

ELLSWORTH CO RWD 1

Consumer Confidence Report – 2020

Covering Calendar Year – 2019



This brochure is a snapshot of the quality of the water that we provided last year. Included are the details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and state standards. We are committed to providing you with information because informed customers are our best allies. If you would like to observe the decision-making process that affect drinking water quality, please call SHARON CONDIT at 785-472-4486.

Your water comes from :

Source Name	Source Water Type
INTAKE 999	Surface Water

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as those 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 microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

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).

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

Contaminants that may be present in sources water before we treat it include:

Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, 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 storm water run-off, agriculture, and residential users.

Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or the result of mining activity.

Organic contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and also come from gas stations, urban storm water run-off, and septic systems.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulation which limits the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. We treat our water according to EPA's regulations. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health.

Our water system is required to test a minimum of 4 samples per month in accordance with the Revised Total Coliform Rule for microbiological contaminants. Coliform bacteria are usually harmless, but their presence in water can be an indication of disease-causing bacteria. When coliform bacteria are found, special follow-up tests are done to determine if harmful bacteria are present in the water supply. If this limit is exceeded, the water supplier must notify the public.

Water Quality Data

The following tables list all of the drinking water contaminants which were detected during the 2019 calendar year. The presence of these contaminants does not necessarily indicate the water poses a health risk. Unless noted, the data presented in this table is from the testing done January 1- December 31, 2019. The state requires 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. Some of the data, though representative of the water quality, is more than one year old. **The bottom line is that the water that is provided to you is safe.**

Terms & Abbreviations

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG): the "Goal" is the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to human health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL): the "Maximum Allowed" MCL is 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.

Secondary Maximum Contaminant Level (SMCL): recommended level for a contaminant that is not regulated and has no MCL.

Action Level (AL): the concentration of a contaminant that, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements.

Treatment Technique (TT): a required process intended to reduce levels of a contaminant in drinking water.

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.

Non-Detects (ND): lab analysis indicates that the contaminant is not present.

Parts per Million (ppm) or milligrams per liter (mg/l)

Parts per Billion (ppb) or micrograms per liter (µg/l)

Picocuries per Liter (pCi/L): a measure of the radioactivity in water.

Millirems per Year (mrem/yr): measure of radiation absorbed by the body.

Monitoring Period Average (MPA): An average of sample results obtained during a defined time frame, common examples of monitoring periods are monthly, quarterly and yearly.

Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU): a measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person. Turbidity is not regulated for groundwater systems.

Running Annual Average (RAA): an average of sample results obtained over the most current 12 months and used to determine compliance with MCLs.

Locational Running Annual Average (LRAA): Average of sample analytical results for samples taken at a particular monitoring location during the previous four calendar quarters.

Testing Results for: ELLSWORTH CO RWD 1

Regulated Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Value	Range (low/high)	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source
ARSENIC	4/9/2019	2.5	2.5	ppb	10	0	Erosion of natural deposits
ATRAZINE	8/6/2019	1.8	0.52 - 1.8	ppb	3	3	Runoff from herbicide used on row crops
BARIUM	4/9/2019	0.079	0.079	ppm	2	2	Discharge from metal refineries
FLUORIDE	4/9/2019	0.2	0.2	ppm	4	4	Natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth.
NITRATE	4/9/2019	0.72	0.5 - 0.72	ppm	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use
SELENIUM	4/9/2019	5.6	5.6	ppb	50	50	Erosion of natural deposits

Disinfection Byproducts	Monitoring Period	Highest RAA	Range (low/high)	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source
TOTAL HALOACETIC ACIDS (HAA5)	2019	36	13 - 41.3	ppb	60	0	By-product of drinking water disinfection
TTHM	2019	78	32.8 - 84.2	ppb	80	0	By-product of drinking water chlorination

Lead and Copper	Monitoring Period	90 th Percentile	Range (low/high)	Unit	AL	Sites Over AL	Typical Source
COPPER, FREE	2017	0.73	0.09 - 1.5	ppm	1.3	1	Corrosion of household plumbing
LEAD	2017	13	1.2 - 51	ppb	15	1	Corrosion of household plumbing

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. Your 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 or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

Total Organic Carbon Lowest Month for Removal	Number of Samples	Actual Removal Ratio	Required Removal Ratio	Lowest Monthly Removal Ratio
3/1/2019 - 3/31/2019	12	1.22	1.0 RATIO	0.63

Secondary Contaminants – Non-Health Based Contaminants - No Federal Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) Established.	Collection Date	Highest Value	Range (low/high)	Unit	SMCL
ACETOCHLOR	5/30/2017	0.11	0.11	UG/L	
ALKALINITY, TOTAL	4/9/2019	170	170	MG/L	300
ALUMINUM	4/9/2019	0.012	0.012	MG/L	0.05
CALCIUM	4/9/2019	130	130	MG/L	200
CHLORIDE	4/9/2019	190	190	MG/L	250
CONDUCTIVITY @ 25 C UMHOS/CM	4/9/2019	1400	1400	UMHO/CM	1500
CORROSIVITY	4/9/2019	0.77	0.77	LANG	0
DESETHYLATRAZINE	5/30/2017	0.48	0.48	UG/L	
HARDNESS, TOTAL (AS CaCO3)	4/9/2019	420	420	MG/L	400
MAGNESIUM	4/9/2019	20	20	MG/L	150
MANGANESE	4/9/2019	0.0041	0.0041	MG/L	0.05
METOLACHLOR	5/30/2017	1.2	1.2	ppb	
NICKEL	4/9/2019	0.0021	0.0021	MG/L	0.1
PH	4/9/2019	8	8	PH	8.5
PHOSPHORUS, TOTAL	4/9/2019	0.14	0.14	MG/L	5
POTASSIUM	4/9/2019	10	10	MG/L	100
SILICA	4/9/2019	12	12	MG/L	50
SODIUM	4/9/2019	120	120	MG/L	100
SULFATE	4/9/2019	220	220	MG/L	250
TDS	4/9/2019	800	800	MG/L	500
ZINC	4/9/2019	0.0055	0.0055	MG/L	5

Please Note: Because of sampling schedules, results may be older than 1 year.

