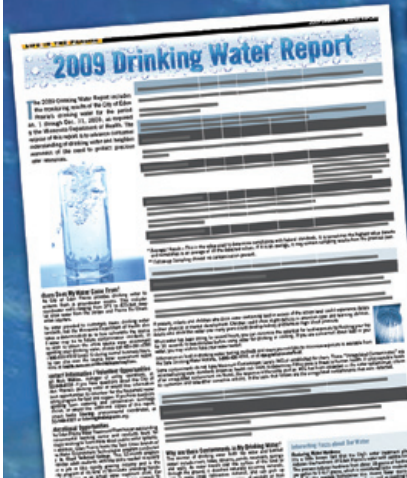


# LIFE IN THE PRAIRIE



## Inside This Special Edition:

**2009 Drinking Water Report**  
Data, facts and information about Eden Prairie's drinking water.

**2009 Annual Report**  
Statistics and information about the City's 2009 fiscal year.



2010 SPECIAL SUMMER ISSUE

## Permit Revenues on the Rebound

Historically, funds generated from licenses and permits for development projects have represented as much as 9 percent of the City's annual operating revenue.

These and other revenue sources, such as property taxes and charges for service, fund City support services, which includes administration, community development, fire, parks and recreation, police and public works.

As the United States economy struggled over the past few years, Eden Prairie saw a decline in development projects throughout the City, which resulted in a 48-percent decrease in revenues generated from development projects from the year 2006 to the year 2009.

"In 2006, the City generated more than \$2,500,000 in development revenue," said **Kevin Schmieg**, manager of building inspections. "And by 2009, that number dropped to just under \$1,300,000."

However, the year 2010 is showing positive signs of a change in this trend.

"The good news is, we're finally seeing development projects start to rebound in Eden Prairie," said Schmieg. "And the City's year-to-date development revenues for 2010 have spiked back to what they were four years ago."

As of June 1, 2010, the City of Eden Prairie issued 1,901 building permits for development projects totaling more than \$48,000,000 in value. As a result, year-to-date revenues have topped \$700,000 — a number that is trending back in line with year-to-date revenues in 2006.

Some of the projects currently underway in Eden Prairie include an interior/exterior remodel of the Walmart store on Singletree Lane and the construction of a new Menards store on Plaza Drive. Additional development activity includes several new business and retail locations, and hundreds of residential remodel and construction projects.

"We're glad to see a rebound in development and redevelopment projects throughout Eden Prairie," said City Manager **Scott Neal**. "It's a good sign for our City and the economy as a whole."



## Spotlight on City Staff

Each year, more than 200 men and women put their lives on the line to protect and serve the Eden Prairie community with duty, honor and courage. And each year, two of these brave public servants demonstrate the commitment, dedication and leadership it takes to be nominated and chosen to receive the honor of Eden Prairie Police Officer and Firefighter of the Year.

### Meet the 2009 Officer and Firefighter of the Year

In April 2010, the Eden Prairie Police Department proudly named Detective **Jim Lindgren** as the 2009 Police Officer of the Year.



In his 28 years of service with the Eden Prairie Police Department, Lindgren has demonstrated commitment to the community and the department through his work as a community service officer, school liaison officer, field training officer and investigator.

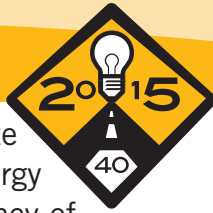


**Jim Lindgren**  
2009 Police Officer of the Year

*Our department is fortunate to have a detective like Jim. His positive attitude, patience and professionalism are appreciated by all of those he works with, both inside and outside the Police Department.*

Police Chief **Rob Reynolds**

## 20-40-15 Update



Throughout the first half of 2010, the City has been working to complete Phase Three of the **20-40-15** initiative, aimed at improving energy efficiency in City facilities by **20** percent, improving the fuel efficiency of the City's vehicle fleet by **40** percent and achieving these goals by the year **2015**.

