



McINTOSH

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Times

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McIntosh, Minnesota

Winger Fengestad Solie Post 200 honored for 100 years of service



The Fengestad - Solie Post 200 of the American Legion has been an active organization in the Winger community for the past 100 years. Each year members of the Post hold a Memorial Day program in the Memorial Park. Pictured are front row: Butch Pulkamp, Lonny Gieseke, Dennis Boucher, Seth Senn, Kelly Johnson. Back row: Paul Carlson, Dean Johnson, Craig Espeseth, Buddy Kiecker, Gary Sonsteli, David Natwick and Bruce Benbo.



Dean Henney gave the Memorial Address during the Winger Legion Post 100th Anniversary Memorial Day Program held at the Winger Community Center.

Breakfast at the Farm is this Saturday at Hill Top Ranch

Join in the fun at Breakfast at the Farm this Saturday, June 10th from 7:00 am to 11:00 am at the Hill Top Ranch located at 29207 330th St. SE north of McIntosh.

Holly and Jason Breckel host this event with breakfast, entertainment by Kent Dudley & Bended Knee, visits with Senator Mark Johnson and State Representative Debra Kiel.

There will also be many activities for the kids including a petting zoo and face painting.

Adults can shop for products from Howard Soap Company, Bingham Leatherworks, Mary Kay, Woodside Honey, and much more.

There will be a free will donation for this event which



will benefit Freedom Christian Academy. For more information on this event or the Academy visit fcaerskine.org or call 218-687-3733. See you for Breakfast at the Farm this Saturday morning.



The Fengestad Solie American Legion Post 200 Color Guard on their way to Memorial Park during the Memorial Day program in Winger.



Dennis Bouche replacing the Memorial Park flag as the American Legion Post 200 prepares for the Memorial Day program.

5 fun facts about the month of June

June marks the official start of summer in the northern hemisphere, and it's the month when summer vacation begins for millions of school-children. Those two things make the month of June especially popular in many households. But June is about more than summer and the end of the school year. The following are five fun facts about

the beloved month of June that anyone can use as a great ice breaker at backyard barbecues this summer.

1. **June** is named after Juno, the Roman goddess of childbirth and fertility.

2. **The day** with the potentially longest hours of sunlight of any day all year is in June. When the sun is out on the summer solstice, which marks

the official start of summer and in 2023 is celebrated on Wednesday, June 21, people in the northern hemisphere can anticipate more hours of sunlight than any other day during the calendar year.

3. **According** to the American Gem Society, June is one of only two months that is associated with three birthstones: alexandrite, moonstone and pearl. Pearls are especially unique among gemstones, as they are the only ones made by living creatures.

4. **In both** common and leap years, no other month begins on the same day of the week as June.

5. **New York Yankee** Lou Gehrig began his streak of playing in 2,130 consecutive games on June 1, 1925. The streak ended on April 20, 1939. Gehrig held the record for consecutive games played until Baltimore Orioles legend Cal Ripken, Jr., surpassed the man known as "The Iron Horse" on September 6, 1995.



Iris Howard, a student at Freedom Christian Academy, enjoys putting hot sauce on her cucumber sandwich at a fancy tea party she had with her classmates.



Harlan and Mae Breckel have fun in a wheelbarrow race this spring at Freedom Christian Academy in Erskine.

Win-E-Mac announces 4th quarter Honor Roll

The following Win-E-Mac Junior High School and Senior High School students have attained either an "A" or "B" average in academic subjects for the fourth quarter of the 2022 – 2023 school year. Congratulations! To be eligible for the "A" Honor Roll, you need to have attained a 3.76 – 4.00 GPA (Grade Point Average), and to be eligible for the "B" Honor Roll, you need to have attained a 3.00 – 3.75 GPA.