During the 2019 calendar year, we had the below noted violation(s) of drinking water regulations.

Compliance Period	Analyte	Comments
1/1/2019 - 3/31/2019	TOTAL HALOACETIC ACIDS (HAA5)	MONITORING, ROUTINE (DBP), MAJOR
10/1/2019 - 12/31/2019	CHLORITE	MONITORING, ROUTINE (DBP), MAJOR
10/1/2019 - 10/31/2019	CHLORINE DIOXIDE	MONITORING, (DBP) (CHL. DIOXIDE)
12/1/2019 - 12/31/2019	CHLORINE DIOXIDE	MONITORING, (DBP) (CHL. DIOXIDE)

Additional Required Health Effects Language:

Infants and children are typically more vulnerable to lead in drinking water than the general population. It is possible that lead levels at your home may be higher than at other homes in the community as a result of materials used in your home's plumbing. If you are concerned about elevated lead levels in your home's water, you may wish to have your water tested and flush your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using tap water. Additional information is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

Total organic carbon (TOC) has no health effects. However, total organic carbon provides a medium for the formation of disinfection byproducts. These byproducts include trihalomethanes (THMs) and haloacetic acids (HAAs). Drinking water containing these byproducts in excess of the MCL may lead to adverse health effects, liver or kidney problems, or nervous system effects, and may lead to an increased risk of getting cancer.

Some people who drink water containing trihalomethanes in excess of the MCL over many years may experience problems with their liver, kidneys, or central nervous systems, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

There are no additional required health effects violation notices.



Rural Water District No. 1, Ellsworth Co., Kansas

103 N. Douglas Ellsworth, KS 67439 ♦ Phone (785) 472-4486 ♦ www.postrockrwd.com

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IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER Monitoring Requirements Not Met for Ellsworth Co. RWD 1

We are required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether our drinking water meets health standards. Ellsworth County Rural Water District No. 1 is committed to providing safe clean drinking water to our customers. This remains the District's highest priority. Our water system recently incurred violations of drinking water regulations. The law requires us to distribute this public notice even though this was not an emergency.

Ellsworth Co. Rural Water District No. 1 (District) failed to comply with the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) requirement for submitting mandatory sample chlorine dioxide/chlorite reports from the point of entry (POE) for the months of October 2019, November 2019, and December 2019. The required 3-sample chlorine dioxide/chlorite samples were collected and sent to the District's contracted laboratory for testing in compliance with KDHE requirements. Unfortunately, District staff failed to submit the reports to KDHE. District staff misunderstood and thought the report was a quarterly requirement and not a monthly requirement. This is not an emergency. As a customer, no action needs to be taken by you. There was no immediate health risk to you as a result of this violation. If there was an emergency, you would have been notified immediately. The reports were not provided to KDHE as required. To prevent this oversight from occurring in the future, the District will ensure staff are cross-trained and a monthly report to the Board of Directors on KDHE sampling, reporting and compliance will occur. In January 2020 the District filed the applicable report and laboratory report and the system was returned to compliance.

On January 10, 2020 the District was required to submit the laboratory reports from the collected chlorine dioxide/chlorite samples to KDHE. Unfortunately, due to a staff oversight, they submitted what they thought was the required quarterly report and failed to include the results of the 3rd party laboratory test. The laboratory results are included for consumer review. The District accepts full responsibility for failing to include the laboratory results to KDHE within the required timeframe. This is not an emergency. As a customer no action needs to be taken by you. There was no immediate health risk to you as a result of this violation. If there was an emergency, you would have been notified immediately. To prevent this from occurring in the future, the District will add to the Board of Directors monthly meeting agenda the status of water sampling and water quality reporting as well as KDHE compliance.

As a customer, there is no action that needs to be taken by you. There was no immediate health risk to you as a result of these violations. We are obligated to provide our customers important information about the risks of water with excess chlorite and excess chlorine dioxide. In January 2020 the District filed the applicable report and laboratory report and the system was returned to compliance.

Some infants and young children who drink water containing chlorite in excess of the maximum contaminant level (MCL) could experience nervous system effects. Similar effects may occur in fetuses of pregnant women who drink water containing chlorite in excess of the MCL. Some people may experience anemia.

Some infants and young children who drink water containing chlorine dioxide in excess of the maximum residual disinfectant level (MRDL) could experience nervous system effects. Similar effects may occur in fetuses of pregnant women who drink water containing chlorine dioxide in excess of the MRDL. Some people may experience anemia.

For more information, please contact Ms. Sharon Condit at 785-472-4486 or by mail at 103 N. Douglas Avenue, Ellsworth, KS 67439.

Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.

*This notice is being sent by Ellsworth Co. RWD 1
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