### Phase Three

The City is on-track to wrap up the following changes and improvements by yearend 2010, which will complete Phase Three of the 20-40-15 initiative:

- The installation of a new, more efficient energy management system which will control all heating, ventilating and air conditioning units as well as most of the interior lighting at the City Center.
- The ice rink dehumidifier at the Community Center will be modified to make it more energy efficient.
- The replacement of three major pieces of cooling equipment at the City Center with more energy-efficient units.
- The replacement of parking lot lights at the Art Center and up to 12 park shelters with energy-efficient LED lighting.
- The addition of nine fuel-efficient (20+ MPG) vehicles to the City's fleet.

To accomplish the goals set forth in the 20-40-15 initiative, the City is working closely with **McKinstry Company**, a firm touted by President **Barack Obama** as a "model for the nation" for their work in retrofitting schools and office buildings throughout the country to make them more energy efficient.

### Next Phase

After the completion of Phase Three, City staff will work closely with McKinstry Company to explore possibilities for the next phase of the 20-40-15 initiative. Some of the projects that might be considered could include:

- Implementing many of the efficiency upgrades already completed at the City's 10 largest facilities at some of the City's smaller buildings such as the liquor stores, park shelters and historic buildings.
- Improving the efficiency of nearly 200 City-owned street lights.
- Exploring renewable energy sources.
- Exploring the cost-effectiveness and practicality of adding electric utility vehicles to the City's fleet.

In the year 2007, when the City of Eden Prairie began efforts to accomplish the 20-40-15 initiative, the goals set forth were designed to greatly improve the efficiency of the City's facilities and vehicle fleet. Now, more than half way into the program, Eden Prairie residents can be proud to live in a City that is leading the way toward more efficient and environmentally conscious operations.

### Progress Report

- ✓ Eden Prairie is one-third of the way toward its goal of improving energy efficiency in City facilities by **20** percent.
- ✓ Eden Prairie is one-half of the way toward its goal of improving the fuel efficiency of the City's vehicle fleet by **40** percent.
- ✓ Eden Prairie has 4.5 more years to accomplish these goals by the year **2015**.

## Park Cleanup Day 2009

On a warm April morning, hundreds of Eden Prairie residents and organizations stepped out and did their part to maintain the beauty of Eden Prairie's many miles of parks and trails. The City of Eden Prairie would like to thank all of those who participated in this year's **Park Cleanup Day!**



- Allied Waste Services**  
Amy Rice  
Cima Labs  
Cub Scout Pack 295  
Cub Scout Pack 479  
Boy Scout Troop 348  
Boy Scout Troop 370  
Boy Scout Troop 497  
Dave Rasmussen  
Duck Lake Association  
Eden Prairie a.m. Rotary  
Eden Prairie Environmental Club  
Eden Prairie Women of Today  
Frank Kendall  
Girl Scouts Grades 4, 5, 6  
Girl Scout Troop 10562

- Girl Scout Troop 12841  
Girl Scout Troop 13348  
Girl Scout Troop 14273  
Girl Scout Troop 14282  
Girl Scout Troop 14286  
Janna & Tobin Nord  
Jean Geiwitz  
Friends of Birch Island Woods  
Joyce & Jack Provo  
Julie Klein  
Katherine Hansen  
Kim Johnson  
Lifetouch, Inc.  
Mitchell Lake Association  
Mayor Phil Young  
Rebecca Breeding  
Susan Steibner

In June 2010, the Eden Prairie Fire Department proudly named Firefighter **Phil Jones** as the 2009 Firefighter of the Year.

In his eight years of service with the Eden Prairie Fire Department, Jones has consistently demonstrated dedication to the community and the department through his work as a firefighter and president of the Fire Relief Association.



**Phil Jones**  
2009 Firefighter of the Year

*Phil is a great asset to the department. He is willing to take on anything assigned to him, he consistently seeks out ways that he can help, and he puts the needs of the community and his fellow firefighters at the top of his priorities.*

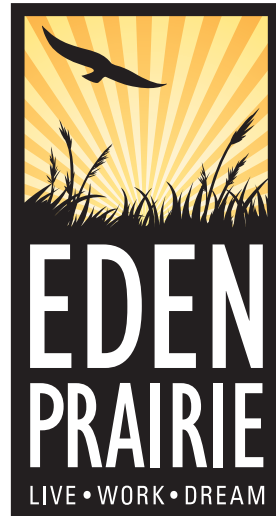
Fire Chief **George Esbensen**

# CITY

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Visit [edenprairie.org](http://edenprairie.org) and check it out today!



