Lac Vieux Desert Annual Drinking Water Report

Is my water safe?
During 2025 your tap water met all U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) drinking water safety standards. The Lac Vieux Desert Utility Division monitors the water supply. Our Tribe vigilantly safeguards its drinking water supply, however on occasion we run into a problem that with the help of Indian Health Service and EPA we resolve in accordance with Safe Drinking Water Act regulations. This report will give you more information about the safety of your water supply. Please read on for additional information. Informed customers are our best allies.

Do I need to take special precautions?
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/Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other contaminants are available from the Safe Water Drinking Hotline (800-426-4791).

Where does my water come from?
Your tribal water supply originates as water beneath the surface of the, earth. This is called groundwater. Groundwater is naturally filtered as it travels through soil and rocks. Our tribe has two wells located on Transfer Station Road, which pump this water back to the surface of the earth so that we may drink it.

Source water assessment and its availability:
In September 2005 the US EPA Region 5 approved the LVD's Source Water Assessment (SWA)Updated August 2022. During the assessment it was determined that our wells have a low to moderate susceptibility to outside contamination, based on the facts of the Tritium testing in a 12 year time of travel. Now that the SWA is complete, the Tribe will continue protection of our drinking water by using our approved source water protection plan (SWPP) for the protection of safe drinking water in the future. The Source Water Assessment data can be viewed at the Environmental/Planning Office upon request.

Why are there contaminants in my drinking 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 (800-426-4791).
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.

- Microbial Contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, can come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.
- Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, can be naturally occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial, or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.
- Pesticides and Herbicides can come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems.
- Radioactive Contaminants can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities. In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health.

How can I get involved?

We encourage you to become more involved in tribal water issues. Please join us for our monthly council meetings, held on the first Tuesday of the first full week of each month at the Tribal Center. We also invite you to call us any time for more information.

Units Description: Water Quality Data Table

The table below lists all of the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the calendar year of this report. The presence of contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table is from testing done in the calendar year of the report. EPA requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. Some of the data though representative of the water quality, may be more than one year old.

Contaminants (Units)	MCLG	MCL	Your Water	Low	High	#		Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
Inorganic Contaminants								2024	No	
Arsenic ug/L	0	10	ND		NA			2024	N0	Erosion of Natural deposits, Runoff from orchards, Runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
Barium ug/L	2	2	70		NA			2024	No	Erosion of natural deposits, drilling waste, Discharge from metal refineries,
Chromium ug/L	100	100	1.7		NA			2024	No	Discharge from steel and pulp mills, Erosion of natural deposits
Nickel ug/L			ND		NA			2024	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate mg/L Nitrite		10	0.97 ND		NA			5-2025	No	Runoff from fertilizer use, Leaching from septic tanks, sewage, Erosion of natural deposits
Halocetic Acids (HAAS5) (ppb)	NA	60	2.700		NA			8-2025	No	By-products of drinking water disinfection
TTHMs [Total Trihalomethanes] (ppb)	NA	80	1.090		NA			8-2025	No	By-products of drinking water disinfection
Lead mg/l	0	AL=15	0.401 mg/l 90%	0.25 ug	6.8 ug	10		8-2024	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, Erosion of natural deposits
Copper mg/l	1.3	AL=1.3	0.06 mg/l 90%	14 ug.	66 ug	10		8-2024	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, Erosion of natural deposits
SOC's	NA	NA			NA			8-2025	No	Synthetic Organic Chemicals Various Origins
Radionuclides			Trace	NA	NA			9-2022	No	Natural Occurring
VOC's	NA	NA	Good	NA	NA			12-2023	No	Natural Occurring

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 home

plumbing. Lac Vieux Desert is responsible for providing high quality drinking water and removing lead pipes, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components in your home. You share the responsibility for protecting yourself and your family from the lead in your home plumbing. You can take responsibility by identifying and removing lead materials within your home plumbing and taking steps to reduce your family's risk. Before drinking tap water, flush your pipes for several minutes by running your tap, taking a shower, doing laundry or a load of dishes. You can also use a filter certified by an American National Standards Institute accredited certifier to reduce lead in drinking water. If you are concerned about lead in your water and wish to have your water tested, contact Tom Pietila Public Water system Id: MI 55293401 by calling 906-358-4577 ext.4310 or email tom.pietila@lvd-nsn.gov Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead. Pur water filters have been installed on kitchen faucets that had lead detection and follow up test had No Detect for lead.

Every service line either owned by the _____LVD_____ public water system or privately owned has been classified as non-lead. The methods used to make this determination are (select or add the methods you used and delete those you did not use):

1. Water system records, such as capital improvement plans, standard operating procedures, engineering standards
2. Distribution system inspections and records, such as distribution system maps, tap cards, service line repair/replacement records, inspection records, meter installation records
3. Construction of the system is documented after a lead installation ban was in place

If approved or provided by the EPA Region 5 Direction Implementation Program:

4. Visual Inspections at one or more locations, achieved by the following methods:
    a. Potholing, or visual inspections at the meter pit
    b. Inspection during meter repair, line replacement, or main repair

Terms and Abbreviations below:
MCLG: Maximum Contaminant Level Goal: the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLG's allow for a margin of safety.
MCL: Maximum Contaminant Level: The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water.
MCL's are set as close to MCLG's as feasible using the best available treatment technology.
AL: Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant, which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements, which a water system must follow.
The 90th percentile, when referring to lead levels in drinking water, represents the concentration of lead in the water sample that is higher than 90% of all collected samples. It's a way to assess compliance with the lead and copper rule, and exceeding the action level at the 90th percentile triggers further actions like treatment or public education.

For more information contact: Attn: Tom Pietila Certified Operator
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