



## We know that you care about water quality and we do too!

The importance of providing safe drinking water is important to all of us. To reassure you that the City of Roseville is taking appropriate steps to ensure a safe water supply, we have provided some information here for you to read. With regard to the potential of lead in our water system we would like to help put your minds at ease. Water being delivered by the Great Lakes Water Authority (GLWA) to your homes through the Roseville municipal water system has tested well below dangerous EPA lead levels. In some older homes there may be deficiencies in the plumbing that can cause lead to dissolve into the water. These instances would be isolated to the individual homes that have those deficiencies, and NOT system wide.

The City of Roseville meets or exceeds all the requirements of the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). We are committed to providing you with information because informed customers are our best allies. Source water contamination is not likely to occur if potential contaminants are properly used and managed. The City routinely and continuously monitors, takes samples, and tests municipal supplied water for a variety of chemicals to assure safe drinking water. The City is also actively involved in and supports watershed protection efforts.

Our Water Department is in the process of identifying the homes with lead service lines. Once identified, those homes are tested. The level for safe consumption is 15 parts per billion. As per the State statute, we are required to notify anybody that tests with a traceable amount, even if it is below the safe level for consumption. The City has well over 18,000 individual water service lines leading to homes and buildings. These lines are not part of the municipal system and can often be of various types including lead, galvanized iron, copper and PVC plastic. To date the City has been able to identify 45 lead lines, 15 galvanized iron lines and 803 copper lines. Our evaluation process is ongoing and we are asking for your assistance in this effort. If City Water Department representatives, identified with official City ID, come to your home or business, please allow them into your home or business to help identify any potential problems. ***Remember we are drinking this water as well and it is our mission to maintain a safe and reliable water distribution system.***

Here is some additional information that may also be helpful in understanding more about the municipal water system. 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. 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. Contaminants that may be present in source water include the following:

### **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, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses.

### **Organic Chemical Contaminants**

including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems.

### **Radioactive Contaminants**

which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations that limit the number of certain contaminants in water provided by public water supplies. FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that shall provide the same protection for public health. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the United States EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

### **What About 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 in-home plumbing. The City of Roseville is responsible for providing high quality drinking water through the Great Lakes Water Authority but cannot control the variety of materials used in private property plumbing components. When your water has been sitting in your piping 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 800-426-4791 or at <http://water.epa.gov/drink/info/lead/index.cfm>. You can also contact the City of Roseville Water Department at 586-445-5460.