**MAYOR**  
Phil Young  
952-426-1931

**COUNCIL MEMBERS**  
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952-949-8300  
Ron Case  
952-949-0915  
Jon Duckstad  
952-903-0274  
Kathy Nelson  
952-941-6613

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# 2009 Annual Report

Fiscal Year Ended Dec. 31, 2009

City of Eden Prairie, Minnesota, USA

## A Message from the City Manager

The City of Eden Prairie has a long history of fiscal prudence and planning for future economic downturns. The success of this strategy is obvious when you look at how we've weathered the "Great Recession" so far.

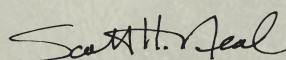
The last few years have been tough, but thanks to forward-looking City Councils past and present, and some strategic belt-tightening by City staff, we avoided a projected deficit of more than \$1-million in the 2009 budget, and actually came out in the black.

This 2009 Annual Financial Report reflects how we addressed our budget in a way that kept the City's tax levy at the 2008 level and figured out ways to avoid a large deficit.

Looking forward, we will have a similar challenge to take on in 2010 and 2011. Balancing city services and quality of life with city finances is a daunting challenge, but it's one worth taking on.

You can bet that we'll do our best to find the optimal balance.

Sincerely,



**Scott H. Neal**  
Your Friendly City Manager



Scott Neal

## City Services provided in 2009

- 1,346 fire calls
- 59,470 police service calls
- 2,112 building permits issued
- 5,241 property appraisals completed
- 43 parks, 114 miles of trails, 231 miles of city streets maintained
- Produced and distributed an average of 8 million gallons of water everyday
- More than 150,000 participants in Parks and Recreation programs
- 520,000 visitors to the Community Center



## City Finances

To manage the diverse activities of the City, several different funds or accounting entities are used to manage City finances. Following are the types of funds and activities included within each fund:

### Governmental Funds

The City uses these funds to account for tax-supported activities. The types of governmental funds are: special revenue funds, debt service funds, capital project funds and permanent funds.

### Proprietary Funds

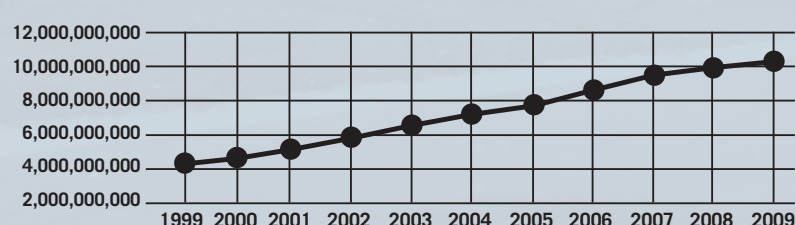
These funds are primarily supported by user fees from both internal and external customers.

Financial results for the General, Capital Project, Debt Service and Liquor Funds are provided in this report. The Liquor Fund is one of the City's Proprietary Funds.

### Market Value

For the past nine years, Eden Prairie's market value has averaged an increase of 10 percent per year. In 2009, the City saw an increase of just .6 percent, for a total market value of \$10,019,575,800.

### History of market value



### 2009 Homeowner Property Taxes

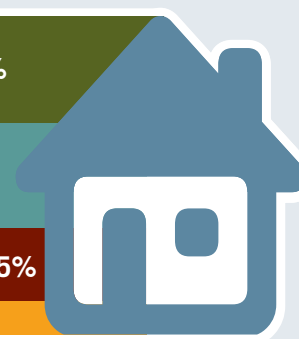
City taxes account for about one-fourth (25 percent) of property taxes, the remainder is comprised of taxes for the school district (34 percent), the county (33 percent) and other jurisdictions (8 percent).

