

## Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

2008

# City of Lost Nation

We are very pleased to provide you with this year's Annual Quality Water Report. We want to keep you informed about the excellent water and services we have delivered to you over the past year. Our goal is and always has been, to provide to you a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We are pleased to report that our drinking water is safe and meets federal and state requirements.

The City of Lost Nation obtains its water from the Silurian aquifer. The Silurian aquifer was determined to have low susceptibility to contamination because the characteristics of the aquifer and overlying materials limit the rate at which contaminants can move through the aquifer. The city wells will be somewhat susceptible to activities such as gas stations and industrial sites. A detailed evaluation of your source water was completed by the Iowa Department of Natural Resources, and is available from the City of Lost Nation at 563-678-2114.

This report shows our water quality and what it means. If you have any questions or concerns about this report or your water utility, please contact **Janet Burke, Public Works Director at 563-678-2443**. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled meetings. They are held on the first Monday of each month at 6:30 pm at City Hall located at 301 Pleasant Street.

The City of Lost Nation routinely monitors for constituents in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. This table shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1<sup>st</sup> 2004 through December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2008. All drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some constituents. It's important to remember that the presence of these constituents does not necessarily pose a health risk.

In this table you will find many terms and abbreviations you might not be familiar with. To help you better understand these terms we've 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.

*Picocuries per liter (pCi/L)* - picocuries per liter is a measure of the radioactivity in water.

*Action Level* - the concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

*Maximum Contaminant Level* - The "Maximum Allowed" (MCL) 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* - The "Goal"(MCLG) 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.

TEST RESULTS						
Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Unit Measurement	MCLG	MCL/AL	Likely Source of Contamination
<b>Contaminant Detection</b>						
Total Coliform Bacteria Tested 12/19/2005	N	Present		0	Present in >5% of samples	Naturally present in the environment
Fecal coliform and E. coli	N	Present		0	Present in >5% of samples	Human and animal fecal waste

## TEST RESULTS

Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Unit Measurement	MCLG	MCL/AL	Likely Source of Contamination
<b>Inorganic Contaminants</b>						
Copper Tested 6/1/06-9/30/08	N	Range .0742-.479	ppm	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.
*Lead – 95 <sup>th</sup> percentile Tested 6/1/06-9/30/08	N	Range 2.0 – 12.0	ppb		AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits.
**Nitrate (as N) Tested 1/1/2008 – 12/31/2008	N	Range 5.1-10.4	ppm	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits.
Sodium Tested 4/16/2007	N	21.1	ppm	N/A	N/A	Erosion of natural deposits; added to water during treatment process.
Barium Tested 4/20/2004	N	.272	ppm	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes, metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits.
Fluoride Tested 4/20/2004	N	.2	ppm	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits; discharge from fertilizer factories.

\*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. The City of Lost Nation 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 (800-426-4791) or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

\*\*Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 10ppm is a health risk for infants of less than six months of age. High nitrate levels in drinking water can cause blue baby syndrome. Nitrate levels may rise quickly for short periods of time because of rainfall of agricultural activity. If you are caring for an infant, you should ask advice from your health care provider.

As you can see by the table, our system had no violations. We are proud that your drinking water meets or exceeds all Federal and State requirements. We have learned through our monitoring and testing that some constituents have been detected. The EPA has determined that your water **IS SAFE** at these levels.

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

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 Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

MCL's 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 every day at the MCL level 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, 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 (800-426-4791).

We at Lost Nation 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. Please call our office if you have questions at 563-678-2114.

Iowa Department of Natural Resources  
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Des Moines, IA 50309-4611