Seniors:
"A"
Jacob Audette
Flaco Espinoza
Kallie Hand
Zachary Luckow
Nadelly Neubert
Izabelle Ostenaar
Laila Roragen
"B"
Bret DuChamp
George Erofeeff
Kylie Geray
Alecia Hancock
Fitzgerald
Vadim Kulikov
Jonathan Moritz
Jamison Nichols
Thomas Revier
Jonas Spry
Juniors:
"A"
Justin Courneya
Ava Howard

Kayleena Kutsev
Preston Lecy
Emily Olson
Emily Strom
Luella Strom
Kyra Stuhau
Jaime Stuhr
Kianna Tadman
"B"
Joshua Carlson
Foma Cheremnov
Wyatt Davis
Caleb Green
Alex Haskett
Ryan Kangas
Alyssa Morberg
Isabelle Morinville
Jordon Paradis
Clare Stuhau
Sydney Svalen
Hana Thompson
Brooke Tofstad
Sophomores:
"A"
Kaylee Dickinson
Sava Erofeeff
Josie Fortman
Bergen Howard
Livaeh Kicker
Colten Mandt
Shelby Mandt
Evelyn Ryan
Abigail Sauer
Danielle Winter
"B"
Clay Below
Emelia Boianoff

Ariana Dickinson
Braylon Hamre
Johnathon Haverkamp
Calvin Hill
Ericka Kramer
Callista Lewis
Shelby Long
Kassidi Qualey
Brayden Sander
9th Grade:
"A"
Paige Breitbach
Josie Johnson
Lauren Kaupang
Riley Kochmann
Joy Neubert
Karli Schow
"B"
Cambell Brown
Jordyn Halstad
Klaudia Kutsev
Adrian Ryan
Hudson Smeby
Cameron Svalen
8th Grade:
"A"
Joe Courneya
Carter Fortman
Austin Johnson
Hayden Johnson
Austin Langseth
Nathaniel Spry
Jareth Walk
David Zarkoff
"B"
Rian Bergh
David Cymbaluk

Letter to the Editor

What the DAV is doing for the Polk County Community
Many of you have probably heard of the DAV for years, and some of you even support us, but may not know all the amazing things we are doing every year. DAV is an acronym for our program Disabled American Veterans. The DAV helps over one million Veterans every year. We also work hand in hand with the VFW, American Legion and Polk County Veterans Services Officer.

The main objective of the

DAV is to work with Veterans to help them access the benefits and care they so richly deserve. All Veterans can access the support of the DAV even if they are not a member. The DAV can offer all Veterans a ride to their next VA appointment.

Another great benefit of the DAV is our commitment to raising money and supporting Veterans who wish to travel on the Honor Flight. The Honor Flight is a trip to Washington D.C. to visit all of the amazing war memorials (WWII, Korea and Vietnam War Memorials).

My name is Dennis Boucher (Vietnam Veteran) and I have recently been elected the new Commander of the Chapter 14 (Crookston) Disabled American Veterans chapter. I want to raise more awareness of the DAV, and how we can help all of the people who have served their country. Any questions or concerns for the DAV, do not hesitate to call 218-281-3066.

Dennis Boucher
218-280-1520

A Huge Thanks to the Win-E-Mac Elementary students.

They collected 119 pounds of food at their school dance for the Grace Community Food Shelf.

Great job!

M12C

McIntosh Community Garage Sales
The McIntosh Community Garage sales will take place on Saturday, June 17th. *(some sales open on Friday evening as well.)*

Register by messaging the McIntosh Community Club Facebook page or by contacting the McIntosh City office during normal business hours

LSS

Meals Menu

687-2262

Call to reserve your meal. Indoor dining at 11:30 am; drive-up available at 11:00 am.

