



City of Edina Drinking Water Report 2006

Your Drinking Water Is Certified Safe

The City of Edina's goal is to provide you with high-quality, safe, reliable drinking water that surpasses state and federal requirements. Test results from monitoring done in 2006 show that the City is achieving that goal.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Minnesota Department of Health have identified many chemicals and other substances that might pose a risk to humans. When a contaminant is thought to pose a risk, these agencies set upper limits for safe human consumption.

This special report contains the City's annual water quality report, which includes complete information on the monitoring done on Edina drinking water last year. Residents in Edina's Morningside Neighborhood who receive their water from the City of Minneapolis will find information detailing the quality of Minneapolis water on pages 9-12.

Please review the report. If you have any questions or would like more information, contact the Edina Public Works Department, 952-826-0311.

Look Inside For
Important Information
About Lawn Sprinkling

Photo by Jeff Syme

Follow City's Guidelines For Lawn-Watering

Spring rainfall can be unpredictable. To ensure an adequate water supply, the City of Edina has an odd-even sprinkling policy. Homes with even-numbered addresses may water their lawns before 11 a.m. or after 5 p.m. on even-numbered dates of the week. Homes with odd-numbered addresses may water before 11 a.m. or after 5 p.m. on odd-numbered dates. So, the family living at 4532 Parkside Lane could water their lawn on even-numbered dates – July 18, 20, 22 and so on.

To ensure adequate water supply and promote water conservation, the City has a daytime irrigation ban. Watering is banned from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily, reducing water wasted through evaporation and allowing pumps to refill water storage facilities for peak evening use.

Permits are available to allow proper watering of new sod or seeded areas. Daily watering of new sod and seed is recommended for the first 14 days to establish root growth. After two weeks, normal watering should be sufficient for establishing a new lawn. The planting of new sod or seed during very dry times of the year is discouraged. Permits may be obtained from Edina Public Works, 5146 Eden Ave.

Surcharges for violating the irrigation ban are determined based on the number of water restriction violations issued to the property owner in a three-year period. A written warning will be issued for a first offense. Second offense is \$50; third offense, \$100; fourth, \$200; and each additional offense, \$300.

Residents who live in Edina's Morningside Neighborhood and receive their water from the City of Minneapolis or those with private wells are not affected. Morningside Neighborhood residents must adhere to any restrictions issued by Minneapolis.

Utilities Superintendent Roger Glanzer reminds property owners that some automatic sprinkler systems must be reset at the end of months that have 31 days because there are two odd-numbered dates in a row.

Glanzer pointed out that rain sensors can be purchased for automatic sprinkler systems. A rain sensor is a device that shuts off a sprinkler system if rain is detected. Quickly repairing or disabling broken water heads can also minimize utility bills.

Glanzer also offers the following tips for effective watering:

- Do your lawn sprinkling early in the morning, between 4 and 6 a.m., when water demand is low. After about 10 a.m., both heat and evaporation go up, robbing the lawn of moisture.
- Water your lawn when it needs it, rather than on a set schedule. One sign that a lawn needs water is when it lacks enough moisture to spring back after you walk on it. If it stays flat, it is time to water.
- Adjust lawn watering to the weather. Following a heavy rain, skip your regular watering day until the grass needs it again.
- Check sprinkler heads periodically to make sure they haven't shifted direction to spray water on the side of a building, parking lot or sidewalk instead of the lawn.

Because the City is not using one of its seasonal wells this year, further water restrictions might be put into place if the weather becomes exceptionally dry for an extended period of time. Further restrictions could include an all-out watering ban.

For more information, contact Glanzer, 952-826-0311.

Public Works Staff Begins Plans For 'Well- Deserved' Upgrade

By Doug Leskee

One of the newest houses being built in Edina has no furniture, a fake front door and a lot of water in the basement.

The City of Edina is upgrading Well No. 3 in the 5200 block of Halifax Avenue, south of West 50th Street. The old wooden structure surrounding the well was built in 1946 and, according to Edina Utilities Superintendent Roger Glanzer, is the oldest pump house in Edina.

The current building surrounding the well will be torn down this fall and a new structure, made to look like a house, will replace it. The new house-like building will blend in with the existing neighborhood. It will have fake doors and windows, so from the street people won't know that it surrounds a well. Community meetings will be held so neighbors can comment.



Several other cities have built house-like structures around wells. This water treatment plant is located in Savage.