Hennepin County = 33%

School District = 34%

City of Eden Prairie = 25%

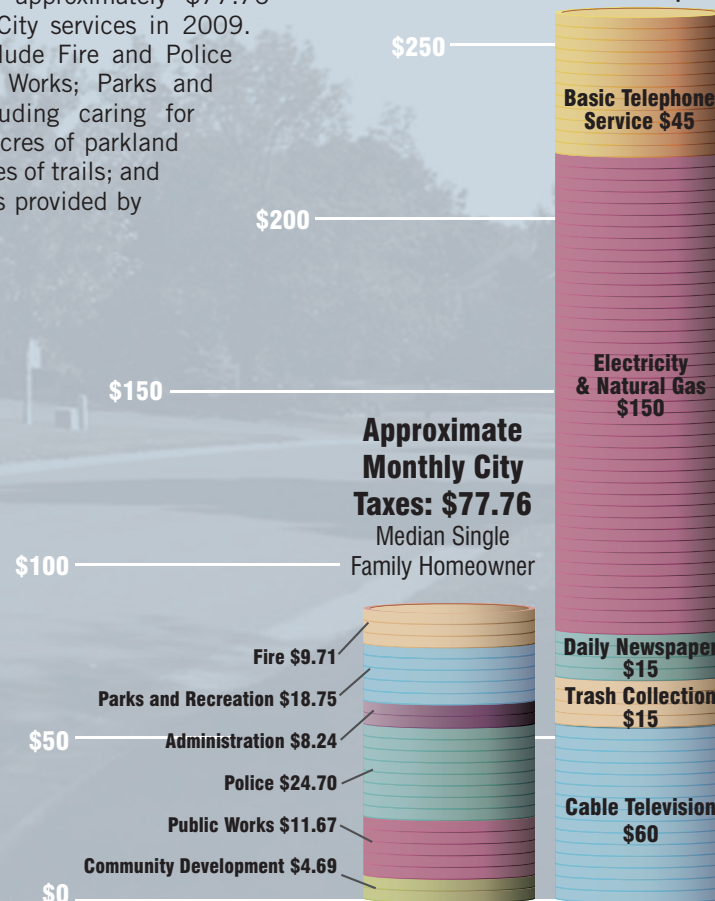
Other = 8%



### Your Tax Dollars at Work in 2009

The median single family homeowner in Eden Prairie paid approximately \$77.76 per month for all City services in 2009. These services include Fire and Police protection; Public Works; Parks and Recreation – including caring for more than 1,000 acres of parkland and nearly 114 miles of trails; and many other services provided by the City.

### Estimated Monthly Charges for Other Services: \$285





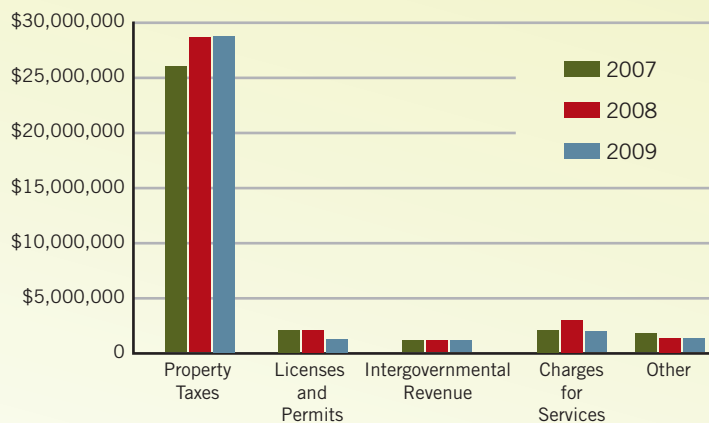
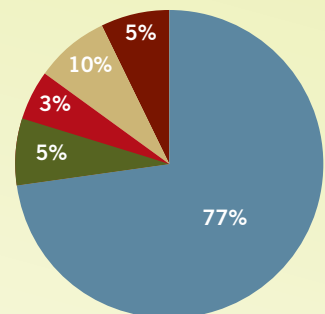
# General Fund

## Where the Money Comes From

General fund revenues for 2009 totaled \$36,094,154. This compares to \$37,951,609 for 2008. Revenues decreased by \$1,857,455 or 4.9 percent. The City of Eden Prairie has five components of revenue consisting of property taxes, licenses and permits, intergovernmental revenue, charges for service and other.

### General Fund Revenues

- Property Taxes
- Licenses and Permits
- Intergovernmental Revenue
- Charges for Services
- Other



### Property Taxes: \$27,987,435

The City's property tax is levied based on the value of property from the previous Jan. 1 as determined by the City Assessor. The property tax levy is established annually during the City budget process.

