

What is this report?

To comply with state and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA) regulations, Stoughton Utilities issues an annual report providing the details of the quality of your drinking water. The purpose of this report is to raise your understanding of drinking water sources and its potential contaminants. This report provides an overview of last year's (2013) drinking water quality.

Backflow prevention:

In accordance with the WDNR Administrative Code, 810.15 and the Safe Drinking Water Act, Stoughton Utilities has an established Cross-Connection Control program. All backflow prevention assemblies shall be tested annually to ensure protection from cross-connections and the backflow of contaminants into the water distribution system.

Be prepared for an emergency:

In the event of a prolonged power outage, or a disaster such as a tornado or chemical spill, water service may be disrupted or water rationing imposed. Be prepared by ensuring that you and your family have an ample supply of clean water. A recommended amount is one gallon per person per day, for at least 3 days. Remember to include water for your family pets.

Did you know?

Water is the original sports drink, containing no fat, calories, or cholesterol.

60% of an adult's body is water. In newborn children, that amount is 78%.

Less than 1% of the world's fresh-water supplies are available for human consumption.

Drinking water pipelines have an average life expectancy of 75 years. Replacement of aging pipelines is essential for us to continue providing reliable, high quality water to our customers and ensure adequate flow for firefighting activities.

While the daily recommended amount of water is eight cups per day, not all of this water must be consumed in the liquid form. Nearly every food or drink item provides some water to the body.

The average person in the United States uses anywhere from 80 to 100 gallons of water per day. Flushing the toilet actually makes up the largest amount of this water.

If you drink your daily recommended 8 glasses of water per day from the tap, it will cost you about 50 cents per year. If you choose to drink bottled water instead, it can cost you up to \$1,400 per year.

Ongoing system improvement efforts:

Like most water systems across the country, Stoughton Utilities has underground infrastructure that is aging, and some critical elements have exceeded their service lifespan and are scheduled for repair or replacement.

Stoughton Utilities' water main replacement project is an ongoing program to replace aged pipelines each year. Each year, the new larger water mains that are installed improve fire-fighting capabilities, deliver more water, and help to avoid potential flood damage to homes, businesses and streets.

In 2014, scheduled projects include Forton Street, from Page Street to Division Street; Ridge Street, east of Hillside Avenue; Church Street, from Main Street to Giles Street; and Well 6 rehabilitation.

Security of our drinking water system:

We want you to rest assured that we are doing everything in our power to provide the highest level of security for our system and your safety. The security of our water facilities and distribution system and cyber security are our highest priority.

We also urge our customers to be vigilant, and even overly cautious, as to any suspicious occurrences or persons claiming to be Stoughton Utilities staff. If you're ever in question, request identification of any person claiming to be Stoughton Utilities personnel before allowing entrance to your home or business. All Stoughton Utilities personnel wear identification badges and will never require an immediate in-person payment for services. If you have any questions or concerns in this matter, please feel free to contact us to voice your questions or concerns.

If you should ever witness any suspicious activity, please do not hesitate to call 911.

How do I report a water problem?

If you experience any problems with your drinking water, or if you witness anything suspicious at our facilities, please call the emergency line for our customer service department anytime, 24 hours a day, seven days a week, at (608) 873-3379.

How to contact us:

We welcome you to attend the monthly Stoughton Utilities Committee meetings at our administrative office located at 600 South Fourth Street. Meeting notices, agendas, and past minutes are available at stoughtonutilities.com.

If you have, any questions concerning this report, your water utility, or Stoughton Utilities in general, please contact Robert Kardasz, P.E., at (608) 877-7423 or at stoughtonutilities.com.

If you have a water emergency, please contact our office anytime, 24-hours per day, at (608) 873-3379.



2013 Drinking Water Quality Report

For more information on:

- Automatic payment plans
- Billing inquiries
- Budget-billing program
- Credit card payments
- Online E-Pay
- Paperless E-Billing
- RoundUP community donations
- Water conservation
- Water, wastewater and electric rates

600 South Fourth Street
Stoughton, WI 53589

(608) 873-3379
www.stoughtonutilities.com

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Introduction:

Once again, the employees of Stoughton Utilities are pleased to provide you with this year's annual Drinking Water Quality Report. We are proud to announce that we continue to meet or surpass all state and federal water quality standards under the Safe Drinking Water Act.

We want you to understand the efforts we make continually to improve water quality and protect our water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water remains at the highest possible level.

Discussion:

Again, please note that the Stoughton Utilities drinking water complies with all state and federal regulations, as shown in Table A.

All sources of drinking water are subject to potential contamination by constituents that are naturally occurring or are manmade. Those constituents can be microbes, organic or inorganic chemicals, or radioactive materials.

