

2008

*Annual Drinking Water Quality Report*

## **SPEEDWAY WATER WORKS**

We're pleased to present to you this year's Annual Quality Water Report. This report is designed to inform you about the quality water and services we deliver to you every day. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water.

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact **Steve Hurst at 241-9766. Our office hours: Monday thru Friday, 7:30 am to 4:30 pm.** 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 second and fourth Mondays of every month at 7:00 P.M. at the town hall.**

### *Important information for the Spanish-speaking population*

Este informe contiene informacion muy importante sobre la calidad del agua potable que usted consume. Por favor traduzcalo, o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien y pueda explicarle.

### *Is our water safe?*

This brochure is a snapshot of the quality of the drinking water that we provided in 2008. Included as part of this report are details about where the water that you drink comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Indiana standards. We are committed to provide you with all the information that you need to know about the quality of the water you drink.

### *Do I need to take special precautions?*

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).

### *Where does our water come from?*

The Water Works draws water from two sources. The surface water treatment plant draws water from Big Eagle Creek. The ground water treatment plant draws water from the Speedway Well Field which consists of twelve wells located within the corporate limits of Speedway.

A Source Water Assessment (SWA) has been prepared for our ground water sources. According to this assessment, our system has been categorized with a moderate susceptibility risk. A Source Water Assessment was also prepared for our surface water source. This assessment describes and delineates the source area, potential points of contamination, contaminants of concern, and water supply susceptibility upstream of our raw water intake. More information about both of these Source Water Assessments by contacting Mr. Steve Hurst at (317) 241-9766. You can also obtain additional information by contacting Ms. Rebecca Travis at IDEM's Drinking Water Branch, (317) 308-3329.

Our water system is working with the community to increase awareness of better waste disposal practices to further protect the sources of our drinking water. We are also working with other agencies and with local watershed groups to educate the community on ways to keep our water safe.

### ***Why are there contaminants in my drinking water?***

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

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:

- (a) Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.
- (b) Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining or farming.
- (c) Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, stormwater runoff, and residential uses.
- (d) Organic chemicals, 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.
- (e) Radioactive materials, 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. Food and Drug Administration (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 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 (800) 426-4791.

## Water Quality Data

**Speedway Water** routinely monitors for constituents in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. The table below lists all the contaminants that we have detected during the 2008 calendar year. The presence of these contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. Unless otherwise indicated, the data presented in this table is from testing done between January 1 and December 31, 2008. The Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) requires us to monitor for certain contaminants at a frequency less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from one year to another. Some of the data, though representative of the water quality, may however be more than a year old.

Some of the terms and abbreviations used in this report are:

*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.

*Treatment Technique (TT)* - A treatment technique is a required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

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

<b>TEST RESULTS</b>						
Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Unit Measurement	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Turbidity*	N	0.220	NTU	NA	TT	Soil runoff
<b>Radioactive Contaminants</b>						
Radium 228 (last sampled on 7/30/03)	N	1.1	pCi/l	0	5	Erosion of natural deposits
<b>Inorganic Contaminants</b>						
Arsenic	N	0.6	ppb	50	50	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; runoff from glass and electronics production wastes

Barium	N	0.24	ppm	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Copper (90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile) Valid until 12/31/11	N	0.28	ppm	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Fluoride	N	1.29	ppm	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Lead (90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile) Valid until 12/31/11	N	3.1	ppb	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate (as Nitrogen)	N	2.94	ppm	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Mercury (inorganic)	N	0.1	ppb	2	2	Erosion of natural deposits; discharge from refineries and factories; runoff from landfills; runoff from cropland
<b>Disinfection Byproducts</b>						
TTHM (total trihalomethanes) +	N	59.79	ppb		80	By-product of drinking water chlorination
HAA5 (total haloacetic acids)++	N	23.16	ppb			By-product of drinking water chlorination
<b>Unregulated Contaminant</b>						
Nickel	N	2.7	ppb	100	NA	Leaching and erosion of natural deposit.

*Our chlorine residuals measured in the distribution system throughout 2008 ranged from a low of 1.03 ppm to a high of 1.09 ppm with an average of 1.06 ppm. Chlorine is a disinfectant added to the water to control microbiological organisms.*

*\*The number 0.220 NTU represents the highest turbidity reading taken during the entire year of 2008. Also during 2008 our lowest monthly percentage of turbidity samples meeting the monitoring limit of 0.5 NTU was 100%.*

**SPECIAL NOTE ON LEAD:** *If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and in young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. Our system 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 <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.*

*+ Monitoring for total trihalomethanes (TTHM) requires four quarters of sampling and then averaging the sample results of those four quarters. In 2008 our sample totals ranged from a high of 112.1 ppb to a low of 11.9 ppb.*

**SPECIAL NOTE ON TTHM:** *Some people who drink water containing trihalomethanes in excess of the MCL over many years may experience problems with their liver, kidneys or central nervous system and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.*

*++Monitoring for total haloacetic acids also requires four quarters of sampling and then averaging the sample results of those four quarters. In 2008 our sample totals ranged from a high of 49.6 ppb to a low of 2.38 ppb.*

*The Total Organic Carbon (TOC) on our raw surface water averaged 3.59 ppm for 2008 with a maximum of 3.94 ppm and a minimum of 3.34 ppm. TOC is naturally present in the environment.*

*SODIUM LEVELS IN OUR WATER RANGED BETWEEN 22.7 PPM TO 25.8 PPM IN 2008.*

*Fluoride levels in our treated water averaged at 1.09 ppm in 2008.*

The 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.

We at Speedway Water 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 water plant office at 241-9766 with your concerns or questions.

***Please Share This Information***

Large water volume customers (like apartment complexes, hospitals, schools and/or industries) are encouraged to post extra copies of this report in conspicuous locations or to distribute them to your tenants, residents, patients, students and/or employees. This “good faith” effort will allow non-billed customers to learn more about the quality of the water that they consume.