### Licenses and Permits: \$1,640,091

License and Permit revenue decreased in 2009 due mainly to building permits. The value of building permits issued decreased from \$111-million as of Dec. 31, 2008, to \$67-million as of Dec. 31, 2009, and the number of permits issued decreased by 932. Other permits also decreased due to the timing of payments received for rental housing inspections and liquor, beer and wine licenses.



### Intergovernmental Revenue: \$1,096,969

Police and fire pension aid accounts for \$726,396 of the total intergovernmental revenue and is \$58,738 or 7-percent less than 2008. The amount of aid received will fluctuate based on the amount available at the State.

### Charges for Services: \$3,506,697

The largest source of charges for services are amounts collected for the City's Parks and Recreation Department programs. Parks and Recreation revenue charges totaled \$3,469,376, which is \$496,019 or 17-percent more than 2008. This is due mainly to the increase in Community Center memberships, concessions and facilities rental. The expanded Community Center was reopened in May 2008. The general government portion of charges for services decreased in 2009 due to common area maintenance charges to C.H. Robinson and the school district. This financial activity is now accounted for in the facilities internal service fund.

### Other: \$1,862,962

Other revenue includes cable TV franchise fees, \$746,865; fines and penalties, \$437,104; investment earnings, \$262,331; and miscellaneous revenue, \$416,662.

## How the Money is Spent

For the year ended Dec. 31, 2009, general fund expenditures equaled \$35,831,087. This compares to \$36,361,000 for 2008. Expenditures decreased by \$529,913 or 1.5 percent. The City of Eden Prairie consists of six departments including Administration, Community Development, Fire, Parks and Recreation, Police and Public Works.

### Administration: \$3,487,942

Administration includes City Clerk, Communications, Customer Service, Finance, Human Resources, Legislative and Legal. The significant decrease in Administration expenditures is due to the implementation of the Facilities Internal Service Fund which now tracks and allocates general facilities expenditures to the appropriate funds and internal functions.

### Community Development: \$2,020,142

Community Development includes Planning, Assessing, Economic Development, and Housing and Community Services. Services provided include comprehensive planning, homestead applications, promotion of business growth and retention, and affordable housing. Expenditures are similar to 2008.

### Fire: \$4,543,532

The Fire Department consists of volunteer firefighters, inspections and emergency preparedness. Expenditures increased 13 percent due to personnel costs and the new Facilities user charge.

### Parks and Recreation: \$8,712,335

The Parks and Recreation Department is responsible for providing and maintaining the parks and open space system, wildlife management, forestry management, maintenance of the park and trail properties, and recreation programs. Parks and Recreation expenditures increased 43 percent in 2009. The increase in Parks and Recreation is due to the completion of the Community Center expansion and the new Facilities user charge.

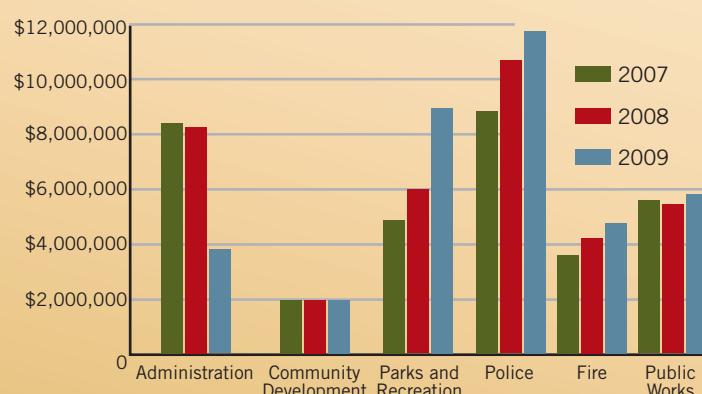
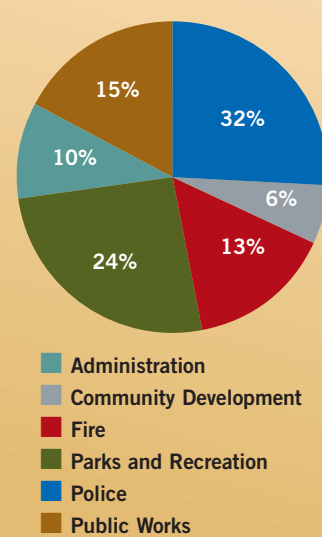
### Police: \$11,675,910

The Police Department consists of police officers, dispatch, animal control and administration. Expenditures increased 10 percent due to the new Facilities user charge and the increase in personnel costs. Personnel costs make up 77 percent of the total expenditures for Police.