The idea is "...to not be able to tell the well house apart from the other houses in the neighborhood when you drive by it," said Glanzer. "We simply want it to blend into the rest of the neighborhood." When the pump house is complete, it will have a one-story, pitched roof, a one-car garage and landscaping to match other houses in the neighborhood.

Not only is the outside getting a redo, but the well itself is having a \$250,000 makeover, including a well pump that Glanzer hopes will boost the current pumping capacity to nearly 1,000 gallons of water per minute. It currently pumps about 800 gallons per minute. Well No. 3 is one of the smaller wells in Edina, but still plays an important role in supplying water during the hot summer months.



At press time, a final design for the structure around Well No. 3 had not yet been decided. Here is an early artist's rendering.

There are three wells that are located in residential neighborhoods but this one is the oldest. Both of the other residential neighborhood wells were remodeled in the 1990s and aren't due for an upgrade any time soon.

There are some things that cannot be avoided when building a new house. The reconstruction of the well is such that "...it will cause some extra noise to the neighborhood along with some added traffic," said Glanzer, "but will be appreciated by everyone involved once the project is completed." With the addition of the new pump and one-of-a-kind building, Glanzer hopes that the well will be able to provide fresh water to the City of Edina for the next several decades.

Construction is expected to begin in September and be complete by June 2008.

For more information, contact Glanzer, 952-826-0311.

City Continues Work On Three Well Projects

By Christina Scipioni

The Edina Public Works Department continues work this year on three well projects that will help the City maintain its high water-quality standards. Two wells are being rehabilitated and one is being built.

“We rehabilitate wells annually to ensure that each well is able to efficiently pump water,” said Roger Glanzer, Utilities Superintendent. This year, Wells No. 3 and 10 are being refurbished.

Work on Well No. 3, located in the 5200 block of Halifax Avenue, is scheduled to begin in September. The \$500,000 project is scheduled to be finished in June 2008. During reconstruction, the current building surrounding the well will be torn down and a new structure, made to look like a house, will replace it.

During the rehabilitation process, the contractor will follow the 500-foot shaft into the ground. Then, the crew will pull the motor and pump up and rebuild or replace any damaged parts. Crews will also clean the well shaft and videotape it to check for possible damage.

Sometimes, when wells are being rehabilitated, dynamite is used to create a larger cavity at the base of the well. This process creates more water around the pump, which makes it easier for it to draw water. Glanzer said the contractor will most likely have to do this at Well No. 3.

Crews began working on Well No. 10, located on Fred Richards Executive Golf Course, in February and are nearing completion of the project. This well is used throughout the year and is rehabilitated about every seven years. The cost for this project is about \$236,000.

The City will drill a new well near the intersection of Minnesota Highway 62 and Gleason Road at Bredesen Park. Well No. 20 will replace Well No. 7, which is being abandoned due to potentially unsafe levels of contaminants. It will cost about \$800,000 to drill the new well and build a well house around it.

Tests from nearby Well No. 16 indicate that the water found at Well No. 20 will be of high quality and will last for a long time, Glanzer said. This well will need to be rehabilitated every seven to 15 years, depending on usage.

According to Glanzer, these projects will ensure an adequate water supply for the City’s residents and businesses.

For more information, contact Roger Glanzer, 952-826-0311 or rglanzer@ci.edina.mn.us.

CONTAMINANT (units)	LEVEL FOUND		TYPICAL SOURCE OF CONTAMINANT
	Range (2006)	Average / Result	
Sodium (ppm)	N/A	15	Erosion of natural deposits.
Sulfate (ppm)	N/A	30.8	Erosion of natural deposits.

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 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 are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 800-426-4791.

2006 Edina Drinking Water Report

The City of Edina is issuing the results of monitoring done on its drinking water for the period from January 1 to December 31, 2006. The purpose of this report is to advance consumers' understanding of drinking water and heighten awareness of the need to protect precious water resources.

Source of Water

The City of Edina provides drinking water to its residents from a groundwater source: 15 wells ranging from 380 to 1080 feet deep that draw water from the Mt. Simon, Jordan, and Prairie Du Chien-Jordan aquifers.

The water provided to customers may meet drinking water standards but the Minnesota Department of Health has determined that one or more of the sources of water is potentially susceptible to contamination. If you wish to obtain the entire source water assessment regarding your drinking water, please call 651-201-4700 or 1-800-818-9318 (and press 5) during normal business hours. Also, you can view it online at www.health.state.mn.us/divs/eh/water/swp/swa.