Mon. June 12: Cranberry Glazed Chicken Breast - Baked Potato - Green Beans - Breadsticks - Lemon Pudding - Milk

Tues. June 13: *Bingo* Swedish Meatballs - Mashed Potatoes w/Country Gravy - Carrots - Wheat Bread - Watermelon - Milk

Wed. June 14: Chicken Spaghetti - Broccoli - Apple Slices - Wheat Rolls - Oatmeal Raisin Cookies - Milk

Thur. June 15: *Bingo* *AS Bank Day* Roast Beef - Mashed Potatoes & Gravy - Corn - Wheat Bread - Peach Crisp - Milk

Fri. June 16: Lemon Pepper Fish - Scalloped Potatoes - Peas - Lettuce Salad - Wheat Rolls - Banana - Milk

Community Birthday and Anniversary Calendar

Wed. June 7: Bob Olson, Carmen Syverson, Diana Linds-eth, Nickie Carlson, Kelly Lee, *Dennis & Diane Boucher

Thurs. June 8: Holly Kringle, *Jim & Carla Ferden

Fri. June 9: Calvin Burslie, Ava Frisk, *Gerald & Colleen Borud, *Ron & Heidi Lemer

Sat. June 10: Corey Rasmussen

Sun. June 11: Toby Strom, Silas Lee, *Thomas & Wendy Reitmeier, *Josh & Katie Roed

Mon. June 12: Robert Hegland, Tamera Ostenaar, Janelle (Graft) Haas, Charise Sharp

Tues. June 13: Samantha Caron, *Dean & Anita Roy

MCINTOSH AFLC
McIntosh Trinity / Mount Carmel:
Interim Pastors John Anderson and Phil Rokke

Sunday Services
11:00am Mt Carmel
9:30am Trinity

Vacation Bible School
June 12th - 16th
9:00 am - 2:15 pm
218-563-3454

GOSEN LUTHERAN CHURCH
Independent
Gary Johnson, Pastor
www.gosen-church.com
Face Book: Gosen Church

Sun, June 11: 9:30am Sunday School and Adult Bible Study; 11:00am Worship Service (also on Facebook and gosenchurch.com)

Tues, June 13: 10:00am. Sunday worship service telecast on GVTN--30

Wed, June 14: 6:30pm Bible Study at Sharon Ramberg's home

Gosen Church is located 4 miles south of the junctions of Highways 2 & 59 or 4 miles north of Winger; then 1/2 mile east on County Road 206. For information call 268-4242 or 687-3461.

VERNES LUTHERAN CHURCH (LCMC)
McIntosh
Pastor Lee Laaveg

Sun. June 11: 9:00am Worship
Sun, June 18: 9:00am Worship

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
McIntosh
Pastor Bruce Blocker,

Sundays: 9:00am Worship; 10:00am Fellowship Hour; 10:15am Sunday School

CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH
Winger

Sundays: 9:45am Sunday School; 10:00am Coffee Fellowship; 10:30am Worship

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH-NALC
Erskine
Rev. Pam Thorson
Sundays: 9:00am Worship
Come early and enjoy fellowship and a good cup of coffee. It will also be available at the same time on Garden Valley Channel 30, Facebook and YouTube.

BUSINESS & PROFESSIONAL GUIDE

This space for rent at \$127.40 for 6 months.

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"Serving the Win-E-Mac area"

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Ultima Bank Minnesota donated \$500 to the Winger Memorial park enhancements. Lisa Schaumburg Winger City Clerk donated many hours to get the garden ready for Memorial Day. Pictured is Lisa Schaumburg, Winger City Clerk - KariAnn Keller, Ultima Bank and their father Lonny Gieseke American Legion member.



Ultima Bank Minnesota presented the American Legion Post 200 with a check for \$250 to replace several flags and the memorial day wreaths. Accepting the check members from the legion left to right Dennis Bouche, David Natwick and Lonny Gieseke.



There are many people involved in setting up Winger Memorial Park for honoring the local fallen soldiers each year. Left to right Bruce Benbo, David Natwick, Dennis Bouche, Paul Carlson, Lonny Gieseke and Dean Johnson.



Here, Lonny Gieseke setting up the first row of crosses to get the correct spacing for the many crosses that are meticulously placed in the Winger Memorial park for Memorial Day honors.



The American Legion Post 200 Commander, Gary Sonsteli and Post Chaplain, Bruce Benbo, during the Winger Memorial Day program.