### Public Works: \$5,391,226

The Public Works Department includes Engineering, Street Maintenance and Street Lighting. The Public Works Department is responsible for the design, construction and maintenance of the streets. Expenditures increased 3 percent due to personnel costs and the new Facilities user charge.

### General Fund Expenditures



## Capital Improvement Projects

As part of the City's ongoing commitment to provide a quality of life that ensures the success and vitality of the area, investments in community and capital improvements are made each year. For 2009, the City spent \$11,916,370 on capital.

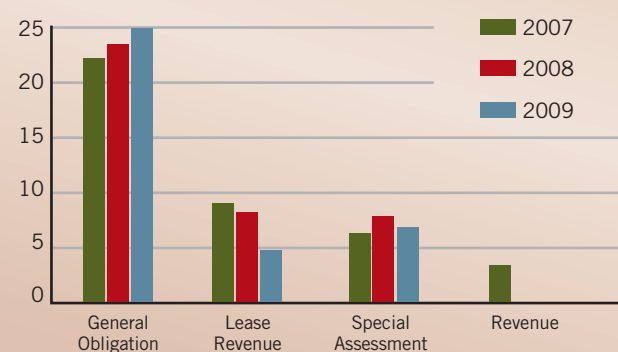
### Significant projects include:

Water Plant Roof Replacement	\$1,531,937
Well Field #16 Expansion	\$796,969
Well Flow Restoration	\$198,602
CSAH 1 (Pioneer Trail)	\$2,502,380
Round Lake Park Tennis Courts	\$286,483
Play Equipment - Miller Park	\$113,343
Ice Resurfacer	\$77,938
Police and Fire Software	\$785,149
20-40-15 Initiative	\$591,302
Fire Engine #5	\$485,500
City Center Roof Replacement	\$598,165



## Long-Term Debt

For the year ended Dec. 31, 2009, the City's outstanding long-term debt was \$36,545,000, which is a \$2,089,000 or 5 percent decrease over 2008 debt of \$38,634,000. For 2009, \$2.5-million of equipment notes were issued for the regional radio system and 20-40-15 initiative. The City also issued \$1.4-million of general obligation refunding CIP bonds for the Flying Cloud Drive project. These bonds refunded the general obligation facility lease revenue bonds of 2000A. The City also issued \$3.2-million of general obligation refunding lease revenue bonds. These bonds refunded the lease revenue bonds of 2002A. These two refunding bonds reduced future debt service payments by \$206,077 and resulted in an economic gain of \$199,288.



## Liquor Fund

The City operates three municipal liquor stores and has one of the largest municipal off-sale operations in Minnesota. Liquor profits contribute to the financial well-being of the City by funding important City capital projects. Also, the City is committed to restricting youth access to alcohol in Eden Prairie. The City believes the municipal-owned liquor operations help to protect the health and safety of youth by placing emphasis on preventing sales to underage people.

Liquor sales increased 4 percent over 2008 to \$11,465,568 and profits of \$800,000 were transferred to the Capital Improvement Plan.

Various projects funded include pavement management, Community Center ice resurfacer, Miller Park play structure replacement, Round Lake Park tennis courts renovations, trails, etc. Liquor profits provide an alternative funding source and therefore reduce property taxes. From 1998 to 2009, liquor operations contributed more than \$7-million to capital projects.



## About this Report

The information for this report was taken from the City of Eden Prairie's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR), which was prepared in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) and applicable legal requirements for the year ended Dec. 31, 2009. The purpose of this information is to inform citizens of the City's financial activity. This information does not replace the CAFR; it is meant as a supplement to provide a better understanding of the City's overall financial conditions. For a complete review of the City's financial position for 2009, consult the CAFR, available at [edenprairie.org](http://edenprairie.org) or from the City. Call 952-949-8300 for more information.

