



## WATER QUALITY REPORT FOR 2010 SOUTH SHORE WATER SYSTEM



This report will provide you with information relative to your drinking water source and types of treatment it receives before it reaches your tap. The report will also list all of the contaminants detected in your water and an explanation of all violations in the past year.

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) includes 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.

Your drinking water source originates from three wells. Well #1 is 8" diameter and approximately 168' deep. Well #2 is 6" diameter and approximately 178' deep. Well # 3 is 6" diameter and approximately 177' deep. Each well is equipped with a 15 hp pump which will produce about 250 gallons per minute.

The water is pumped into the well house where polyphosphate is added in an effort to reduce water corrosiveness to your plumbing fixtures and staining of fixtures and clothes. Sodium hypochlorite is added for disinfection to kill harmful bacteria.

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 the contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general populations. 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 the infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline 1-800-426-4791.

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. South Shores Water 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 1-800-426-4791 or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

The South Shore water supply originates from groundwater. As water travels through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity. These include:

**MICROBIAL** contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, livestock and wildlife.

**INORGANIC** contaminants, such as salts and metals which can be natural or may result from storm runoff, wastewater discharge, oil and gas production.

**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 activities.

In order to assure that tap water is safe, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency(EPA) prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems.

Table "A" shows all the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the year 2010.

The presence of these contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. The State of Michigan allows us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year. All of the data is representative of the water quality but some is more than one year old.

TABLE A

CONTAMINANTS	MCL	MCLG	SOURCE WATER	RANGE OF DETECTIONS	SAMPLE DATE	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE OF CONTAMINANT
<b>INORGANIC CONTAMINANTS</b>							
**Arsenic	10ppb	0ppb	7ppb	NA	8/13/08	NO	Erosion of natural deposits Run off from orchards and glass and electronics
Barium	2ppm	2ppm	.81 ppm	NA	8/02/06	NO	Erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride	4ppm	4ppm	0.92 ppm	NA	8/02/06	NO	Erosion of natural deposits Promotes strong teeth
Fluoride	4ppm	4ppm	.91 ppm	NA	8/12/09	NO	Erosion of natural deposits Promotes strong teeth
Selenium	50 ppb	50 ppb	2 ppb	NA	8/02/06	NO	Erosion of natural deposits
<b>Organic contaminants</b>							
Total Trihalomethanes	80ppb	NA	2.1ppb	NA	8/13/08	NO	Water additive used to control Microbes. By product of drinking water chlorination.
Haloacetic Acid	60ppb	NA	3 ppb	NA	8/13/08	NO	
<b>COPPER / LEAD</b>							
Lead	15ppb	0	ND	0 out of 5 homes exceeded the action level	8/18/09	NO	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, Erosion of natural deposits.
Copper	1300 ppb	1300 ppb	110ppb	0 out of 5 homes exceeded the action level	8/18/09	NO	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.
<b>Chlorine</b>							
Chlorine	4.0ppm	4.0ppm	.20 ppm	.08 - .53 ppm	monthly	NO	Water additive used to control Microbes
*Sodium	NA	NA	32 ppb	NA	8/12/09	NO	Erosion of natural deposits.

\*\*Sodium is considered special monitoring - there is no MCL associated with it . Sodium monitoring is required to inform the residents and the local health department of sodium levels in the community.

\*\* Arsenic: These arsenic values are effective January 23, 2006. Until then, the MCL is 50 ppb and there is no MCLG.”  
“While your drinking water meets EPA’s standard balances the current understanding of arsenic’s possible health effects against the costs of removing arsenic from drinking water. EPA continues to research the health effects of low levels of arsenic, which is a mineral known to cause cancer in humans at high concentrations and is linked to other health effects such as skin damage and circulatory problems.

Terms and abbreviations used in Table “A”

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal(MCLG): The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLG’s all for a margin of safety.

Maximum Contaminant Level(MCL):The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCL’s are set as close to the MCLG’s as feasible using best available treatment technology

NA: Not applicable

ND: Not detectable at testing limit \_\_\_\_\_

PPB: Parts per billion or micrograms per liter

PPM: Parts per million or milligrams per liter

PCI/L: Picocuries per liter(a measure of radiation).

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

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.

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.

Health Affects of Chlorine : Eye and Nose irritation and Stomach discomfort.

Lead : Infants and children who drink water containing lead in excess of the action level could experience delays in their physical and mental development. Children could show slight deficits in attention span and learning abilities. Adults who drink this water over many years could develop kidney problems or high blood pressure. Additional information is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline ( 800-426-4791)

The 1996 amendments to the Federal Safe Drinking Water Act( SDWA) requires each State to develop and implement a source water assessment program (SWAP) to assess the susceptibility of all public water supply sources to contamination. This program requires the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality to analyze source sensitivity (natural protection available), delineate source water areas, inventory contaminant sources, determine susceptibility, and assure the public is notified of this determination. The Source Water Assessment Score (SWAS) is a process that factors geologic and water well attributes, water chemistry, and potential contaminant sources for each drinking water source into a raking system to determine the relative potential for contamination. Sources with low scored are considered to be less susceptible to contamination than those with high scores. If you would like more information on Source Water Assessment, you can call the Lenawee County Drain Commission at 517-264-4696

South Shore rating is listed below.

- Well #1 rated----- Low
- Well #2 rated----- Low
- Well #3 rated----- Low

In 2010 the SCADA (Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition) System was upgraded to a Mission system. The Mission System enables to monitor the Water System from a computer at any time.

A Wellhead Protection Program is a voluntary program, and very costly. South Shore does not have a program at this time. The Lenawee County Drain Commission is considering developing a countywide program, which will include South Shore. There will be more information available as progress is made.

We invite public participation in decisions that affect drinking water quality. Cambridge Township holds meetings on 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month at 7:00 P.M.

For more information about safe drinking water, visitthe U.S. Environmental Protection Agency at [www.epa.gov/safewater](http://www.epa.gov/safewater)

If you have additional questions concerning this report, please call Lenawee County Drain Commission at (517) 264-4696 or (517) 264-4699 and ask for Tom Gillenwater, Sewer & Water Systems Superintendent or write to (Lenawee County Drain Commission, 320 Springbrook Ave. Adrian, Mich. 49221).