The Fengestad Solie Post 200 with their 21 Gun Salute during the Memorial Park Program held in Winger.



The Win-E-Mac Senior High School Band plays during the Winger Legion Post 100th Anniversary Memorial Day Program.

Superintendents Notes

By Randy Bruer

End of the School Year

As graduations wrap up in the region and teacher's clean-up to get ready for another year, we want to say Thank you teachers and parents for a great year at Win-E-Mac schools.

ECFE

The school district hired DeAnn Boe to serve as our ECFE Coordinator to lead our program. She is planning to host Tuesday evening classes again for our little ones and parents. Look for advertising for program details on our website and local media channels of communication. She has done a tremendous job this year creating a program for the future.

School Parking

Lot Improvements

A major improvement this summer will be resurfacing the Parking Lot and drive into the school. Resurfacing the lot was scheduled for the summer of 2025, but we found out from a couple of contractors that this may be a better time to do the work with the better price tag. We can do this overlay due to the cost difference versus waiting 2 more years and a longer pay period.



terest rate which will reduce school taxes in Pay 24. If we add the parking lot debt to the existing school building debt for 2 years, school levy taxes will remain constant for that time vs a large decrease. We cannot control the increases of market values, but we can control our spending. At our next school board meeting we will have a truth in taxation for this proposal. The time is right to do this overlay due to the cost difference versus waiting 2 more years and a longer pay period.

Free

Breakfast and Lunch

During the summer months Win-E-Mac School will be serv-

ing free Breakfast and free Lunch for all school-aged children. Adults will be charged for meals. If students want to participate regularly, please call the school and give the office the names of students participating. This program will be available all summer through August 26, 2022. This is open to any or all students. Next school year the state will provide free breakfast and lunch to all students. We still need to collect Free and Reduced statements from parents, so please keep this information.

Important

Immunizations

Now is the time to prepare for student immunizations for the next school year. Do not wait until the last minute because state law does not allow a student to attend a Minnesota school, until their immunizations are up to date. According to Minnesota's School Immunization laws, a child entering Kindergarten should have dates for the following vaccines: 5 (DTaP/DTP) Diphtheria-Tetanus-Pertussis, 4 (IPV) Polio, 3 (Hep B) Hepatitis B, 2 (MMR) Measles-Mumps-Rubella, 2 Varicella (chickenpox) 1(Tdap booster-7th grade only) and 2 Meningococcal (MCV) first dose at 7th grade, second generally at age 16. Win-E-Mac School along

with all schools in Minnesota is required to make sure all students meet the criteria for immunization certification in Minnesota schools. If a parent has a question about immunizations, please call the school district. In order to remain in school, your student is required to be in compliance.

Bus Drivers

If you would like to earn some extra income during the school year we need sub bus drivers. This is open for both male and females who have the interest in our group. We can train and assist you in getting the license. Please call the school at 218-563-2900 for more information.

Juneteenth

is a State Holiday

Governor Walz signed legislation that establishes Juneteenth as a State holiday. Juneteenth recognizes the historical pronouncement of the abolition of slavery on June

19, 1865, when the Emancipation Proclamation was said to have been first publicly read in Texas by Union soldiers.

As is the case with other holidays defined in Minnesota Session Laws 2023 Chapter 5, no public business can be conducted on this day. This means schools cannot hold classes or programs, school board meetings, athletic practices and competitions, and other school-associated events. Private entities can be held but no public business.

Shared programming

The school board will be meeting with surrounding school districts to talk about the addition of adding more activities to our programming. Esports, Wrestling and Track have been activities WEM is interested in sharing. Our district does not have enough students to fill a full program, but a shared program has potential.

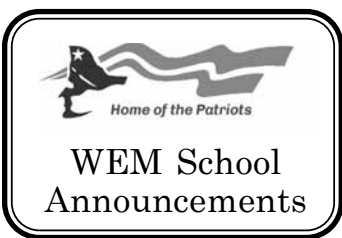
Did you know?