## Awards

The City received the following awards (valid for one year only) from the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA):

- Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for the CAFR for the year ended Dec. 31, 2008.
- Distinguished Budget Presentation award for its Two Year Budget for the fiscal years beginning Jan. 1, 2010 and 2011.
- Award for Outstanding Achievement in Popular Annual Financial Reporting for the fiscal year ended Dec. 31, 2008.



# 2009 Drinking Water Report

The 2009 Drinking Water Report includes the monitoring results of the City of Eden Prairie's drinking water for the period Jan. 1 through Dec. 31, 2009, as required by the Minnesota Department of Health. The purpose of this report is to advance consumer understanding of drinking water and heighten awareness of the need to protect precious water resources.



## Where Does My Water Come From?

The City of Eden Prairie provides drinking water to residents from a groundwater source. This includes groundwater wells ranging from 379 to 420-feet deep that draw water from the Jordan and Prairie Du Chien-Jordan aquifers.

The water provided to customers meets drinking water standards, but the Minnesota Department of Health also makes a determination as to how vulnerable the source of water may be to future contamination incidents. If you wish to obtain the entire source water assessment regarding your drinking water, please call **651-201-4700** or **800-818-9318** (press 5) during normal business hours. You can also view the source water assessment report online at [health.state.mn.us/divs/eh/water/swp/swa](http://health.state.mn.us/divs/eh/water/swp/swa).

## Contact Information / Volunteer Opportunities

Call **Rick Wahlen**, manager of utility operations, at **952-949-8530** if you have questions about the City of Eden Prairie's drinking water or would like information about opportunities to volunteer for the household water testing program for lead and copper. If you have questions regarding lawn watering and conservation surcharge policies, or would like additional copies of this report, contact **Leslie Stovring**, environmental coordinator, at **952-949-8327** or [lstovring@edenprairie.org](mailto:lstovring@edenprairie.org).

## Educational Opportunities

The Eden Prairie Water Treatment Plant has an outstanding environmental learning center and conducts tours for groups wishing to learn more about public water systems. In addition, Eden Prairie hosts the Twin Cities branch of the Water Environment Technologies program conducted by **St. Cloud Technical College**. This 12-month program provides adult students with the skills needed to qualify for a job in this rapidly growing industry and is the only program of its kind in Minnesota providing hands-on experience in an actual water treatment plant. For more information on this program, please contact St. Cloud Technical College at **800-222-1009**, or instructors **Bill Spain** at [bspain@sctc.edu](mailto:bspain@sctc.edu) or **Keith Redmond** at [kredmond@sctc.edu](mailto:kredmond@sctc.edu).

## Water Quality Monitoring Results

No contaminants were detected at levels that violated federal drinking water standards; however, some contaminants were detected in trace amounts that were below legal limits. The tables that follow show the contaminants that were detected in trace amounts during the 2009 calendar year. Some contaminants are sampled less often than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. As a result, not all contaminants were sampled for in 2009. If any of these contaminants were detected the last time they were sampled for, they are included in the table along with the date that the detection occurred.

## Key to Abbreviations

**AL** — Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant, which if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirement that a water system must follow.

**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.

**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.

**MRDL** — Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level.

**MRDLG** — Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal.

**N/A** — Not Applicable (does not apply).

**90<sup>th</sup> Percentile Level** — This is the value obtained after disregarding 10 percent of the samples taken that had the highest levels. For example, in a situation in which 10 samples were taken, the 90<sup>th</sup> percentile level is determined by disregarding the highest result, which represents 10 percent of the samples. Note: In situations where only five samples are taken, the average of the two with the highest levels is taken to determine the 90<sup>th</sup> percentile level.

