CITY OF NEW PRAGUE

2016 Drinking Water Report

The City of New Prague is issuing the results of monitoring done on its drinking water for the period from January 1 to December 31, 2016.

The purpose of this report is to advance consumers' understanding of drinking water and heighten awareness of the need to protect precious water resources.

Dear New Prague Water Customers:

I would like to introduce you to New Prague's 2016 Water Quality Report. The Report, which is required by the federal government, gives the New Prague Utilities Commission the opportunity to inform the citizens of New Prague about the quality water supply and treatment systems we have.

The New Prague Utilities Commission and staff strive to maintain a cost-effective use of its customer dollars while delivering high quality drinking water.

This report is not being direct-mailed to all customers, but a copy is available at City Hall to customers upon request. The report is also available on the City's Web Site, which is www.ci.new-prague.mn.us.

New Prague must produce this report annually. We welcome any comments you might have. Please address your comments to Bruce Reimers, General Manager, City of New Prague, 118 Central Ave N., New Prague, MN 56071, phone: 952-758-4401, email: breimers@ci.new-prague.mn.us
*Sincerely,*

Bruce Reimers
General Manager

Source of Water

The City of New Prague provides drinking water to its residents from a groundwater source: six wells ranging from 398 to 652 feet deep, which draw water from the Tunnel City-Mt. Simon and Tunnel City-Eau Claire and Mt. Simon aquifers.

The Minnesota Department of Health has made a determination as to how vulnerable our systems' source(s) 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 1-800-818-9318 (and press 5) during normal business hours. Also, you can view it on line at www.health.state.mn.us/divs/eh/water/swp/swa.

Call 952-758-4401 if you have questions about the City of New Prague drinking water or would like information about opportunities for public participation in decisions that may affect the quality of the water.
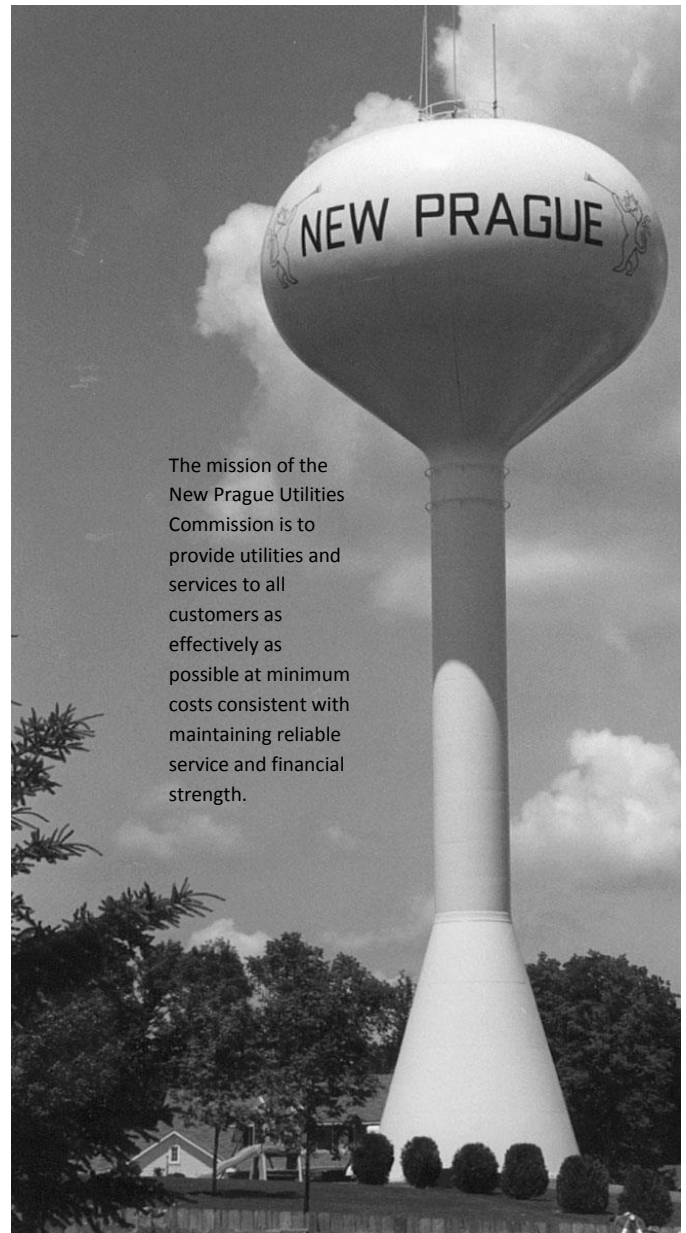
The mission of the New Prague Utilities Commission is to provide utilities and services to all customers as effectively as possible at minimum costs consistent with maintaining reliable service and financial strength.

Results of Monitoring

The results contained in the following table indicate an exceedance of a federal standard. Some other 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 2016. 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:

➢ 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.

➢ 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).

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

➢ ppb - Parts per billion, which can also be expressed as micrograms per liter (μg/l).

➢ nd-No Detection.

➢ N/A - Not Applicable (does not apply).

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

Contaminant (units)	MCLG	MCL	Level Found Range (2016)	Level Found Average/ Result*	Typical Source of Contaminant
Combined Radium (pCi/l)	0	5.4	N/A	1.4	Erosion of natural deposits.
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	.61 - .71	.93	The 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	5.5	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
Nitrate (as Nitrogen) (ppm)	10.4	10.4	.4 - .61	.61	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.
TTHM (Total trihalomethanes) (ppb)	0	80	N/A	13.4	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.

Contaminant (units)	MCLG	MCL	# of TT exceedances		Typical Source of Contaminant
Total Coliform Bacteria	N/A	TT	1		Naturally present in the environment.

Beginning April, 1, 2016

Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially harmful, waterborne pathogens may be present or that a potential pathway exists through which contamination may enter the drinking water distribution system. We found coliforms indicating the need to look for potential problems in water treatment or distribution. When this occurs, we are required to conduct assessment(s) to identify problems and to correct any problems that were found during these assessments.

Level 1 Assessment: A Level 1 assessment is a study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system.

During the past year, we were required to conduct one Level 1 assessment. One Level 1 assessment was completed. In addition, we were required to take zero corrective actions.

Contaminant (units)	MRDLG	MRDL	****	*****	Typical Source of Contaminant
Chlorine (ppm)	4	4	nd – 1.99	.81	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
Copper (ppm)	1.3	1.3	1.35 ✭	3 out of 20	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits.
Lead (ppb)	0	15	6.4	0 out of 20	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits.

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. City of New Prague 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.

✭ We are in exceedance of the action level for copper. Copper is an essential nutrient, but some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over a relatively short amount of time could experience gastrointestinal distress. Some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over many years could suffer liver or kidney damage. People with Wilson's Disease should consult their personal doctor. In response to this issue, we performed a corrosion control study and/or have taken actions to make the water less likely to absorb materials such as copper from your plumbing.

Monitoring may have been done for additional contaminants that do not have MCLs established for them and are not required to be monitored under the Safe Drinking Water Act. Results may be available by calling 651-201-4700 or 1-800-818-9318 during normal business hours.

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 storm water 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 storm water 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 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 (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 1-800-426-4791.

New Prague Utility Crew - Jim Westall, Frank Bisek and Craig Novotny

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 and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.