

***City of Lewistown 2016  
Annual Drinking Water Quality Report  
Lewistown MT PWSID MT 00000271***

We're 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. Our water source is ***spring water from the Madison Aquifer***

We have a source water protection plan available from our office that provides more information such as potential sources of contamination. This plan can be reviewed during normal business hours at the Lewistown Public Works office located at 308 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue South.

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact Matt Birdwell @ Public Works 406-535-1770. 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 first and third Monday's of the month at the Fergus County Council of Aging at 307 W Watson.

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:

*Non-Detects (ND)* - laboratory analysis indicates that the constituent is not present.

*Variances & Exemptions (V&E)* - State or EPA permission not to meet an MCL or a treatment technique under certain conditions

*Treatment Technique*- A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

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

*Maximum Residual Disinfection Level (MRDLG)*-The level of drinking water disinfection below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLG's do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

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

*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.

The City of Lewistown Water department 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> to December 31<sup>st</sup> 2016.

TEST RESULTS								
Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Sample Date	Highest Level Detected	Range Detected	Unit Measurement	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
<b>Microbiological Contaminants</b>								
1. Total Coliform Bacteria	Y	03/16/2016	1/100		Colonies	0	presence of coliform bacteria in 5% of monthly samples	Naturally present in the environment
	Y	03/23/2016	1/100		Colonies			
	Y	07/19/2016	1/100		Colonies			
	Y	07/25/2016	1/100		Colonies			
	Y	08/22/2016	1/100		Colonies			
	Y	09/07/2016	1/100		Colonies			
	Y	09/13/2016	1/100		Colonies			
	Y	10/11/2016	1/100		Colonies			
	Y	10/17/2016	1/100		Colonies			
	Y	11/15/2016	1/100		Colonies			
	Y	11/28/2016	1/100		Colonies			
14. Copper	N	09/14/2016	.103	.091	ppm	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
17. Lead	N	09/14/2016	.001	.001	ppb	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits

The table shows that our system uncovered some problems this year. The duration of the violation was one month. The potential adverse health effects are. Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other; potentially-harmful, bacteria may be present. Coliforms were found in more samples than allowed and this was a warning of potential problems. We have corrected this by chlorination or flushing of the affected areas during those times that coliforms were detected.

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 materials, 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 activity.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, 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 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 system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk for 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 Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

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 Lewistown 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 the 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 materials, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

## **IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER**

### **Monitoring Requirements Not Met for DEQ PWS**

Over the past year our water system failed to conduct all required monitoring.

Even though this was not an emergency, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened and what we did to correct the situation. We are required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not our drinking water meets health standards. During November 2016 we did not complete required follow-up monitoring within the necessary timelines. Due to the unusually cold temperatures our sample froze, we resampled and sent this in replacement samples as soon as possible but the required timelines were exceeded. When we get a positive total coliforms we are required to sample our source within 24 hours and, therefore, cannot be sure of the quality of our drinking water during that time.

### **What should I do?**

- There is nothing you need to do at this time.
- If you have specific health concerns, consult your doctor.

**What does this mean?**

This is not an immediate risk. If it had been, you would have been notified immediately.

**What is being done?**

We will collect all required samples by November 28, 2016. For more information, please contact Rule Manager at (406) 444-4400 or DEQ PWS Helena, MT 59601.

Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.

This notice is being sent to you by City of Lewistown.  
State Water System ID#: MT0000271.

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