Even though cataracts primarily affect aging individuals, children are not immune to them.

Cataracts in children may be present at birth, and doctors will determine if children have congenital cataracts, advises the American Academy of Ophthalmology®. But cataracts also can be acquired as an infant or young child. There

are several causes for pediatric cataracts, and they may include an eye injury, diabetes, complications from eye problems, steroid use, and radiation treatment.

The only treatment for cataracts is to remove them. Identifying pediatric cataracts early on can help children enjoy healthy vision.



Win-E-Mac will be hosting

a basketball camp on July 25th, 26th, and 27th.

Shannon Nelson (Head Coach of NCTC Women Program, National Champion Coach, Former Gopher women player, and played in a Final Four) will be running a camp for all our elementary students and is willing to run a camp for our 7th -12th athletes as well as long as we can get enough participants. Camp charge is \$30 dollars as our elementary basketball fund will be covering the rest of the cost. Please let Nathan Johnson know if you have any questions and please encourage your athletes to participate in this camp.

The Fitness Center access has now been changed to summer hours.

(The Fitness Center is closed during the school day during the school year.) You are now able to get into the fitness center 24/7. If you have any questions, please call Kristi at the school.



McIntosh 2022 Drinking Water Report

Making Safe Drinking Water

Your drinking water comes from a groundwater source: two wells ranging from 206 to 210 feet deep, that draw water from the Quaternary Buried Artesian aquifer.

McIntosh works hard to provide you with safe and reliable drinking water that meets federal and state water quality requirements. The purpose of this report is to provide you with information on your drinking water and how to protect our precious water resources.

Contact Peter Tranby, Public Works Supervisor, at 218-280-9130 or macmait@gvtel.com if you have questions about McIntosh's drinking water. You can also ask for information about how you can take part in decisions that may affect water quality.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency sets safe drinking water standards. These standards limit the amounts of specific contaminants allowed in drinking water. This ensures that tap water is safe to drink for most people. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration regulates the amount of certain contaminants in bottled water. Bottled water must provide the same public health protection as public tap 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 Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

McIntosh Monitorin Results

This report contains our monitoring results from January 1 to December 31, 2022.

We work with the Minnesota Department of Health to test drinking water for more than 100 contaminants. It is not unusual to detect contaminants in small amounts. No water supply is ever completely free of contaminants. Drinking water standards protect Minnesotans from substances that may be harmful to their health.

Learn more by visiting the Minnesota Department of Health's webpage Basics of Monitoring and testing of Drinking Water in Minnesota (<https://www.health.state.mn.us/communities/environment/water/factsheet/sampling.html>).

How to Read the Water Quality Data Tables

The tables below show the contaminants we found last year or the most recent time we sampled for that contaminant. They also show the levels of those contaminants and the Environmental Protection Agency's limits. Substances that we tested for but did not find are not included in the tables.

We sample for some contaminants less than once a year because their levels in water are not expected to change from year to year. If we found any of these contaminants the last time we sampled for them, we included them in the tables below with the detection date.

We may have done additional monitoring for contaminants that are not included in the Safe Drinking Water Act. To request a copy of these results, call the Minnesota Department of Health at 651-201-4700 between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Some contaminants are monitored regularly throughout the year, and rolling (or moving) annual averages are used to manage compliance. Because of this averaging, there are times where the Range of Detected Test Results for the calendar year is lower than the Highest Average or Highest Single Test Re-

Monitoring Results – Regulated Substances

LEAD AND COPPER – Tested at customer taps.						
Contaminant (Date, if sampled in previous year)	EPA's Ideal Goal (MCLG)	EPA's Action Level	90% of Results Were Less Than	Number of Homes with High Levels	Violation	Typical Sources
Lead (08/05/20)	0 ppb	90% of homes less than 15 ppb	7.1 ppb	0 out of 10	NO	Corrosion of household plumbing.
Copper (08/05/20)	0 ppm	90% of homes less than 1.3 ppm	0.74 ppm	0 out of 10	NO	Corrosion of household plumbing.

