60	Product of drinking water chlorination.

Included in the table, you will find terms and abbreviations you might not be familiar with. To help you better understand these terms we've provided the following definitions:

### DEFINITIONS

**Not Applicable (N/A)** – no MCLG or MCL has been established for these unregulated constituents.

**Below the Detection Limit (BDL)** - constituent not detected in the sample.

**Parts Per Million (PPM)** - one part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in \$10,000.

**Parts Per Billion (PPB)** - one part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years or a single penny in \$10,000,000.

**Picocuries per liter (pCi/L)** - picocuries per liter is a measure of the radioactivity in water.

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

**Maximum Contaminant Level Goal** - The "Goal" (MCLG) is 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** - The "Maximum Allowed" (MCL) is 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. To understand the possible health effects described for many regulated constituents, a person would have to drink 2 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.