Information from the EPA:

All 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 EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

MCLs are set at very stringent levels. To understand the possible health effects described for many regulated constituents, a person would have to drink 2 liters of water at MCL level, every day for a lifetime, to have a one-in-a-million chance of having the described health effect.

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 adults, 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 microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

Water quality testing and results:

Stoughton Utilities routinely monitors for constituents in your drinking water in accordance with state and federal laws.

The following Table A shows the results of our monitoring for the period from January 1, 2013, through December 31, 2013 (unless otherwise noted). Please note that only water parameters that had a detect are listed. If you would like to see the other constituents that were tested for, but did not have any detects, please contact us.

In this table, you will find many terms and abbreviations you might not be familiar with. To help you understand these terms, we have provided the following definitions:

- **Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/l):** One part per million corresponds to one minute in two years, or a single penny in \$10,000.
- **Parts per billion (ppb) or Micrograms per liter:** 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 (MCL):** "Maximum Allowed" 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.
- **Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG):** The "Goal" 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.
- **TCR: Total Coliform Rule**

Stoughton Utilities draws its water from four wells located throughout the city and pumps directly into the distribution system and three storage facilities. The water is treated with chlorine and fluoride as it leaves the wells and storage facilities. In 2013, Stoughton Utilities pumped 508,403,000 gallons of water.

Stoughton Utilities is nonprofit and is owned directly by the City of Stoughton. All operations are funded entirely by the water, electric, and wastewater rates paid for our services by Stoughton Utilities' customers.

In lieu of taxes for 2013, Stoughton Utilities paid \$742,404 to the City of Stoughton, making it the city's largest tax payer.

TABLE A:

Disinfection Byproducts:

Contaminant (units):	MCL:	MCLG:	Level Found:	Range:	Sample Date: (if prior to 2013)	Source of Contaminant:
TTHM (ppb)	80	0	6.2	3.9 – 6.2		Byproduct of drinking water chlorination.
HAA5 (ppb)	60	60	1.0	n/d – 1.0		Byproduct of drinking water chlorination.

Inorganic Contaminants:

Contaminant (units):	MCL:	MCLG:	Level Found:	Range:	Sample Date: (if prior to 2013)	Source of Contaminant:
Barium (ppm)	2	2	0.035	0.019 - 0.035	3/2/2011	Drilling waste; erosion of natural deposits.
Chromium (ppb)	100	100	1	n/d - 1	3/2/2011	Erosion of natural deposits.
Copper (ppm)	AL=1.3	1.3	.15	0 of 30	9/16/2011	Corrosion of household plumbing; erosion of natural deposits.
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	1.1	0.1 – 1.1	3/2/2011	Water additive; erosion of natural deposits.
Lead (ppb)	AL=15	0	8.40	1 – 30	9/16/2011	Corrosion of household plumbing; erosion of natural deposits.
Nickel (ppb)	100	n/a	3.2000	1.5000 – 3.2000	3/2/2011	Naturally occurring in soils and ground / surface waters.
Nitrate (NO3-N)(ppm)	10	10	5.10	n/d - 5.10		Fertilizer use; erosion of natural deposits.
Sodium (ppm)	n/a	n/a	12.00	2.80 – 12.00	3/2/2011	n/a

Radioactive Contaminants:

Contaminant (units):	MCL:	MCLG:	Level Found:	Range:	Sample Date: (if prior to 2013)	Source of Contaminant:
Gross Alpha excl. (pCi/l)	15	0	5.3	3.8 – 5.3	3/2/2011	Erosion of natural deposits.
Gross Alpha incl. (pCi/l)	n/a	n/a	5.3	3.8 – 5.3	3/2/2011	Erosion of natural deposits.
Radium (pCi/l)	5	0	3.9	1.9 – 3.9	3/2/2011	Erosion of natural deposits.
Gross Beta Particle (pCi/l)	n/a	n/a	1.2	1.2	3/25/2009	Decay of natural and manmade deposits.

Unregulated Contaminants:

Contaminant (units):	MCL:	MCLG:	Level Found:	Range:	Sample Date: (if prior to 2013)	Source of Contaminant:
Trimethylbenzene (ppb)	n/a	n/a	0.11	0.11	9/16/2010	n/a
Hexavalent Chromium (ppb)	n/a	n/a	1.1	1.1		n/a
Chlorate (ug/L)	n/a	n/a	40	40 – 1400		n/a
Strontium (ug/L)	n/a	n/a	68	68 – 89		n/a
Vanadium (ug/L)	n/a	n/a	0.35	0.35 – 0.38		n/a
Sulfate (ppb)	n/a	n/a	25.00	15.00 – 25.00	3/2/2011	n/a

Systems exceeding a lead and/or copper action level must take actions to reduce lead and/or copper in the drinking water. The lead and copper values represent the 90th percentile of all compliance samples collected. If you would like to review information on the number of sites or the actions taken to reduce these levels, please contact Stoughton Utilities.