Dear Fellow Spartan:

We are pleased to inform you that the water you are drinking is safe and healthy. We take great care in protecting it from contamination and always strive to furnish you with a clean, high quality product that you can drink without worry.

MSU water meets or surpasses all federal and state drinking water standards.

This report is a snapshot of the quality of the water that we provided to you in 1999. Included are details about where your water comes from, what we are doing to ensure that your water remains safe to drink, what’s in it, and how it compares to Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and state standards.

Sources of Drinking Water: The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs and wells. At Michigan State University, our water comes from 17 groundwater wells located just south of the main MSU campus. These wells tap into the Saginaw aquifer, a deep sandstone formation that lies beneath most of the central Lower Peninsula. It serves several communities in mid-Michigan.

Protecting our Water Supply: In recognition of the importance of keeping this abundant supply of water safe to drink, MSU, throughout 1999, continued its efforts to develop a Wellhead Protection Plan. The Wellhead Protection Team has members representing university safety, water operations, and land management staff, as well as members from the academic community with specific and expert knowledge and experience in protecting groundwater.

The team recently completed an inventory of potential contaminants within the groundwater recharge area. It is currently developing management strategies to help insure that the water remains safe to drink, and refining or developing contingency plans to deal with hazardous material spills, should they ever occur.

HEALTH AND SAFETY INFORMATION

Pure water has often been called a universal solvent because it will dissolve almost anything. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material. It can also pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity. Some of these substances have been deemed by the Environmental Protection Agency to be contaminants that must be monitored and strictly controlled. 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).
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/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).

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 are naturally occurring.
- **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.

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 regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which provide the same protection for public health.

**Is our water system meeting other rules that govern our operations?** The State and EPA require us to test our water on a regular basis to ensure its safety. We met all the monitoring and reporting requirements for 1999.

We are committed to providing you with safe, reliable and healthy water. We are pleased to provide you with this information to keep you fully informed about your water. We will be issuing this report annually, and will also keep you informed of any problems that may occur throughout the year, as they happen.

For more information about your water, or the contents of this report, contact Doug MacDonald at 517-355-3314, or send e-mail to water@pplant.msu.edu.

The table on the next page shows test results for substances that were found in our drinking water. Results are not shown for substances that were tested for but not detected. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table is from testing done January 1-December 31, 1999.

**NOTE:** In 1999 we tested for 74 synthetic organic carbon compounds (including pesticides and herbicides). Just as in previous years’ tests, none were detected in our drinking water.

**Terms and abbreviations used in the table:**

- **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.
- **MCL** Maximum Contaminant Level: The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close as feasible using the best available treatment technology.
- **N/A** Not applicable
- **ppb** parts per billion or micrograms per liter
- **ppm** parts per million or milligrams per liter
- **AL** Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant, which, if exceeded, triggers treatment, or other requirements that a water system must follow.
## Substances we found in our water

### Water Quality Data

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Substance</th>
<th>Unit</th>
<th>MCL</th>
<th>MCLG</th>
<th>Amount found in MSU water</th>
<th>Sample Date (if not in '99)</th>
<th>Major Sources</th>
<th>Violation?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chromium</td>
<td>ppb</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>3.00</td>
<td>4/4/97</td>
<td>Discharge from steel and pulp mills; erosion of natural deposits</td>
<td>NO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arsenic</td>
<td>ppb</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2.00</td>
<td>4/4/97</td>
<td>Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; runoff from glass and electronics production wastes</td>
<td>NO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barium</td>
<td>ppm</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0.13</td>
<td>4/4/97</td>
<td>Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits</td>
<td>NO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fluoride</td>
<td>ppm</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0.9</td>
<td></td>
<td>Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories</td>
<td>NO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TTHMs (Total Trihalomethanes)</td>
<td>ppb</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2.9 to 9.4</td>
<td></td>
<td>By-products of drinking water chlorination</td>
<td>NO</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Unregulated Substance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Substance</th>
<th>Unit</th>
<th>MCL</th>
<th>MCLG</th>
<th>Amount found in MSU water</th>
<th>Sample Date</th>
<th>Major Sources</th>
<th>Violation?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sulfate</td>
<td>ppm</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>64</td>
<td></td>
<td>Naturally present in groundwater</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chlorodibromomethane&lt;sup&gt;2&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>ppb</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>0 to 0.5</td>
<td></td>
<td>By-product of drinking water chlorination</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chloroform&lt;sup&gt;2&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>ppb</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>2.3 to 6.5</td>
<td></td>
<td>By-product of drinking water chlorination</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dichlorodibromomethane&lt;sup&gt;2&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>ppb</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>0.6 to 2.4</td>
<td></td>
<td>By-product of drinking water chlorination</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<sup>1</sup>Water quality regulations allow us to monitor some substances less than once a year because their concentrations are not expected to vary significantly from year to year.

<sup>2</sup>These constituents are not regulated individually, but combined make up the TTHM category, shown above.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Substance&lt;sup&gt;3&lt;/sup&gt;</th>
<th>AL</th>
<th>MSU Water&lt;sup&gt;4&lt;/sup&gt;</th>
<th>Number of Samples Over Action Level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lead</td>
<td>15 ppb</td>
<td>8 ppb</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Copper</td>
<td>1300 ppb</td>
<td>840 ppb</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<sup>3</sup>MSU is currently on a 3 year cycle for lead and copper testing. These results are from 1999.

<sup>4</sup>90 percent of samples were at or below this level.

**Coliform bacteria:** Michigan State University is required to do 240 tests per year for coliform bacteria in our distribution system. In 1999, we tested 480 samples, and found no coliform at all.
El informe contiene información importante sobre la calidad del agua en su comunidad. Tradúzcalo o hable con alguien en que lo entienda bien.

Le rapport contient des informations concernant la qualité de l'eau de votre communauté. Parlez-le à quelqu'un qui l'entende.

Das Bericht enthält wichtige Informationen über die Qualität des Wassers Ihrer Gemeinschaft. Übersetzen Sie es oder sprechen Sie mit jemandem, der es versteht.

Il rapport contiene informazioni importanti sulla qualità dell'acqua della comunità. Parlarci con un amico che lo comprenda.

Sprawozdanie zawiera ważne informacje na temat jakości wody w Twojej miejscowości. Poprosź o przeburzenie go lub pomówienie z osobą, która je dobrze rozumie.

O relatório contém informações importantes sobre a qualidade da água na sua comunidade. Traduza-o ou peça ajuda a uma pessoa que entenda melhor.

Този документ включав важна информация относно качеството на водата във вашето село. Изтърпейте го или обсъдете го с човек, който разбирае.

Отчет содержит важную информацию о качестве воды в Вашем районе. Переведите его или попросите другого, хорошо знающего такое, объяснить его содержание.

Bản báo cáo có ghi những thông tin quan trọng về chất lượng nước cộng đồng này. Hãy nói với người thích đâm hoặc mời câu hỏi với người bạn biết rõ về vấn đề này.