

**City of Elk River  
2017**

**Water Quality Report**

*Consumer Confidence Report*



Our mission is to provide our valued citizens with relevant and up-to-date information regarding drinking water quality.

City of Elk River  
PWS#2180013

Population Served: 165  
Service Connections: 171

*Published June 21, 2018*

**Thank you for being a valued member of our drinking water system!**

The City of Elk River provides the resources necessary to maintain the drinking water of our citizens. Your water payments help to ensure we can keep your drinking water to the high standard that we do.

***We could not do it without you!***

Questions? Comments?  
Please contact:

Kavin Lewis in Public Works

(208) 826.3209

**What is in my Drinking Water?**

The City of Elk River routinely monitors for contaminants in your drinking water in accordance with federal and state regulations. The following table shows the detection of the following constituents in your drinking water for the period of **January 1, 2017 through December 31, 2017.**

CONSTITUENT TABLE							
Constituent	Violation (Y/N)	MCL Or MRDL	MCLG	Lowest Level Detected	Highest Level Detected	Date Tested (mm/yy)	Typical Sources of Contamination
<b>INORGANIC CONTAMINANTS</b>							
<b>Barium</b> (ppb)	N	2	2	N/A	0.042	3/16	Discharge of drilling wastes and from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
<b>Chromium</b> (ppb)	N	100	100	N/A	2	3/16	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; Erosion of natural deposits
<b>Copper</b> (ppm)	N	1.3 (AL)	1.3	N/A	0.097	9/17	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
<b>Fluoride</b> (ppm)	N	4	4	N/A	1.5	3/16	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
<b>Lead</b> (ppb)	N	15 (AL)	0	N/A	4	9/17	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
<b>Nitrate</b> (ppm)	N	10	10	N/A	0.101	6/16	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
<b>RADIOACTIVE CONTAMINANTS</b>							
<b>Alpha Emitters</b> (pCi/L)	N	15	0	0	6.08	12/17	Erosion of natural deposits
<b>Radium</b> (pCi/L)	N	5	0	0	0.498	12/17	Erosion of natural deposits
<b>DISINFECTANTS AND DISINFECTION BY-PRODUCTS</b>							
<b>Haloacetic Acids</b> (ppb)	N	60	N/A	20.5	32.7	2017	By-product of drinking water chlorination
<b>Total Trihalo-methanes</b> (ppb)	N	80	N/A	8.44	40.5	2017	By-product of drinking water disinfection
<b>Chlorine</b> (ppm)	N	4	4	0.2	0.5	2017	Water additive used to control microbes
<b>Turbidity</b>	N	0.3	N/A	.08	.51	Highest detected 12/1/17	Soil runoff

## Where does my drinking water come from?

The city of Elk River pulls its drinking water from **Elk Creek**, and utilizes two wells (**North and South Well**). 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. In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems.



## 2017 Water Quality

To be completely transparent about your drinking water quality, we must inform you of some violations within the drinking water system. We took a water quality sample at a site that has been unoccupied for 6 months. Due to the long resting time, the sample reflected high levels of Haloacetic Acids and for Total Trihalomethanes. The sample fell under violation levels, but the sample site was removed from the sampling map due to its inaccurate representation of water system quality. Additionally, our system failed to monitor and report total coliform and e. Coli levels in source water for the month of March. We are required to issue a Tier 3 Public Notification, meaning informing the public within twelve months of the violation. We also failed to monitor chlorine levels in the treatment process during the month of March.

**At no time were you or your family at risk!**

## What are potential contaminants?

Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

**Inorganic contaminants:** salts and metals that can be naturally-occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or agriculture.

**Pesticides and herbicides:** may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses.

**Microbial contaminants:** viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife

**Organic chemical contaminants:** 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:** naturally-occurring or the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

## How is my water treated?

**Your water is treated by disinfection.**

Disinfection involves the addition of chlorine or other disinfectant to kill dangerous bacteria and microorganisms that may be in the water.

## Are there health risks?

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. These individuals can include immuno-compromised persons such as persons undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, Elderly individuals, infants and young children. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers.

*More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791 or at its website, [www.epa.gov/safewater/hotline/](http://www.epa.gov/safewater/hotline/).*

## Understanding the Constituent Table

To help you better understand the Constituent Table, we've provided the following definitions:

### Acronyms:

#### AL (Action Level):

The concentration of a contaminant which, when exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements, which a water system must follow.

#### MCL (Maximum Contaminant Level):

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.

**MCLG (Maximum Contaminant Level Goal):** 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.

#### MRDL (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level):

The highest level of disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

#### MRDLG (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal):

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 contamination.

### Units of Measurement

**Milligrams per Liter (mg/L):** Equivalent to one part per million (ppm), it corresponds to one minute in 20 years.

**Micrograms per Liter (ug/L):** Equivalent to one part per billion (ppb).

**Picocuries per Liter (pCi/L) :** a measurement of radioactivity/radioactive substance per Liter

**Parts per billion (ppb):** One part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years or one penny in \$10,000,000.

#### Parts per million (ppm):

**Treatment Technique (TT):** A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

Picture citations: Elk River image found at city website. Leaf image found at: <http://www.zastavki.com/eng/Nature/Nature/Seasons/Summer/wallpaper-7266.htm>. Water Droplet image found at: <http://www.smallsciencecollective.org/2010/11/free-water-vs-bottle-water.html>

## Additional Information for Lead

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. City of Elk River is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in service lines and home plumbing components. 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.



## How can I help protect my drinking water?

Protection of drinking water is everyone's responsibility. You can help protect your community's drinking water source in several ways:

- Eliminate excess use of lawn and garden fertilizers and pesticides
- Pick up after your pets.
- If you have your own septic system, properly maintain your system to reduce leaching to water sources or consider connecting to a public water system.
- Dispose of chemicals and pharmaceuticals properly
- Find a watershed or wellhead protection organization in your community and volunteer to help. If there are no active groups, consider starting one.