

# 2020 Ridge Road Community Water Consumer Confidence Report (CCR)

## **Is my water safe?**

The Fond du Lac Water & Wastewater Department is issuing the 2020 Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) results of monitoring done on its drinking water for the period from January 1st to December 31st, 2020, which is required by the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). All water quality monitoring during 2020 met SDWA standards.

The purpose of this report is to advance consumers' understanding of drinking water and heighten awareness of the need to protect precious water resources. This report is a snapshot of 2020's water quality. The FDL Water & Wastewater Department is committed to providing you with information because informed customers are our best allies. Should you have any questions, please contact us at 878-7595.

## **Do I need to take special precautions?**

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/Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Water Drinking Hotline (800-426-4791) or the website at <https://healthfinder.gov/FindServices/Organizations/Organization.aspx?code=HR3664>

## **Where does my water come from?**

The community residents of Ridge Road are provided drinking water by means of two (2) community groundwater wells, averaging in depth of 161.5ft, and cased to 152ft.

## **Source water assessment and its availability.**

A Source Water Assessment and Protection Plan has a draft now complete for this community water supply and available upon request.

### **Why are there contaminants in my drinking 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 Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791) or the website at <https://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water>.

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 from human activity: microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife. Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, 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, may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses. Organic Chemical Contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems. Radioactive contaminants, 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, EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

### **How can I get involved?**

The Fond du Lac Water & Wastewater Department is looking to update the site sampling plan for various water quality parameters in the community of Ridge Road. As a resident, we would ask you to contact the department if you would be interested in learning more, and we as a department would determine participation.

### **Description of Water Treatment Process**

Your water is treated by a rapid sand gravity filter and disinfection at the Ridge Road Treatment Plant. Filtration removes particles suspended in the source water. Particles typically include clays and silts, natural organic matter, iron and manganese, and microorganisms. Your water is also treated by disinfection. Disinfection involves the addition of chlorine or other disinfectants to kill bacteria and other microorganisms (viruses, cysts, etc.) that may be in the water. Disinfection is considered to be one of the major public health advances of the 20th century. The department also fluoridates to prevent early childhood tooth decay.

### **Water Conservation Tips:**

Did you know that the average U.S. household uses approximately 400 gallons of water per day or 100 gallons per person per day? Luckily, there are many low-cost and no-cost ways to conserve water. Small changes can make a big difference – try one today and soon it will become second nature.

- Take short showers - a 5 minute shower uses 4 to 5 gallons of water compared to up to 50 gallons for a bath.
- Shut off water while brushing your teeth, washing your hair and shaving and save up to 500 gallons a month.
- Use a water-efficient showerhead. They're inexpensive, easy to install, and can save you up to 750 gallons a month.
- Run your clothes washer and dishwasher only when they are full. You can save up to 1,000 gallons a month.
- Water plants only when necessary.
- Fix leaky toilets and faucets. Faucet washers are inexpensive and take only a few minutes to replace. To check your toilet for a leak, place a few drops of food coloring in the tank and wait. If it seeps into the toilet bowl without flushing, you have a leak. Fixing it or replacing it with a new, more efficient model can save up to 1,000 gallons a month.
- Adjust sprinklers so only your lawn is watered. Apply water only as fast as the soil can absorb it and during the cooler parts of the day to reduce evaporation.
- Teach your kids about water conservation to ensure a future generation that uses water wisely. Make it a family effort to reduce next month's water bill!
- Visit [www.epa.gov/watersense](http://www.epa.gov/watersense) for more information.

### **Cross Connection Control Survey**

The purpose of this survey is to determine whether a cross-connection may exist at your home or business. A cross connection is an unprotected or improper connection to a public water distribution system that may cause contamination or pollution to enter the system. We are responsible for enforcing cross-connection control regulations and ensuring that no contaminants can, under any flow conditions, enter the distribution system. If you have any of the devices listed below please contact the department so we can discuss the issue, and if needed, survey your connection and assist you in isolating it if that is necessary.

