

# 2017 Consumer Confidence Report

## Rice Lake Waterworks, PWS ID 60301384



**Rice Lake Utilities** is providing you with this year's Annual Drinking Water Quality Report. This report is designed to inform you about the quality of water and services that are available to you every day. Our goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. Rice Lake Utilities wants you to be aware of our efforts which provide you with quality water and protect the available water resources. Rice Lake Utilities did a source water assessment in May of 2004. The assessment identifies land areas that contribute water to Rice Lake's wells and any potential source of contamination within these areas. As part of the assessment, a Well Head Protection program was developed as a preventive program designed to protect the city's wells. The goal of this program is to manage the land that contributes water to the wells in Rice Lake.

Rice Lake has 4 ground water wells that pump water from a Cambrian sandstone aquifer into approximately 60 miles of water mains that make up the water distribution system. Within the distribution system there are 3 water towers that store approximately 650,000 gallons of water. The water towers maintain pressure within the system and supply a reserve of water for fire protection. There are 600 fire hydrants throughout the city that are owned and maintained by the utility for the purpose of supplying water for firefighting.

All the equipment and infrastructure throughout the city is maintained by state certified operators that attend continuing education courses to keep up on the latest information for municipal water supply.

Leo J. Diehl, CEO/GM of Rice Lake Utilities is pleased to report that our drinking water is safe and meets Federal and State requirements.

If you have questions about this report or your water utility, please contact Chad Paulson, Water Superintendent at Rice Lake Utilities, 320 W. Coleman St., Rice Lake, WI 54868 or call him at 715-234-7004.

# 2017 Consumer Confidence Report Data

## RICE LAKE WATERWORKS, PWS ID: 60301384

### Water System Information

If you would like to know more about the information contained in this report, please contact Chad Paulson at (715) 234-7004 ext: 213.

### Opportunity for input on decisions affecting your water quality

The public is welcome to attend the Utility Commission meeting held on the second Thursday of each month at 3:45 pm in the conference room at the utility office located at 320 W. Coleman St. In Rice Lake, WI 54868

### Health Information

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 (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 systems 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 Environmental Protection Agency's safe drinking water hotline (800-426-4791).

### Source(s) of Water

| Source ID | Source      | Depth (in feet) | Status |
|-----------|-------------|-----------------|--------|
| 1         | Groundwater | 400             | Active |
| 2         | Groundwater | 464             | Active |

| Source ID | Source      | Depth (in feet) | Status                  |
|-----------|-------------|-----------------|-------------------------|
| 4         | Groundwater | 450             | Inactive as of 07/29/16 |
| 5         | Groundwater | 309             | Active                  |
| 6         | Groundwater | 602             | Active                  |

To obtain a summary of the source water assessment please contact, Chad Paulson at (715) 234-7004 ext: 213.

## Educational Information

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, EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which shall provide the same protection for public health.

## Definitions

| Term               | Definition                                                                                                                                                                      |
|--------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| AL                 | Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.                                 |
| 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. |

| <b>Term</b>        | <b>Definition</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|--------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Level 2 Assessment | A Level 2 assessment is a very detailed study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine, if possible, why an E. coli MCL violation has occurred or why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system, or both, on multiple occasions. |
| 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.                                                                             |
| 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.                                                                                                 |
| MFL                | million fibers per liter                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| MRDL               | Maximum residual disinfectant level: The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.                                                       |
| MRDLG              | Maximum residual disinfectant level goal: The level of a drinking water disinfectant 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.                           |
| mrem/year          | millirems per year (a measure of radiation absorbed by the body)                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| NTU                | Nephelometric Turbidity Units                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| pCi/l              | picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| ppm                | parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/l)                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| ppb                | parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (ug/l)                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| ppt                | parts per trillion, or nanograms per liter                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| ppq                | parts per quadrillion, or picograms per liter                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| TCR                | Total Coliform Rule                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| TT                 | Treatment Technique: A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.                                                                                                                                                                   |

## Detected Contaminants

Your water was tested for many contaminants last year. We are allowed to monitor for some contaminants less frequently than once a year. The following tables list only those contaminants which were detected in your water. If a contaminant was detected last year, it will appear in the following tables without a sample date. If the contaminant was not monitored last year, but was detected within the last 5 years, it will appear in the tables below along with the sample date.