Call 952-826-0311 if you have questions about the City of Edina drinking water or would like information about opportunities for public participation in decisions that may affect the quality of the water.

Results of Monitoring

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 table that follows shows the contaminants that were detected in trace amounts last year. (Some contaminants are sampled less frequently than once a year; as a result, not all contaminants were sampled for in 2006. 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.)

Compliance With National Primary Drinking Water Regulations

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, the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) prescribes regulations which 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.

CONTAMINANT (units)	MCLG	MCL	LEVEL FOUND Range (2006)	Average/ Result*	TYPICAL SOURCE OF CONTAMINANT	MEETS STDS.
Alpha Emitters (pCi/l)	0	15.4	nd-13.4	13.1	Erosion of natural deposits.	✓
Arsenic (ppb) (07/23/2003)	0	10	N/A	3.46	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronics production wastes.	✓
Barium (ppm) (07/23/2003)	2	2	N/A	.14	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits.	✓
Combined Radium (pCi/l)	0	5.4	nd-8.6	7.85	Erosion of natural deposits.	✓
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	.99-1.1	1.02	State of Minnesota requires all municipal water systems to add fluoride to the drinking water to promote strong teeth; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.	✓
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (ppb)	0	60	N/A	6.3	By-product of drinking water disinfection.	✓
TTHM (Total trihalomethanes) (ppb)	0	80	N/A	15.4	By-product of drinking water disinfection.	✓

**This is the value used to determine compliance with federal standards. It sometimes is 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.*

Four quarterly samples are required to determine an average compliance value for this contaminant. At the end of 2006, only two samples had been taken at the treatment plant with elevated results. As a result, there is not a violation for this contaminant.

KEY TO ABBREVIATIONS:

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.

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

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 at 800-426-4791.

CONTAMINANT (units)	LEVEL FOUND Range (2006)	Average / Result*	TYPICAL SOURCE OF CONTAMINANT	MEETS STDS.
Radon (pCi/l) (07/09/2002)	N/A	223.0	Erosion of natural deposits.	✓

**This is the value used to determine compliance with federal standards. It sometimes is 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.*

Radon is a radioactive gas which is naturally occurring in some groundwater. It poses a lung cancer risk when gas is released from water into air (as occurs during showering, bathing, or washing dishes or clothes) and a stomach cancer risk when it is ingested. Because radon in indoor air poses a much greater health risk than radon in drinking water, an Alternative Maximum Contaminant Level (AMCL) of 4,000 pCi/l may apply in states that have adopted an Indoor Air Program, which compels citizens, homeowners, schools and communities to reduce the radon threat from indoor air. For states without such a program, the Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) of 300 pCi/l may apply. Minnesota plans to adopt an Indoor Air Program once the Radon Rule is finalized.

CONTAMINANT (units)	MRDLG	MRDL	***	*****	TYPICAL SOURCE OF CONTAMINANT
Chlorine (ppm)	4	4	1-1.2	1.11	Water additive used to control microbes.

****Highest and Lowest Monthly Average. *****Highest Quarterly Average.*

CONTAMINANT (units)	MCLG	AL	90% LEVEL	# SITES OVER AL	TYPICAL SOURCE OF CONTAMINANT	MEETS STDS.
Copper (ppm) (7/28/2004)	N/A	1.3	0.74	0 out of 30	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits.	✓
Lead (ppb) (07/28/2004)	N/A	15	9	1 out of 30	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits.	✓

Some contaminants do not have Maximum Contaminant Levels established for them. These "unregulated contaminants" 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 (2006)	Average / Result	TYPICAL SOURCE OF CONTAMINANT
Sodium (ppm) (07/14/2004)	N/A	5.4	Erosion of natural deposits.
Sulfate (ppm) (07/14/2004)	N/A	8.7	Erosion of natural deposits.

Learn How To Read Your Water Meter

Knowing how to read your water meter will help you keep an eye on your conservation efforts, check for leaks and keep your water bill low.

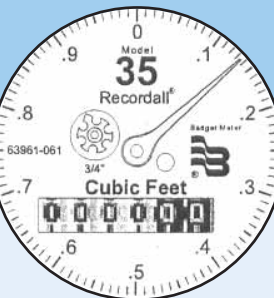
Monitor your usage by reading your meter regularly. Check for leaks by turning off all the taps in your home and then looking at the meter. If the meter is still turning, chances are you have a leak somewhere.