**ppb** — Parts per billion, which can also be expressed as micrograms per liter ( $\mu$  g/l).

**ppm** — Parts per million, which can also be expressed as milligrams per liter (mg/l).

Contaminant (units)	MRDLG	MRDL	****	*****	Typical Source of Contaminant
Chlorine (ppm)	4	4	0.6 – 1.3	0.85	Water additive used to control microbes.
**** Highest and Lowest Monthly Average ***** Highest Quarterly Average					

Contaminant (units)	MCLG	MCL	Level Found Range (2009)	Average / Result*	Typical Source of Contaminant
<b>Radioactive Contaminants</b>					

Alpha Emitters (pCi/l) (10/24/2002)	0	15.4	N/A	1.0	Erosion of natural deposits.
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<b>Inorganic Contaminants</b>					
Fluoride (ppm)	4.0	4.0	0.84 – 1.1	0.9	State of Minnesota requires all municipal water systems to add fluoride to the drinking water to promote strong teeth. Also erosion of natural deposits and discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.

<b>Volatile Organic Contaminants</b>					
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (ppb)	0	60.0	N/A	8.4	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
TTHM (Total trihalomethanes) (ppb)	0	80.0	N/A	20	Byproduct of drinking water chlorination.

<b>Microbiological Contaminants</b>					
Total Coliform Bacteria	0 present	>5% present	N/A	1%	Naturally present in the environment.

\* Average / Result – This is the value used to determine compliance with federal standards. It is sometimes the highest value detected and sometimes is an average of all the detected values. If it is an average, it may contain sampling results from the previous year.

\*\* Follow-up Sampling showed no contamination present.

Contaminant (units)	MCLG	AL	90% Level	# sites over AL	Typical Source of Contaminant
<b>Inorganic Contaminants – Source Water (Household Testing)</b>					

Copper (ppm)	N/A	1.3	0.04	0 out of 30	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits.
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Lead	N/A	15	3	0 out of 30	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits.
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If present, infants and children who drink water containing lead in excess of the action level could experience delays in their physical or mental development. Children could show slight deficits in attention span and learning abilities. Adults who drink this water over many years could develop kidney problems or high blood pressure.

When 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 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, **1-800-426-4791**, or at [epa.gov/safewater/lead](http://epa.gov/safewater/lead).

Some contaminants do not have Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs) established for them. These "Unregulated Contaminates" are assessed using state standards known as health risk limits to determine if they pose a threat to human health. If unacceptable levels of an unregulated contaminant are found, the response is the same as if an MCL has been exceeded — the water system must inform its customers and take other corrective actions. In the table that follows are the unregulated contaminants that were detected.

Contaminant (units)	Level Found Range (2009)	Average/Result	Typical Source of Contaminant
<b>Unregulated Contaminants</b>			
Sodium (ppm) (10/16/2006)	N/A	8.7	Erosion of natural deposits.
Sulfate (ppm) (10/16/2006)	N/A	21.9	Erosion of natural deposits.

## Why are There Contaminants in My Drinking Water?

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.

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 **1-800-426-4791**.

### 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 storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, and mining or farming.

**Pesticides and herbicides**, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff and residential uses.

**Organic chemical contaminants**, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban storm water 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, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

## Interesting Facts About Our Water

### Reducing Water Hardness

It's a little known fact that the City's Water Treatment Plant reduces the hardness of Eden Prairie's water with pebble lime. The process reduces hardness from about 18 grains of hardness per gallon to 5 to 7 grains, which is considered to be moderately hard. To the average homeowner this means fewer stains or build-up in sinks, tubs and toilet bowls, as well as needing less soap to wash dishes and clothes, or to bathe. This happens because lime raises the pH of the water, and the higher the pH the more hardness is removed. Due to the reduced hardness, water softeners are not necessary in Eden Prairie; however, homeowners may still choose to soften their water more.

### Adding Fluoride

Trace amounts of fluoride are added to our water system for the prevention of tooth decay. The State of Minnesota regulates the amount of fluoride in municipal water, which must be in the range of about 0.9–1.4ppm (parts per million). The Eden Prairie Water Treatment Plant keeps the dosage around 1ppm. Fluoride is tested at the plant every three to four hours for its concentration, and daily samples are collected by field crews from various points in the distribution system. The treatment plant submits a monthly fluoride report to the Minnesota Department of Health listing daily averages and sample point results.



Eden Prairie Water Treatment Plant

## Do I need to take special precautions?

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised individuals, such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have had organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, and certain elderly individuals and infants, can be at higher risk of infection. These individuals should seek advice about drinking water from their healthcare providers. Environmental Protection Agency and Centers for Disease Control guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at **1-800-426-4791**.