

# 2015 Water Quality Report for the City of Evert

This report covers the drinking water quality for The City of Evert for the calendar year 2015. This information is a snapshot of the quality of the water that we provided to you in 2015. Included are details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and state standards.

Your water comes from seven groundwater wells located at 709 W. Fifth St., one well on US-10 West of Evert, and one well on Five Mile Road at the west end of the airport. The Evert Water Department pumped 263.797 million gallons of water to area residents and businesses for 2015. To ensure clean and bacteria free water for the consumer, the water was treated with 2.666.92 gallons of a 12.5% solution of sodium hypochlorite. The water was also treated with 269 gallons of a 33% solution of phosphate to help inhibit corrosion to the water system.

**Wellhead Protection Program:** To insure the quality of the city's drinking water, the City of Evert became involved in starting a wellhead protection plan in 1993. This plan would be to encourage residents, businesses, farms and others to help keeping our source water from becoming contaminated from any unnatural sources. A portion of your water bill, combined with the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) grants put the project in motion. To assure public involvement, a citizen's action committee (CAC) was formed. The CAC volunteers were very helpful in keeping the project rolling. Wellhead delineation studies were performed by an outside engineering firm. The Osceola County Health Department also helped out in these studies. After twelve years of studies, water testing, and hard work from all the volunteers, a wellhead protection program was approved by the DEQ and adopted by the city of Evert in February of 2002. The City is still participating in this program to insure our drinking water is safe and will remain safe for years to come. If you have any questions about the City of Evert's Wellhead protection plan, please feel free to contact Patrick Muczynski at 231-734-5793.

**Contaminants and their presence in water:** 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 potential health effects can be obtained by calling the **EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791)**.

**Vulnerability of sub-populations:** Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised

people, such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune systems 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)**.

- **Sources of drinking water:** The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. Our water comes from 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.
- 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 stormwater 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 agriculture and residential uses.
  - \* **Radioactive contaminants**, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.
  - \* **Organic chemical contaminants**, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the EPA prescribes regulations that 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 provide the same protection for public health.

## Water Quality Data

The table below lists all the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the 2015 calendar year. The presence of these contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table is from testing done January 1 – December 31, 2015. The State 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.

### Terms and abbreviations used below:

- **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.
- **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 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.
- **N/A:** Not applicable
- **ND:** not detectable at testing limit ppb: parts per billion or micrograms per liter ppm: parts per million or milligrams per liter
- **Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/l):** one part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in \$10,000.
- **Parts per billion (ppb) or Micrograms per liter (ug/l) –** one part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000.
- **PCi/l:** picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity).
- **RAA:** Running Annual Average
- **Action Level:** The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.

### Samples Collected at the Wellhouse:

Regulated Chemical Contaminants	MCL	MCLG	Our Water	Sample Date	Violation Yes / No	Typical Source of Contaminants
Arsenic (ppb) <sup>1</sup>	10	0	ND	08/18/2014	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Barium (ppm)	2	2	0.02	08/18/2014	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; Erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate (ppm)	10	10	0.093 - 1.2	06/10/2015	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	<0.10	06/10/2015	No	Erosion of natural deposits

<sup>1</sup> These arsenic values are effective January 23, 2006. Until then, the MCL is 50 ppb and there is no MCLG.

Unregulated Chemical Contaminants <sup>2</sup>	Our Water	Sample Date	Violation Yes / No	Typical Source of Contaminants
Sodium (ppm)	1.9 - 18	06/10/2015	N/A	Erosion of natural deposits
Sulfate (ppm)	7.5 - 13	06/10/2015	N/A	Erosion of natural deposits

<sup>2</sup>Unregulated contaminants are those for which EPA has not established drinking water standards. Monitoring helps EPA to determine where certain contaminants occur and whether it needs to regulate those contaminants.

**Samples Collected in the Distribution System:**

Contaminants Subject to an Action Level	Action Level	Our Water	Sample Date	Number of Samples Above AL	Typical Source of Contaminants
Lead (ppb) <sup>3</sup>	AL = 15	Not Detected- .002	08/18/2014	0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Copper (ppm) <sup>3</sup>	AL = 1.3	0.14-1.00	08/18/2014	0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives
Free chlorine Residual (ppm) <sup>4</sup>	MRDL = 4.0 MRDLG = 4	Range = 0.29-0.54 RAA = 0.38 Free	Bi-weekly	0	Water additive used to control microbes
Total Trihalomethanes (ppb)	MCL-80	19	08/12/2015	0	Disinfection by product
Haloacetic Acids (ppb)	MCL-60	6.8	08/12/2015	0	Disinfection by products

<sup>3</sup> 90 percent of the samples collected were at or below the level reported for our water.

<sup>4</sup> The MRDL and MRDLG are effective January 1, 2004. Compliance is based on an annual average.

**Lead information:** 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. The City of Ewart 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>.

We will update this report annually and will keep you informed of any problems that may occur throughout the year as they happen. Copies are available at 200 S. Main St. Ewart, MI 49631. This report will not be sent to you.

We invite public participation in decisions that affect drinking water quality at your City Council meeting every first and third Monday of each month. For more information about your water, or the contents of this report, please feel free to contact Patrick Muczynski at 231-734-5793. For more information about safe drinking water, visit the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency at [www.epa.gov/safewater/](http://www.epa.gov/safewater/).