Your meter is located near your main water shut-off inside your home. It is a straight meter that reads like an odometer. It shows

the total number of gallons used since the meter was installed. Your meter is read by radio-control by a City vehicle in the street, so that you aren't bothered letting a City staff member into your home for reading.

To find out how much water you've used in any given period, subtract the reading from the first day of the period from your next reading. Edina meters record usage in cubic feet. One cubic foot equals about 7.5 gallons.

For more information, call Utilities Superintendent Roger Glanzer, 952-826-0311.



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 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 are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 800-426-4791.

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Source Of Water

The City of Minneapolis provides drinking water to its residents from a surface water source: surface water drawn from the Mississippi River.

The water provided to customers may meet drinking water standards, but the Minnesota Department of Health has determined that one or more of the sources of water is potentially susceptible to contamination. If you wish to obtain the entire source water assessment regarding your drinking water, please call 651-201-4670 or 1-800-818-9318 (and press 5) during normal business hours. Also, you can view it online at www.health.state.mn.us/divs/eh/water/swp/swa.

Call 612-661-4999 if you have questions about the City of Minneapolis drinking water or would like information about opportunities for public participation in decisions that may affect the quality of the water.

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Compliance With National Primary Drinking Water Regulations

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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, the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) prescribes regulations which 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.

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 at 800-426-4791.

CONTAMINANT (units)	MCLG	MCL	LEVEL FOUND Range (2006)	Average / Result*	TYPICAL SOURCE OF CONTAMINANT	MEETS STDS.
Alpha Emitters (pCi/l) (04/17/2002)	0	15.4	N/A	.4	Erosion of natural deposits.	✓
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	.91-1.2	1.07	State of Minnesota requires all municipal water systems to add fluoride to the drinking water to promote strong teeth; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.	✓
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (ppb)	0	60	.7-36	27.42	By-product of drinking water disinfection.	✓
Nitrate (as Nitrogen) (ppm)	10	10	N/A	.84	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.	✓
TTHM (Total trihalomethanes) (ppb)	0	80	8.4-34.9	34.53	By-product of drinking water disinfection.	✓
Total Coliform Bacteria	0 present	>5% present	N/A	1%	Naturally present in the environment.	✓

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KEY TO ABBREVIATIONS:

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.

TT—Treatment Technique: A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

NTU—Nephelometric Turbidity Unit: Used to measure clarity in drinking water.

MRDL—Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level.

MRDLG—Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal.

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

90th 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 90th percentile level is determined by disregarding the highest result, which represents 10 percent of the samples.) Note: In situations in which only 5 samples are taken, the average of the two with the highest levels is taken to determine the 90th percentile level.

pCi/l—PicoCuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity).

ppb—Parts per billion, which can also be expressed as micrograms per liter (1g/l).

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

nd—No Detection.

N/A—Not Applicable (does not apply).

CONTAMINANT (units)	MRDLG	LEVEL FOUND MRDL	**	***	TYPICAL SOURCE OF CONTAMINANT
Turbidity (NTU)	N/A	TT			Soil runoff.

****Lowest Monthly Percentage of Samples Meeting the Turbidity Limits. ***Highest Single Measurement.**

Turbidity is a measure of the clarity of the water. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filtration system.

CONTAMINANT (units)	MRDLG	LEVEL FOUND MRDL	****	*****	TYPICAL SOURCE OF CONTAMINANT
Chlorine (ppm)	4	4	1.7-3	2.84	Water additive used to control microbes.

******Highest and Lowest Monthly Average. *****Highest Quarterly Average.**

CONTAMINANT STDS.	MCLG	AL	90% LEVEL (units)	# SITES OVER AL	TYPICAL SOURCE OF CONTAMINANT	MEETS STDS.
Copper (ppm)	N/A	1.3	0.12	0 out of 50	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits.	✓
Lead (ppb)	N/A	15	5	3 out of 50	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits.	✓

Lead—Infants and young children are typically more vulnerable to lead in drinking water than the general population. The lead levels in your water system were found to be in compliance with drinking water standards; however, 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 two minutes before using tap water. Additional information is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 800-426-4791.

Some contaminants do not have Maximum Contaminant Levels established for them. These "unregulated contaminants" 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:

Glanzer Presented 2006 Superintendent Of The Year Award

The Minnesota Public Works Association (MPWA) presented Edina Utilities Superintendent Roger Glanzer with its 2006 Superintendent of the Year Award.