INORGANIC & ORGANIC CONTAMINANTS – Tested in drinking water.						
Contaminant (Date, if sampled in previous year)	EPA's Ideal Goal (MCLG)	EPA's Limit (MCL)	Highest Average or Highest Single Test Result	Range of Detected Test Results	Violation	Typical Sources
Combined Radium (2018)	0 pCi/l	5.4 pCi/l	1.1 pCi/l	N/A	NO	Erosion of natural deposits.
Arsenic	0 ppb	10.4 ppb	5.19 ppb	N/A	NO	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronics production wastes.

Potential Health Effects and Corrective Actions (If Applicable)

Arsenic: While your drinking water meets EPA's standard for arsenic, it does contain low levels of arsenic. EPA's standard balances the current understanding of arsenic's possible health effects against the costs of removing arsenic from drinking water. EPA continues to research the health effects of low levels of arsenic, which is a mineral known to cause cancer in humans at high concentrations and is linked to other health effects such as skin damage and circulatory problems.

CONTAMINANTS RELATED TO DISINFECTION – Tested in drinking water.						
Substance (Date, if sampled in previous year)	EPA's Ideal Goal (MCLG or MRDLG)	EPA's Limit (MCL or MRDL)	Highest Average or Highest Single Test Result	Range of Detected Test Results	Violation	Typical Sources
Total Chlorine	4.0 ppm	4.0 ppm	0.95 ppm	0.19 - 0.81 ppm	NO	Water additive used to control microbes.

OTHER SUBSTANCES – Tested in drinking water.						
Substance (Date, if sampled in previous year)	EPA's Ideal Goal (MCLG)	EPA's Limit (MCL)	Highest Average or Highest Single Test Result	Range of Detected Test Results	Violation	Typical Sources
Fluoride	4.0 ppm	4.0 ppm	0.82 ppm	0.55 - 0.75 ppm	NO	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive to promote strong teeth.

sult, because it occurred in the previous calendar year.

Definitions

• **AL (Action Level):** The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

• **EPA:** Environmental Protection Agency

• **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 using the best available treatment technology.

• **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.

• **MRDL (Maximum residual disinfectant level):** 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.

• **MRDLG** (Maximum residual disinfectant level goal): The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

• **N/A** (Not applicable): Does not apply.

• **pCi/l (picocuries per liter):** A measure of radioactivity.

• **ppb (parts per billion):** One part per billion in water is like one drop in one billion drops of water, or about one drop in a swimming pool. ppb is the same as micrograms per liter (µg/l).

• **ppm (parts per million):** One part per million is like one drop in one million drops of water, or about one cup in a swimming pool. ppm is the same as milligrams per liter (mg/l).

• **PWSID:** Public water system identification.

Potential Health Effects and Corrective Actions (If Applicable)

Fluoride: Fluoride is nature's cavity fighter, with small amounts present naturally in many drinking water sources. There is an overwhelming weight of credible, peer-reviewed, scientific evidence that fluoridation reduces tooth decay and cavities in children and adults, even when there is availability of fluoride from other sources, such as fluoride toothpaste and mouth rinses. Since studies show that optimal fluoride levels in drinking water benefit public health, municipal community water systems adjust the level of fluoride in the water to an optimal concentration between 0.5 to 0.9 parts per million (ppm) to protect your teeth. Fluoride levels below 2.0 ppm are not expected to increase the risk of a cosmetic condition known as enamel fluorosis.

Some People Are More Vulnerable to Contaminants in Drinking Water

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. The developing fetus and therefore pregnant women may also be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water. These people or their caregivers 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 Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

Learn More about Your Drinking Water Sources

Groundwater supplies 75 percent of Minnesota's drinking water, and is found in aquifers beneath the surface of the land. Surface water supplies 25 percent of Minnesota's drinking water, and is the water in lakes, rivers, and streams above the surface of the land. Contaminants can get in drinking water sources from the natural environment and from people's daily activities. There are five main types of contaminants in drinking water sources.

