

# 2010 WATER QUALITY REPORT FOR CALMAR

This report contains important information regarding the water quality in our water system. The source of our water is ground water. Our groundwater is drawn from the Cambrian Jordan Sandstone aquifer(s).

Our water quality testing shows the following results:

| CONTAMINANT                        | MCLG       | MCL      | DETECTED LEVEL | DATE SAMPLED | RANGE OF DETECTION | VIOLATION | SOURCE  |
|------------------------------------|------------|----------|----------------|--------------|--------------------|-----------|---|
| Lead (ppb)                         | 0          | AL=15    | 0              | 2009         | ND – 4             | No        | Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits  |
| Chlorine (ppm)                     | MRDLG =4.0 | MRDL=4.0 | 0.75           | 2010 RAA     | 0.5-1.4            | No        | Water additive used to control microbes   |
| Copper (ppm)                       | 1.3        | AL=1.3   | 0.402          | 2009         | 0.0481-0.841       | No        | Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits  |
| TTHM (ppb) [Total trihalomethanes] | N/A        | 80       | 3.52           | 7/21/2008    | NA                 | No        | By-products of drinking water disinfection  |
| Alpha emitters (pCi/L)             | 0          | 15       | 1.6            | 10/10/2006   | NA                 | No        | Erosion of natural deposits   |
| Barium (ppm)                       | 2          | 2        | 0.057          | 1/25/2006    | NA                 | No        | Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits                                |
| Fluoride (ppm)                     | 4          | 4        | 1.96           | 2010         | 0.36-1.96          | No        | Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories |
| Sodium (ppm)                       | N/A        | N/A      | 4.9            | 1/14/2009    | NA                 | No        | Erosion of natural deposits; Added to water during treatment process  |

Note: Contaminants with dates indicate results from the most recent testing done in accordance with regulations.

## DEFINITIONS

- Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) – 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 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.
- ppb -- parts per billion.
- ppm -- parts per million.
- pCi/L – picocuries per liter
- N/A – Not applicable
- ND -- Not detected
- RAA – Running Annual Average
- Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG) - 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.
- Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL) - 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.

## GENERAL 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 posed a health risk. More information about contaminants or

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 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 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. Calmar Water Supply 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>.

#### **SOURCE WATER ASSESSMENT INFORMATION**

The Calmar water supply obtains its water from the Cambrian Jordan Sandstone aquifer. The Cambrian Jordan Sandstone aquifer was determined to be not susceptible to contamination because the characteristics of the aquifer and overlying materials prevent easy access of contaminants to the aquifer. The wells will not be susceptible to most contaminant sources except through pathways to the aquifer such as abandoned or poorly maintained wells. A detailed evaluation of your source water was completed by the IDNR, and is available from Calmar Water Dept at 563-562-3150.

#### **CONTACT INFORMATION**

For questions regarding this information, please contact Brian Zweibohmer at 563-380-9437 during the following hours: 6-2 M-F.

Decisions regarding the water system are made at the City Council meetings held on first Monday at 7 p.m. at Calmar Fire Station and are open to the public.

**This report will not be mailed to each water customer, it is published in the local newspaper and is posted at the clerk's office and the Calmar Public Library. It is also available on the city web site [calmaria.com](http://calmaria.com). Copies of the report are available to the public at the City Clerk's office, at 101 S. Washington Street in Calmar, Iowa.**