Roger Glanzer

Since coming to Edina in 2001, Glanzer has overseen many large-scale projects, including implementation of a status system for City water and sewer systems and a Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition System, coordination of a \$3 million to \$5 million per year Utility Capital Improvement Program, the rehabilitation of two water treatment plants, numerous well redevelopments and upgrades, and many lift station upgrades.

"Roger has been able to implement new and different ideas within the City," said Wayne Houle, Director of Public Works and

City Engineer. "His leadership has turned a \$7.7 million Utility Department from a reactive style of management to a proactive style."

Glanzer holds a bachelor's degree in Public Administration from Metropolitan State University. Before coming to Edina, he worked for the public works departments in the cities of Woodbury and Little Canada.

Glanzer leads a department that includes Foreman Jerry Hershey, Bruce Dehn, Matt Egan, Jim Friedrichs, Jim Halverson, Steve Hamer, Mark Jungwirth, Pete Lucht, Dick Oestreich, Ray Phillips, Bart Voth and Gary Wells.

City Advises Residents To Carry Insurance For Sewer Back-Ups

Only a small percentage of sewer backups in Edina are caused by problems in City sewer lines. The City of Edina is not responsible or liable for a sewer blockage unless there is a clear demonstration of negligence on its part.

Sewer backups are sometimes caused by roots or a build-up of grease and soap residue in your sewer line. Weather-related problems or electricity loss are other possible causes.

Coverage for backups of sewers and basement drains is available, but not always included in a basic homeowner's insurance policy. In addition, insurance companies that do offer the protection have varying amounts of coverage. Check your homeowner's insurance policy to see if you have coverage for backups. If you don't have coverage, consider adding it to your policy because in most cases the City's insurance will not cover your damages in the event of an incident.

It is important to call the City whenever a backup occurs. Public Works personnel will respond 24 hours per day to make sure the City line is clear. The number for the Utility Department is 952-826-0375, 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. After hours, weekends and holidays, call the Police Department's non-emergency number, 952-826-1610.

If they find the blockage is in your line, you will be advised to have it cleaned. Calling the City first can save you time and money, as you are not charged for this service! To find a company that will locate and clear your sewage blockage, look in the Yellow Pages under "Sewer Cleaning."

For more information, call 952-826-0311.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: I'm having problems with sewage backing up into my basement. What do I do?

A: Call the City of Edina first — any time, day or night. The number for the Utility Department is 952-826-0375, Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. After hours, weekends and holidays, call the Police Department's non-emergency number, 952-826-1610.

If the problem is not in the City main, you will be given information about what steps to take next. Calling the City first can save you time and money, as we do not charge for this service!

Q: I had water shooting up out of my lower-level toilets and a sewer gas smell. What happened? Who's going to clean it up?

A: The City's Utilities Department cleans sewer main lines using a high-pressure water sprayer. While conducting this activity, our machine can create positive and negative pressures in the sewer line. These pressures are normally released through the manholes and the roof vents on the house sewer line. If any of the house lines are partially obstructed, the pressures will take the path of least resistance. This path can be through your floor drain or toilet. Air is the only thing that gets released. However, it will move any standing water in its path and release sewer gas into your home.

This is not a common occurrence, but does occasionally happen. Putting water in all of the drains in your house will stop the further release of sewer odor in your home. Clean-up is typically minor and is left to the home owner.

Keeping your sewer line clean will help prevent this from happening and minimize the chances of a backup caused from a blockage. After cleaning your sewer line, please call the City's Utilities Department so staff can make sure the debris from your line won't block the main sewer line.

Q: I used to get a postcard telling me when you're flushing the hydrants, but I don't get it anymore. How am I going to know when you are flushing?

A: The costs of mass mailing are high. To save money, information is published in the *Edina Sun-Current* and *About Town*, on Edina Community Channel 16, and online at www.CityofEdina.com/engineering. The last two times the individual notices were sent, it stated that future notices would be communicated in the City's quarterly newsletter, *About Town*.

Fall hydrant flushing will take place Sept. 17–21 on the east side of Minnesota Highway 100 and Sept. 24–28 on the west side. Spring 2008 dates are April 21–25 and April 28–May 2.

Q: I want my water tested. Where can I take it?

A: The City tests its water quality and results are published annually in this report. If you desire further testing, please call a private testing laboratory. Private laboratories are located in the Yellow Pages under "water analysis" or "laboratories-analytical." In order to test water, you need to know what you want to test for. The City and Minnesota Department of Health conduct all the water testing required by the Safe Drinking Water Act to maintain safe drinking water in our City.