• **Microbial contaminants**, such as viruses, bacteria, and parasites. Sources include sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, pets, and wildlife.

• **Inorganic contaminants** include salts and metals from natural sources (e.g. rock and soil), oil and gas production, mining and farming operations, urban stormwater runoff, and wastewater discharges.

• **Pesticides and herbicides** are chemicals used to reduce or kill unwanted plants and pests. Sources include agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and commercial and residential properties.

• **Organic chemical contaminants** include synthetic and volatile organic compounds. Sources include industrial processes and petroleum production, gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems.

• **Radioactive contaminants** such as radium, thorium, and uranium isotopes come from natural sources (e.g. radon gas from soils and rock), mining operations, and oil and gas production.

The Minnesota Department of Health provides information about your drinking water source(s) in a source water assessment, including:

- How McIntosh is protecting your drinking water source(s);
- Nearby threats to your drinking water sources;
- How easily water and pollution can move from the surface of the land into drinking water sources, based on natural geology and the way wells are constructed.

Find your source water assessment at Source Water Assessments (<https://www.health.state.mn.us/communities/environment/water/swp/swa>) or call 651-201-4700 between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Lead in Drinking Water

You may be in contact with lead through paint, water, dust, soil, food, hobbies, or your job. Coming in contact with lead can cause serious health problems for everyone. There is no safe level of lead. Babies, children under six years, and pregnant women are at the highest risk.

Lead is rarely in a drinking water

source, but it can get in your drinking water as it passes through lead service lines and your household plumbing system. McIntosh is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but it cannot control the plumbing materials used in private buildings.

Read below to learn how you can protect yourself from lead in drinking water.

1. **Let the water** run for 30-60 seconds before using it for drinking or cooking if the water has not been turned on in over six hours. If you have a lead service line, you may need to let the water run longer. A service line is the underground pipe that brings water from the main water pipe under the street to your home.

- You can find out if you have a lead service line by contacting your public water system, or you can check by following the steps at: <https://www.mprnews.org/story/2016/06/24/npr-find-lead-pipes-in-your-home>

- The only way to know if lead has been reduced by letting it run is to check with a test. If letting the water run does not reduce lead, consider other options to reduce your exposure.

2. **Use cold water** for drinking, making food, and making baby formula. Hot water releases more lead from pipes than cold water.

3. **Test your water.** In most cases, letting the water run and using cold water for drinking and cooking should keep lead levels low in your drinking water. If you are still concerned about lead, arrange with a laboratory to test your tap water. Testing your water is important if young children or pregnant women drink your tap water.

- Contact a Minnesota Department of Health accredited laboratory to get a sample container and instructions on how to submit a sample: Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program (<https://eldo.web.health.state.mn.us/public/accreditedlabs/labsearch.seam>) The Minnesota Department of Health can help you understand your test results.

4. **Treat your water** if a test shows your water has high levels of lead after you let the water run.

- Read about water treatment units: Point-of-Use Water Treatment Units for Lead Reduction (<https://www.health.state.mn.us/communities/environment/water/factsheet/poulead.html>)

- Learn more: Visit Lead in Drinking Water (<https://www.health.state.mn.us/communities/environment/water/contaminants/lead.html>)

- Visit Basic Information about Lead in Drinking Water (<http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>)

- Call the EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791. To learn about how to reduce your contact with lead from sources other than your drinking water, visit Common Sources (<https://www.health.state.mn.us/communities/environment/lead/fs/common.html>).

Water systems have ongoing infrastructure, operations and maintenance costs in supplying safe drinking water, and many are implementing additional efforts to help insure health equity and manageable water bills with:

- o Turn the faucet off while brushing teeth.
- o Shower instead of bathing to reduce water use.
- o Fix running toilets by replacing flapper valves.
- o Run full loads of laundry and use a minimal water use setting.
- o Our water system partners with others to help consumers with limited resources make payments to their water bills.
- o Contact us to learn more.