Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

City of Marengo - IL1110650

For the period January 1 to December 31, 2010

This report is designed to inform the Citizens of Marengo about the quality water and services that we deliver every day. Our constant goal is to provide a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We are continually striving to improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of Marengo's drinking water. This report will not be mailed to Marengo water customers; however, the reports are available upon request. For more information regarding this report or to request a copy of this report, please call the Water Department at (815) 568-1418, extension 224.

Este informe contiene informacion muy importante sobre el agua que usted bebe. Traduzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

The City of Marengo routinely monitors for constituents in its drinking water according to Federal and State laws. This report indicates the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1 to December 31, 2010. The employees of the City of Marengo Water Department work around the clock to provide top quality water to every tap. We ask that all our customers help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community, our way of life and our children's future.

Source of Drinking Water

The source of drinking water used by Marengo is Ground Water. The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and groundwater 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.

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

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the 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.

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 form the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

Source Water Assessment

We want our valued customers to be informed about their water quality. If you would like to learn more, please feel welcome to attend any of our regularly scheduled meetings. The source water assessment for our supply has been completed by the Illinois EPA. If you would like a copy of this information, please stop by City Hall. To view a summary version of the completed Source Water Assessments, including: "Importance of Source Water"; "Susceptibility to Contamination Determination"; and documentation/recommendation of Source Water Protection Efforts, you may access the Illinois EPA website at http://www.epa.state.il.us/cgi-bin/wp/swap-fact-sheets.pl.

To determine Marengo's susceptibility to groundwater contamination, the following documents were reviewed: a Well Site Survey, published in 1989 by the Illinois EPA; a Hazard Review, published in 1990 by the Illinois EPA; and a Source Water Protection Plan prepared by the City of Marengo and published by the Illinois Rural Water Association in May of 1997. Based on the information obtained in these documents, there are 9 potential sources of groundwater contamination that could pose a hazard to groundwater utilized by the City's community water supply wells. Furthermore, information provided by the Leaking Underground Storage Tank and Remedial Project Management Sections of Illinois EPA indicated several additional sites with ongoing remediations which may be of concern. Based upon this information, the Illinois EPA has determined that Marengo's Community Water Supply's source water has a high susceptibility to VOC and SOC contamination. The basis for this determination includes the detection of VOC in Well No. 6 and the land use within the recharge areas of the wells. This land use includes both industrial and agricultural properties. However, as a result of monitoring conducted at the wells and entry point to the distribution system, the land use activities and source water protection initiatives by Marengo (refer to the following section of this report), the Marengo Community Water Supply's source water has a low susceptibility to IOC contamination.

2010 Regulated Contaminants Detected

Lead and Copper

Definitions:

Action Level Goal (ALG): The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. ALG's allow for a margin of safety.

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

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in the drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. We are responsible for providing high-quality drinking water, but we 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 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 or at http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead

Lead and Copper	Date Sampled	MCLG	Action Level (AL)	90th Percentile	No. Sites Over AL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Copper	12/14/09	1.3	1.3	0.633	0	ppm	N	Erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives; corrosion of household plumbing systems
Lead	12/14/09	0	15	6.39	2	ppb	N	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits

Water Quality Test Results

Definitions: The following tables contain scientific terms and measures, some of which may require explanation.

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL): The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the Maximum Contaminant Level Goal as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG): 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.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL): The highest level of disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDLG): The level of disinfectant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.
ppb: micrograms per liter or parts per billion - or one ounce in 7,350,000 gallons of water.
N/A: not applicable
Avg: Regulatory compliance with some MCLs are based on running annual average of monthly samples.
ppm: milligrams per liter or parts per million - or one ounce in 7,350 gallons of water.

Regulated Contaminants:

Disinfectants & Disinfection By-Products	Collection Date	MCLG	MCL	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Chlorine		MRDLG = 4	MRDL =4	0.8	0.6925 - 0.83	ppm	No	Water additive used to control microbes
TThm [Total Trihalomethanes]		No goal for the total	80	1.65	1.65-1.65	ppb	No	By product of drinking water chlorination
Not all sample results may have been used for calculating the Highest Level Detected because some results may be part of an evaluation to determine where compliance sampling should occur in the future.								
Inorganic Contaminants	**Collection Date**	**MCLG**	**MCL**	**Highest Level Detected**	**Range of Levels Detected**	**Units**	**Violation**	
Barium	10/19/09	2	2	0.095	0.05 - 0.095	ppm	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride	10/19/09	4	4	0.89	0 - 0.89	ppm	No	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Iron		N/A	1.0	1.6	1.43 – 1.53	ppm	No	This contaminant is not currently regulated by the USEPA. However, the state regulates. Erosion of natural deposits.
Manganese		150	150	196	157 – 212	ppb	No	This contaminant is not currently regulated by the USEPA. However, the state regulates. Erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate (measured as Nitrogen)		10	10	1	0 - 0.96	ppm	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Sodium	10/19/09			49	25 – 49	ppm	No	Erosion from naturally occurring deposits; used in water softener regeneration
Zinc	10/19/09	5	5	0.011	0.006 – 0.011	ppm	No	This contaminant is not currently regulated by the USEPA. However, the state regulates. Naturally occurring; discharge from metal
Radioactive Contaminants	**Collection Date**	**MCLG**	**MCL**	**Highest Level Detected**	**Range of Levels Detected**	**Units**	**Violation**	
Gross Alpha excluding radon and uranium	2/23/09	0	15	1.93	1.93 – 1.93	pCi/L	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Combined Radium 226/228	2/23/09	0	5	0.875	0.875 – 0.875	pCi/L	No	Erosion from naturally occurring deposits

** Arsenic: While your drinking water meets EPA standards for arsenic, it does contain low levels of arsenic. EPA's standards balance the current understanding of arsenic's possible health effects

against the costs of removing arsenic from drinking water. EPA continues to research the health effects of low levels of arsenic, which is a mineral known to cause cancer in humans at high concentrations and is linked to other health effects such as skin damage and circulatory problems.