Q: I have orange spots on my white laundry. Are the clothes ruined?

A: There can be iron particles in your water that pass through the City's filtration system and even your water softener. If you get orange spots or if the laundry is slightly discolored, it can be fixed—as long as you don't dry the clothes first! There is a product that the City distributes at no charge called "Rover." Rover is a powder form of rust remover. You can pick it up at City Hall, 4801 W. 50th St., or the Public Works Building, 5146 Eden Ave.

FAQ

Investing In Its Infrastructure: City Increases Utility Rates

To reinvest in its infrastructure, the City of Edina increased its utility rates earlier this year.

In 2006, the City of Edina's Finance and Public Works departments studied the City's rates for water, storm water and sewer. To generate sufficient funds to repair and replace the City's aging infrastructure, including some wells that are no longer functional without additional water treatment, the City adopted new rates and increased sewer and water connection fees.

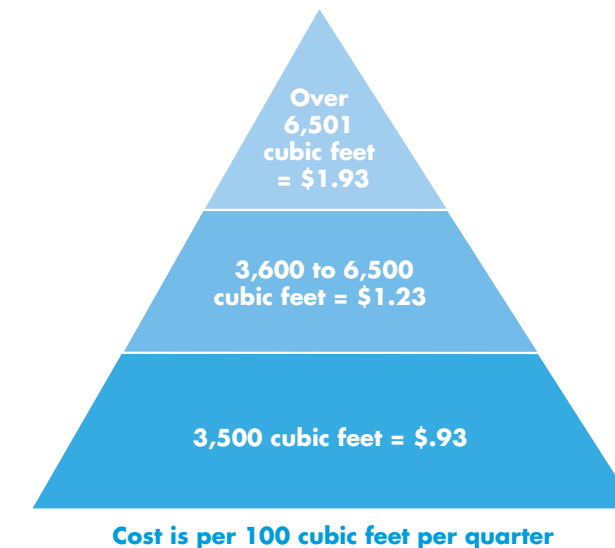
Sanitary sewer rates will increase 4.5 percent annually. The 2006 rate was \$2.34 per 100 cubic feet. The 2007 rate is \$2.45 per 100 cubic feet. The City's storm water rate increased to \$14.39 per quarter.

To promote water conservation and more fairly allocate utility costs based on usage, a new tiered water rate system was established. Under the tiered system, residents will pay 93 cents per 100 cubic feet for the first 3,500 cubic feet, then \$1.23 per 100 cubic feet for the next 3,000 cubic feet and \$1.93 per 100 cubic feet for all water used over 6,500 cubic feet. The study indicated that under normal circumstances, 60 percent of customers use less than 3,500 cubic feet of water per quarter.

Commercial and industrial properties, including schools and churches, will pay \$0.93 per 100 cubic feet up to 3,500 cubic feet and \$1.23 per 100 cubic feet for water over 3,500 cubic feet.

The charge for connection to the City water or sewer systems increased from \$1,000 to \$2,000.

For more information, visit www.CityofEdina.com or call the City's Finance Department at 952-826-0373.



*****ECRWSS***
POSTAL PATRON**

Photocopy or cut on the dotted line and mail the bottom portion back to us.

Trivia Contest

How much do you know about Edina's utility system and water quality? Read this Consumer Confidence Report thoroughly and send in your answers to the following questions. You could win a gift certificate to pay for part of your next utility bill or another great prize!

1. How much fluoride is in Edina's water?
 - A. Less than 1 PPM
 - B. 1.2 PPM
 - C. 2.2 PPM
 - D. 3.2 PPM
2. When sewage is found backing up into a basement, who should the property owner call first?
 - A. The City
 - B. Insurance Agent
 - C. Plumber
 - D. Roto-Rooter
3. How many gallons are in one cubic foot of water?
 - A. 1 gallon
 - B. 5 gallons
 - C. 7.5 gallons
 - D. 10 gallons
4. Where is a residential water meter located?
 - A. Near the main water shut off
 - B. At the kitchen faucet
 - C. In the street
 - D. At the back door
5. What is the first day in July that the property owner of 5016 Ridge Road can irrigate his lawn?
 - A. July 1
 - B. July 2
 - C. July 3
 - D. July 4

Name _____

Street Address _____

Telephone Number _____

Mail your completed form to Edina Public Works – Utility Department, 5146 Eden Ave., Edina, MN 55436. **Entries must be received by July 31, 2007.**