



In the August 26, 2010 issue of the Water Quality update:

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### Well Status Report

- Except for Well 10, all seasonal wells are now in service and pumping water into the distribution system.
- Well 8 was brought into service in late July. Recent test results show Well 8 producing water with 0.57-0.60 mg/L iron and 49-51 µg/L manganese.
- Well 26 is currently out of service; the electric motor on the deep well pump failed in July. A new energy efficient motor has been ordered. The unit will likely remain off-line until November. Until then, Wells 16 and 28 will provide water to areas usually served by Well 26. Well 28, a seasonal well that is normally taken off-line in fall, will remain in service until Well 26 is back up and running.

### Water Quality Test Results – June/July 2010

**MICROBIOLOGY** – In June and July, Water Utility staff collected 812 water samples from Water Utility facilities and representative locations in the distribution system. Samples were tested for coliform bacteria – indicators of potential water contamination. During this period, three samples (one each from the City-County Building, Well 29, and Well 30) tested positive for coliform bacteria; however, follow-up samples did not show the presence of the bacteria.

**IRON & MANGANESE** – Samples were collected from seven wells in July and tested for iron and manganese. At elevated levels, these minerals can cause yellow, orange, or brown colored water. Results are shown in the table below. Additional iron and manganese test results can be found in the [Annual Inorganics Table](#) on our website.

July 2010	Mn (ppb)	Iron (ppm)
Unit Well 7	27	0.378
Unit Well 8	52	0.793
Unit Well 11	2.6	0.004
Unit Well 17	30	0.097
Unit Well 18	5.5	0.006
Unit Well 26	18	0.006
Unit Well 28	24	0.186
<b>Standard*</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>0.300</b>

\* Secondary Maximum Contaminant Level (SMCL) - non-enforceable guideline for aesthetic effects (color, taste, or odor)

**RESIDENTIAL IRON & MANGANESE** – A total of 146 water samples, collected from 119 homes, were analyzed for iron and manganese in June and July. Manganese levels ranged from 0.2–55 parts per billion (ppb) with a median concentration of 4 ppb and a 90<sup>th</sup> percentile level of 22 ppb. Two samples were found to exceed the secondary standard of 50 ppb – a guideline for reducing aesthetic complaints. Iron levels ranged from <0.01–0.80 parts per million (ppm) with a median of 0.02 ppm and a 90<sup>th</sup> percentile of 0.13 ppm. Four samples were observed to exceed the secondary standard of 0.3 ppm iron. Samples were collected over a wide geographic area including the former Well 3 and Well 10 areas, the current Well 8 and Well 29 areas, and near west neighborhoods.

**ANNUAL INORGANICS MONITORING** – Each year the Water Utility tests water collected from each well for 30+ inorganic constituents. These chemicals include calcium, magnesium, iron, manganese, lead, arsenic, sodium, nitrate, and chloride. The complete results for all wells sampled in June are available on our [website](#).

**VOLATILE ORGANICS MONITORING** – Eighteen wells were sampled in June and/or July for volatile organic compounds (VOC) – man-made contaminants that include cleaning solvents and degreasers. Each Madison municipal well is tested annually for VOC. Some wells are tested more frequently due to previous VOC detections. Complete year-to-date results are available on our [website](#).

### **Lead and Copper Study – 2010**

Earlier this summer, the Water Utility initiated a lead and copper study as a follow-up to the lead service line replacement program and in anticipation of required lead and copper testing to take place in 2011. The utility collected water samples from 31 of 45 homes which were previously sampled prior to the lead service line being replaced. A preliminary analysis of the data clearly demonstrates the benefit of replacing a lead service line on the observed lead levels in tap water. Additional information will be posted on our [website](#) later this fall.

### **Contact the Water Utility**

Do you have questions about your water? Do you have a water quality concern at your home or place of work? Is there other information you would like to see in future drinking water quality updates or on our website? For answers to these and other questions or to provide us feedback, please contact the Water Utility at 266-4654, [water@cityofmadison.com](mailto:water@cityofmadison.com), or through our website at <https://www.cityofmadison.com/water/askUs.cfm>.

### **Subscribe to the Drinking Water Quality Listserv**

People who want to receive regular updates on Madison's drinking water quality can subscribe to this e-mail listserv at <https://my.cityofmadison.com/>.

Registration is simple and provides access to dozens of City of Madison e-mail lists including Drinking Water Quality (this one) and Water Main Flushing, as well as departmental messages from Metro Transit, City Parks, Public Health, and Police.

Once registered for a “My Account”, click on the check box for “Drinking Water Quality” under the Water Utility heading.

Please contact me if you need assistance.

Sincerely,  
Joseph Grande  
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Madison Water Utility

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