- Boiler/ Radiant heater (water heaters not included)
- Underground lawn sprinkler system
- Pool or hot tub (whirlpool tubs not included)
- Additional source(s) of water on the property
- Decorative pond
- Watering trough

**Source Water Protection Tips:** 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 – they contain hazardous chemicals that can reach your drinking water source.
- 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 properly; take used motor oil to a recycling center.
- Volunteer in your community. Find a watershed or wellhead protection organization in your community and volunteer to help. If there are no active groups, consider starting

one. Use EPA's Adopt Your Watershed to locate groups in your community, or visit the Watershed Information Network's How to Start a Watershed Team.

- Organize a storm drain stenciling project with your local government or water supplier. Stencil a message next to the street drain reminding people "Dump No Waste - Drains to River" or "Protect Your Water." Produce and distribute a flyer for households to remind residents that storm drains dump directly into your local water body.

### **Additional Information for Lead**

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 Ridge Road WTP 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 at a cost to you as a resident of that dwelling. 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>.

### **Monitoring and Reporting Violation**

This past year the department failed to collect an annual 2020 Disinfection By-Product (DBPs) sample for the Ridge Road community water supply during the first week of August. As such, the department is required to issue a Tier 3 (Annual Notice) Public Notice. Tier 3 violations are primarily issued when a monitoring or testing procedure is missed or executed incorrectly. As noted, the annual sample was to be taken the first week of August, and was collected October 13<sup>th</sup>, 2020. The results indicated elevated DBP levels (75% or greater than the MCL), however **all results were below the Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCL)**, see water quality table for results.

At this time there is nothing that you as a resident need to do. You do not need to boil your water or take other corrective actions to identify other sources of water. If a situation arises where the water is no longer safe to drink, you will be notified. If an MCL violation had occurred, the department would have issued a Public Notification within 30 days of receiving results per the Public Notice Rule under Tier 2, as soon as practical, within 30 days.

Populations which can be at risk are people who drink water containing trihalomethanes and/or haloacetic acids **in excess of the MCL** over many years, possibly experiencing problems with their liver, kidneys, or central nervous system, and may have increased risk of getting cancer.

The department will continue to monitor annually for disinfection by-products and is exploring possible alternatives for treatment to further decrease DBP levels at the water treatment plant, and thus the distribution.

### **Water Quality Data Table**

The table below lists all of the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the calendar year of this report. Although many more contaminants were tested, only those substances listed below were found in your water. All sources of drinking water contain some naturally occurring contaminants. At low levels, these substances are generally not harmful in our drinking water. Removing all contaminants would be extremely expensive, and in most cases, would not provide increased protection of public health. A few naturally occurring minerals may actually improve the taste of drinking water and have nutritional value at low levels. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table is from testing done in the calendar year of the report. The EPA and/or the State requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not vary significantly from year to year, or the system is not considered vulnerable to this type of contamination. As such, some of our data, though representative, may be more than one year old. In this table you will find terms and abbreviations that might not be familiar to you. To help you better understand these terms, we have provided the definitions below the table.

