

Our Future is Clear

In 2003 the City of Iowa City fulfilled on a commitment to the future health and prosperity of our community and began processing the City's drinking water through a new state-of-the-art drinking water purification facility that provides customers with a water quality that exceeds all of the quality standards required by the Environmental Protection Agency. Over two hundred tests a day are performed by water treatment plant staff. In addition to these tests, others are performed by the University Hygienic Laboratory to ensure that the water reaching your home is safe and good tasting.

The water purification facility uses a lime softening coagulation-sedimentation process followed by activated carbon filtration. Starting with source water that is virtually clear, the lime softening process reduces hardness in the water by nearly two-thirds. The carbon filters polish the water by removing dissolved precursors to eliminate any tastes and odors. Chlorine is added to ensure disinfection in the water distribution system. Fluoride is added to enhance the source water's natural fluoride content to help teeth be more resistant to cavities. A well-maintained water distribution system brings the high quality water to your tap 24 hours a day. In addition, over 7 million gallons of storage and pumping capacity is strategically placed to ensure adequate pressures, volumes and fire protection throughout the city.

Contact us: H2oinfo@iowa-city.org www.icgov.org/water 356-5164

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Consumer Confidence Report

The Iowa City Water Division's annual Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) is delivered to homes and businesses during the month of June every year. Iowa municipal water supplies are regulated by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Iowa Department of Natural Resources to ensure safe drinking water. The CCR was developed to assist consumers in understanding the source of their drinking water and how it is treated.

The EPA requires Iowa City to monitor for over 90 drinking water impurities. Those listed in the CCR are the only impurities found in your drinking water. Iowa City's water was safe at all times in 2009, and any levels of the impurities found were below the safety standards for drinking water. A more extensive "Water Report for Specialized Water Use Customers" is also available for those interested in all of the items that were tested. The reports can also be reviewed at www.icgov.org. If you have not received a report or need another copy, extras are available at City Hall, 410 East Washington Street and the Water Purification facility, 80 Stephens Atkins Drive. If you have questions, please contact Carol Sweeting at 319-356-5164 or carol-sweeting@iowa-city.org.



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2010 Water Main Replacement Projects

A proactive and well-managed water utility will have an ongoing program of improving and replacing water distribution pipes to ensure high quality water, minimal disruption of service from main breaks, reliable quantity, increased fire protection, and addition of hydrants.

This summer, the City of Iowa City will be replacing water main and adding hydrants in the following neighborhoods:

Muscatine Ave. (2300-2600 blocks) • Plum St. Phase 1 (Highland Ave. to Keokuk St.) • Plum St. Phase 2 (Keokuk to Ridge St.) • 2nd Ave. (Court St. to D St. to First Ave.)

Preliminary work usually begins in May and all projects are completed by fall. Neighborhoods directly impacted by construction will receive information letters regarding neighborhood meetings. Weather and other factors may impact work schedule. Please watch for specific project details and dates.

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Spring hydrant flushing begins in March

A well run utility will have an ongoing program of flushing and cleaning the distribution pipes to ensure the pipes remain clean. Flushing is done by opening the hydrants and letting water rush out. The Iowa City Water Division flushes all hydrants in the Spring and all dead-end hydrants in the Fall of each year. This ensures that any sediment is removed from distribution pipes. Almost all iron water pipes have a thin film of rust that, experience shows, causes no problems. However, should the material build up over time it could cause clogging of fixtures and/or tap water discoloration. Every hydrant is also checked and repaired if necessary to make sure adequate fire protection is available for the City. Over 3,190 fire hydrants are checked and serviced each year.

When several miles of pipe are cleaned and the water comes out of the hydrant all at once, it is normally clear and clean. However, if you should notice rusty colored water in your home, let it run until the color clears. Wash laundry in the evenings or weekends as flushing is performed Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m.

To determine when hydrant flushing is being performed in your neighborhood, go to icgov.org/water and check the maroon box with the heading *Hydrant Flushing Schedule*. The box will be updated daily and throughout the day as needed when hydrants are being flushed.

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