



Community News & Updates

Community Events

- **Blooming Parks Program**—If you have a green thumb and would like to share your talent with the community, this is the volunteer opportunity for you. The City of SSP has over 20 flower beds throughout the community that residents and businesses can showcase their talents. Volunteers are needed to select plants and then plant, weed, water and nurture their site starting in June and running through the summer. The City will supply the flowers for the site.
- **Get Outdoors Day** (*June 12 from 1-3 PM at Northview Park*)—Going Green has never been so much fun. Join Little Black Hoof Ventures, the Parks & Recreation Dept. and the Mayor's Youth Task Force for an afternoon of special outdoor activities for kids and adults. Activities will include Going Green with Granny, the Incredible Water Journey, H₂O Olympics, and Long Haul Races. This event is FREE and open to the public.
- **SSP All City Garage Sale** (*June 24-26*)—Note the change in date and mark your calendar for the 2010 All City Garage Sale. Application forms are available at City Hall, Central Square Community Center, and on the City's website. The fee to participate is \$13 and registration deadline is June 15. A listing of all participating garage sales will be provided FREE to all shoppers. Maps will be distributed at Central Square and City Hall starting Wednesday, June 23. All proceeds from the registration fees go to community programming.
- **SSP Night to Unite** (*August 3*)—The City of SSP invites all neighborhoods to join neighborhoods across the State of MN for the 2nd Annual Night to Unite Event. Formerly known as National Night Out, the City of SSP encourages neighborhood get-togethers. If you hold a Block Party on August 3rd, your neighborhood can enjoy a visit from McGruff, the Crime Fighting Dog, the Police and Fire Departments, and City Officials.
- **Movies in the Park** (*August 4, 11, 18, 25*)—The Youth Task Force will be joining forces with the Parks & Recreation Dept. and local businesses and organizations in hosting the 5th season of Movies in the Park. Family friendly movies will begin at dusk (around 9 PM) at Central Square Community Center. Movies are FREE and open to the public.

For more information on these events and others visit the City's website and click on the Community Events Calendar, or contact Deb Griffith at (651) 554-3230.

City of South St. Paul Water Quality

The City of South St. Paul does everything possible to provide high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of variables that can affect water quality. **To see the full Water Quality Report turn to pages 4 and 5.**

Fluoride. Fluoride is added to South St. Paul's water at levels mandated by legislation. Fluoridated water helps to reduce tooth decay, especially in children.

Concerned about lead in your water? 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 for the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

Housing & Redevelopment Authority (HRA)

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has awarded the HRA a \$200,000 clean up grant that will be utilized for the contaminated property at 455 Hardman Avenue. Additionally, a grant was recently submitted to the Minnesota Dept. of Employment and Economic Development to obtain additional funding for this site.

Funding dollars, in the amount of \$1 million, were also received from the EPA to initiate a Revolving Loan Fund Program for local business needing funds to clean up their properties.

In a past issue it was reported the HRA would be issuing Industrial Development Bonds for the purchase of two new fire engines and equipment for the South Metro Fire Department. The low bidder submitted an interest rate of 2.64% for 10 years. The low rate allowed for a reduction of the bond amount from \$1,255,000 to \$1,245,000.

In other news, the HRA Board approved a business assistance loan to the owner of Salon Sasse' located at 408 Southview Blvd. The salon intends to purchase new equipment and make salon improvements to include nail services.

The HRA purchased the foreclosed property at 200 South Concord Exchange. The structure will be demolished in late June and the land will be held for future development.

2009 WATER QUALITY REPORT

for the City of South St. Paul

The City is issuing results of monitoring done on its drinking water for the period from Jan. 1—Dec. 31, 2009. 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 provides drinking water to its residents from a groundwater source: three wells ranging from 339 to 404 feet deep, that draw water from the Jordan, Jordan-St. Lawrence, and Prairie Du Chien-Jordan aquifers.

The water provided to customers may meet drinking water standards, but the MN Dept. of Health has also made 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 (and press 5) during normal business hours. You can also view it online at www.health.state.mn.us/divs/eh/water/swp/swa.

Call (651) 554-3210 if you have questions about the City's drinking water or would like information about opportunities for public participation in decisions that may affect the quality of the water.

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.

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% 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% 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.

RESULTS OF MONITORING

No contaminants were detected at levels that violated federal standards. All contaminants detected in trace amounts that were below legal limits. The amounts last year. (Some contaminants are sampled less frequently than in 2009. If any of these contaminants were detected they are listed with the date that the detection occurred.)

Contaminant (units)	MCLG	MCL	Level Found	
			Range (2009)	Average/Result*
Alpha Emitters (pCi/l)	0	15.4	N/A	6.6
Arsenic (ppb) (02/17/2005)	0	10	N/A	2.58
Barium (ppm) (02/17/2005)	2	2	N/A	.11
Combined Radium (pCi/l)	0	5.4	N/A	2.2
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	1-1.3	1.25
Nitrate (as Nitrogen) (ppm)	10	10	nd—3.3	3.3
Total Coliform Bacteria	0 present	>1 present	N/A	1♥

*This is the value used to determine compliance with federal standards. It is an average of all the detected values. If it is an average, it may not represent the highest level detected.

♥Follow-up sampling showed no contamination present.

Contaminant (units)	MCLG	AL	90% Level	# sites over AL
Copper (ppm) (06/21/2007)	N/A	1.3	.1	0 out of 30
Lead (ppb) (06/21/2007)	N/A	15	3	0 out of 30

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components used in the distribution system.

Some contaminants do not have Maximum Contaminant Level Goals. If unregulated contaminants are found, the response is the same as for regulated contaminants. Customers are notified and take other corrective actions. In the table that follows, the response is the same as for regulated contaminants.

Contaminant (units)	Level Found		Typical
	Range (2009)	Average/Result	
Sodium (ppm)	N/A	4.2	Erosion
Sulfate (ppm)	N/A	11.1	Erosion

Monitoring for unregulated contaminants as required by U.S. Environmental Protection Agency was conducted in 2009. Results of the unregulated contaminant monitoring are available from the Minnesota Department of Health, at (651) 201-4656.

al drinking water standards. However, some contaminants were table that follows shows the contaminants that were detected in trace quently than once a year; as a result, not all contaminants were sampled last time they were sampled for, they are included in the table along

Typical Source of Contaminant
Erosion of natural deposits.
Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronics production wastes.
Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits.
Erosion of natural deposits.
State of MN 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.
Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.
Naturally present in the environment.

al standards. It sometimes is the highest value detected and sometimes is ay contain sampling results from the previous year.

Typical Source of Contaminant
Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits.
Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits.

problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in associated with service lines and home plumbing.

levels established for them. These unregulated contaminants are assessed ne if they pose a threat to human health. If unacceptable levels of an he as if an MCL has been exceeded; the water system must inform its at follows are the unregulated contaminants that were detected.

Typical Source of Contaminant
Erosion of natural deposits.
Erosion of natural deposits.

S. Environmental Protection Agency rules (40 CFR 141.40) was monitoring are available upon request from Cindy Swanson, MN

COMPLIANCE WITH NATIONAL PRIMARY DRINKING WATER REGULATIONS

The sources of drinking water (both tap and bottled) 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. FDA 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 amount 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 EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

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.