### Microbiological Contaminants

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 assessments to identify problems and to correct any problems that were found during these assessments.

During the past year, we were required to conduct 1 Level 1 assessment(s). All assessments were completed on time.

### Assessments

| Assessment Description                                               | Status   | Due Date | Completed | Violation |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|----------|-----------|-----------|
| Perform Level 1 Assessment: Multiple Total Coliform-positive samples | COMPLETE | 2/8/2017 | 1/9/2017  | No        |

### Inorganic Contaminants

| Contaminant (units) | Site | MCL | MCLG | Level Found | Range           | Sample Date (if prior to 2017) | Violation | Typical Source of Contaminant                                                                                                              |
|---------------------|------|-----|------|-------------|-----------------|--------------------------------|-----------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| BARIUM (ppm)        |      | 2   | 2    | 0.006       | 0.003 - 0.006   |                                | No        | Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits                                                 |
| CHROMIUM (ppb)      |      | 100 | 100  | 1           | 0 - 1           |                                | No        | Discharge from steel and pulp mills; Erosion of natural deposits                                                                           |
| FLUORIDE (ppm)      |      | 4   | 4    | 0.2         | 0.1 - 0.2       |                                | No        | Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories                  |
| NICKEL (ppb)        |      | 100 |      | 2.6000      | 0.8000 - 2.6000 |                                | No        | Nickel occurs naturally in soils, ground water and surface waters and is often used in electroplating, stainless steel and alloy products. |

| Contaminant (units)   | Site | MCL | MCLG | Level Found | Range       | Sample Date (if prior to 2017) | Violation | Typical Source of Contaminant                                                               |
|-----------------------|------|-----|------|-------------|-------------|--------------------------------|-----------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| NITRATE (NO3-N) (ppm) |      | 10  | 10   | 1.90        | 0.20 - 1.90 |                                | No        | Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits |
| SODIUM (ppm)          |      | n/a | n/a  | 4.80        | 3.40 - 4.80 |                                | No        | n/a                                                                                         |

| Contaminant (units) | Action Level | MCLG | 90th Percentile Level Found | # of Results                                 | Sample Date (if prior to 2017) | Violation | Typical Source of Contaminant                                                                          |
|---------------------|--------------|------|-----------------------------|----------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| COPPER (ppm)        | AL=1.3       | 1.3  | 0.7700                      | 1 of 20 results were above the action level. |                                | No        | Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives |
| LEAD (ppb)          | AL=15        | 0    | 1.70                        | 0 of 20 results were above the action level. |                                | No        | Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits                                   |

### Radioactive Contaminants

| Contaminant (units)              | Site | MCL | MCLG | Level Found | Range | Sample Date (if prior to 2017) | Violation | Typical Source of Contaminant |
|----------------------------------|------|-----|------|-------------|-------|--------------------------------|-----------|-------------------------------|
| GROSS ALPHA, EXCL. R & U (pCi/l) |      | 15  | 0    | 0.7         | 0.7   |                                | No        | Erosion of natural deposits   |
| GROSS ALPHA, INCL. R & U (n/a)   |      | n/a | n/a  | 0.9         | 0.9   |                                | No        | Erosion of natural deposits   |

| Contaminant (units)     | Site | MCL | MCLG | Level Found | Range | Sample Date (if prior to 2017) | Violation | Typical Source of Contaminant |
|-------------------------|------|-----|------|-------------|-------|--------------------------------|-----------|-------------------------------|
| COMBINED URANIUM (ug/l) |      | 30  | 0    | 0.4         | 0.4   |                                | No        | Erosion of natural deposits   |

### Synthetic Organic Contaminants including Pesticides and Herbicides

| Contaminant (units)              | Site | MCL | MCLG | Level Found | Range     | Sample Date (if prior to 2017) | Violation | Typical Source of Contaminant                |
|----------------------------------|------|-----|------|-------------|-----------|--------------------------------|-----------|----------------------------------------------|
| DI(2-ETHYLHEXYL) PHTHALATE (ppb) |      | 6   | 0    | 1.0         | 0.0 - 1.0 |                                | No        | Discharge from rubber and chemical factories |

## Health effects for any contaminants with MCL violations/Action Level Exceedances

### Contaminant Health Effects

**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 Wilsons Disease should consult their personal doctor.

### Additional Health Information

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. Rice Lake Waterworks 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 [www.epa.gov/safewater/lead](http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead).