

Contaminant (units)	MCLG	AL	90% Level	# Sites over AL	Typical Source of Contaminant
Lead (ppb)	N/A	15	3.0	1 out of 60	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Copper (ppm)	N/A	1.3	2.32***	38 out of 60	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives.

*** 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. Brainerd Public Utilities 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.gov/safewater/lead>.

We are in exceedance of the action level for copper at the consumer's water tap. The copper level from the City's ground water source is less than 0.050 ppm. Therefore the main source of copper at the consumer's water tap is from consumer's copper piping. Copper is an essential nutrient, but some people

who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over a relatively short amount of time could experience gastrointestinal distress. Some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over many years could suffer liver or kidney damage. People with Wilson's disease should consult their personal doctor.

In response to this issue, we performed a corrosion control study and installed treatment to make the water less likely to absorb materials such as copper from your plumbing.

Some contaminants do not have Maximum Contaminant Levels established for them. These "unregulated contaminants" are assessed using state standards known as health risk limits to determine if they pose a threat to human health. If unacceptable levels of an unregulated contaminant are found, the response is the same as if an MCL has been exceeded; the water system must inform its customers and take other corrective actions. In the table that follows are the unregulated contaminants that were detected.

Contaminants (units)	Level Found		Typical Source of Contaminant
	Range (2008)	Average/Result	
Sulfate (ppm) (11/14/2007)	N/A	14.4	Erosion of natural deposits
Sodium (ppm) (11/14/2007)	N/A	9.8	Erosion of natural deposits

Monitoring for unregulated contaminants as required by U.S. Environmental Protection Agency rules (40CFR 141.40) was conducted in 2009, results of the Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring are available upon request from Cindy Swanson, Minnesota Department of Health at (651) 201-4656. 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 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 agricultural, 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, 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 ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) prescribes regulations, which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration 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 the potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 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 undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 800-426-4791.

Brainerd Public Utilities works around the clock to provide quality water to every consumer in Brainerd. We ask that all of our customers help protect our water sources, which is the heart of our community, our way of life and our children's future.

Business & Repair Office Hours
7:00 a.m.—3:30 p.m.
Business: 829-8726
Repair: 829-2193

Emergency 24 hour service 365 days a year: 218-829-2193

EMAIL@BPU.ORG
WWW.BPU.ORG

NOTICE: All electrical work performed in the City of Brainerd requires a "Request for Electrical Inspection" form to be filed, and work inspected by our inspector. Please call **825-3210** or **829-2193** for more information.

BEFORE DIGGING: Call Gopher State One at **1-800-252-1166** for water and electric locations. All requests for locations must be made by calling the above toll free number at least **48 hours** before digging begins.