Ridge Road Community Water System

Contaminants	MCLG	MCL,	Your	Range		Sample	Violation	Typical Source
	or	TT, or	Water	Low	High	Date		
Disinfectants & Disinfectant By-Products	MRDLG	MRDL						
(There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants)								
Total Chlorine ( Cl2) (ppm)	4	4	0.91	NA		2020	No	Water additive used to control microbes
Free Chlorine ( Cl2) (ppm)	0.2	NA	0.44	NA		2020	No	Water additive used to control microbes
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	0.53	NA		2020	No	Erosion of natural deposits. Water additive which promotes strong teeth. Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
<b>Inorganic Contaminants</b>								
Nitrate [measured as Nitrogen] (ppm)	10	10	ND	NA		2020	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage. Erosion of natural deposits
Nitrite [measured as Nitrogen] (ppm)	1	1	ND	NA		2020	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage. Erosion of natural deposits
Lead (ppm)	0.015	0	Next sample due 2021	NA		Next sample due 2021	N/A	Corrosion of plumbing material throughout the water system, including pipes, valves, solder, fixtures, and faucets
Copper (ppm)	1.3	1.3	Next sample due 2021	NA		Next sample due 2021	N/A	Corrosion of plumbing material throughout the water system, including pipes, valves, solder, fixtures, and faucets
<b>Microbiological Contaminants</b>								
Total Coliform (positive samples/month)	0	1	0	NA		2020	No	Naturally present in the environment
<b>Disinfection By-Products**</b>								
Contaminants	MCLG	MCL	Your Water	Sample Date			Violation	Typical Source
Total Trihalomethane ST-2-1 (TTHM), ppb	NA	80	54.5	10/13/2020			No	By-product from disinfection
Haloacetic Acids ST-2-1 (HAA5) ppb	NA	60	38.4				No	
Total Trihalomethane ST-2-2 (TTHM), ppb	NA	80	70.2				No	
Haloacetic Acids ST-2-2 (HAA5) ppb	NA	60	49.7				No	
Inorganic Contaminants						Due 2021		
Synthetic Organic Contaminants						Due 2022		
Volatile Organic Contaminants						Due 2021		
<b>Important Drinking Water Definitions</b>								
<b>Terms</b>								
**	There are other constituents which are part of TTHM and HAAS chemical family							
ppm	ppm: parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/L)							
ppb	ppb: parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (µg/L)							
positive samples/month	positive samples/month: Number of samples taken monthly that were found to be positive							
NA	NA: not applicable							
ND	ND: Not detected							
NR	NR: Monitoring not required, but recommended.							
MCLG	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							
MCL	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							
TT	TT: Treatment Technique: A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.							
AL	AL: Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.							
Variances and Exemptions	Variances and Exemptions: State or EPA permission not to meet an MCL or a treatment technique under certain conditions.							
MRDLG	MRDLG: Maximum residual disinfection level goal. The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health.							
MRDL	MRDL: Maximum residual disinfectant level. The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a							
MNR	MNR: Monitored Not Regulated							
MPL	MPL: State Assigned Maximum Permissible Level							

**Additional Information and/or Follow-up?**

Please contact the FDL Water/Wastewater Department:  
 Jordan Vandal  
 Water/Wastewater Manager  
 218-878-7595

## Certification Form

### Community Water Systems:

Mahnomen, PWSID: 55294801

Ridge Road, PWSID: 55294802

Danielson, PWSID: 55294803

The community water systems named above hereby confirms that its consumer confidence report has been distributed to customers (and appropriate notices of availability have been given). Further, the system certifies that the information contained in the report is correct and consistent with the compliance monitoring data previously submitted to the primacy agency.

### **Certified and Dated by:**

Jordan Vandal

Water/Wastewater Manager

Fond du Lac Reservation

218-878-7595

Jordan Vandal, FDL Water/Wastewater Mgr. 5.24.2021

\*\*\*You are not required by EPA rules to report the following information, but you may want to provide it to your state. Check all items that apply. \*\*\*

CCR was distributed by mail or other direct delivery. Specify other direct delivery methods:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

"Good faith" efforts were used to reach non-bill paying consumers. Those efforts included the following methods as recommended by the primacy agency:

posting the CCR on the Internet at [www.fdlrez.com](http://www.fdlrez.com)

mailing the CCR to postal patrons within the service area. (attach zip codes used)

advertising availability of the CCR in news media (attach copy of announcement)

publication of CCR in local newspaper (attach copy)

posting the CCR in public places (attach a list of locations)

delivery of multiple copies to single bill addresses serving several persons such as:  
apartments, businesses, and large private employers

delivery to community organizations (attach a list)

\_\_\_\_(for systems serving at least 100,000 persons) Posted CCR on a publicly-accessible Internet site at the address: www.\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_Delivered CCR to other agencies as required by the primacy agency (attach a list)

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List of Community Organizations where the 2020 Consumer Confidence Reports (CCR), are posted for the community water systems included therein above:

Fond du Lac Tribal Community Center  
1720 Big Lake Road  
Cloquet, MN 55720

Fond du Lac Housing  
932 Trettle Lane  
Cloquet, MN 55720

Brookston Community Center  
8200 Belich Street  
Cloquet, MN 55720

FDL Gas & Grocery  
1510 Big Lake Rd  
Cloquet, MN 55720