

The Environmental Protection Agency regulates the quality of drinking water. In 1974, Congress passed the Safe Drinking Water Act that required the EPA to establish uniform standards for drinking water. These water quality regulations were amended in 1986, and again in August of 1996. Iowa has adopted these standards and in some cases have set more stringent standards, all of which are enforced by the Iowa Department of Natural Resources.

### WHERE DOES MY WATER COME FROM?

The Waterloo Water Works obtains water from the sand and gravel of the Alluvial Aquifer, and the limestone and dolomite of the Silurian-Devonian Aquifer. These aquifers have been determined to be highly susceptible to contamination due to the characteristics of the aquifers, and the overlying materials provide little protection from contamination at the land surface. These wells are highly susceptible to surface contamination such as leaking underground storage tanks, contaminant spills, and excess fertilizer application. A detailed evaluation of your source water was conducted by the Iowa Department of Natural Resources, and is available from the Waterloo Water Works at 319-232-6280.

The wells are scattered throughout the City of Waterloo. The depths of the wells range from 75 feet to 225 feet, which is where the aquifers are found. The total daily capacity of the Waterloo water system is 50 million gallons per day while the most ever pumped in any one day has been 28.8 million gallons. The average daily water production in 2018 was 11.7 million gallons per day. To date, no surface level contamination has been detected in any of our production wells. Our regular water quality sampling monitors these water sources very closely to detect any change in water quality.

A Board of Trustees, currently consisting of Mary Potter, Chair; Scott Wienands, Vice Chair; and Thomas E. Wall, Trustee; administers the Waterloo Water Works. The Board meets in public session monthly at the office of the Waterloo Water Works, 325 Sycamore Street, Waterloo, Iowa. The General Manager and Secretary is Chad Coon. Please contact the Water Works Office for the Board meeting dates.

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.

If you have any questions about this report or for more information about the Waterloo Water Works, call the Waterloo Water Works at (319)232-6280. 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 or the Iowa Department of Natural Resources at (563)927-2640.

**We are pleased to report that Waterloo's drinking water is safe and meets or exceeds all federal and state drinking water requirements.**

