



**2010**  
**WATER REPORT**

**CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT**

PERU UTILITIES DIVISION OF WATER MANAGEMENT GRISSOM OPERATIONS

PERU UTILITIES  
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PERU, INDIANA 46970



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# 2010 ANNUAL DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT

## PERU UTILITIES DIVISION OF WATER MANAGEMENT GRISSOM OPERATIONS

Peru Utilities Division of Water Management Grissom Operations is pleased to present to you the [2010 Annual Water Quality Report](#). This report is designed to inform you about the quality water and services we deliver to you every day. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. Peru Utilities is committed to ensuring the quality of your water.

### WHERE DOES OUR WATER COME FROM?

The water supply for Grissom Operations is drawn from a bedrock aquifer. An aquifer is a porous, water bearing geologic formation. The formation in the Grissom area is known as the Liston Creek Limestone formation. The water in this formation is referred to as groundwater. Our water is drawn from four wells located throughout the Peru Utilities/Grissom Division service area. The wells range from 150' to 180' in depth, and produce from 350 to 1100 gallons per minute.

### IS MY WATER SAFE?

Peru Utilities is pleased to report that our drinking water meets or exceeds federal and state requirements. If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact Mike Dahlquist, Division of Water Management Superintendent, at 765-473-7651. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly

scheduled board meetings at 335 East Canal Street, Peru, IN. The meeting dates are announced in the Peru Tribune "Upcoming Events" column.

### TESTING TIME PERIOD

Peru Utilities routinely monitors for constituents in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. This table shows the results of our most recent monitoring. As water travels over the land or underground, it can pick up substances or contaminants such as microbes, inorganic and organic chemicals, and radioactive substances. All drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some constituents. It's important to remember that the presence of these constituents does not necessarily pose a health risk.

### WATER QUALITY DATA TABLE

In this table you will find many terms and abbreviations you might not be familiar with. To help you better understand these terms we've provided the following definitions:

**Non-Detects (ND)** – laboratory analysis indicates that the constituent is not present.

**Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/l)** – one part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in \$10,000.

**Parts per billion (ppb) or Micrograms per liter** – one part per billion corresponds

to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000.

**Parts per trillion (ppt) or Nanograms per liter (ng/L)** – one part per trillion corresponds to one minute in 2,000,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000,000.

**Parts per quadrillion (ppq) or Picograms per liter (pCi/L)** – one part per quadrillion corresponds to one minute in 2,000,000,000 years or one penny in \$10,000,000,000,000.

**Maximum Contaminant Level** – The "Maximum Allowed" (MCL) is 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.

**Maximum Contaminant Level Goal** – The "Goal" (MCLG) is 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.



THANK YOU FOR ALLOWING US TO CONTINUE TO PROVIDE YOUR FAMILY WITH QUALITY DRINKING WATER THIS YEAR. WE ASK THAT ALL OUR CUSTOMERS HELP US PROTECT OUR WATER SOURCES, WHICH ARE THE HEART OF OUR COMMUNITY. IF YOU NOTICE SOMETHING UNUSUAL OR OUT OF THE ORDINARY, PLEASE CONTACT US. AS ALWAYS, WE WELCOME YOUR QUESTIONS AND CONCERNS.

# TEST RESULTS

## PERU UTILITIES DIVISION OF WATER MANAGEMENT GRISSOM OPERATIONS

Contaminant	Violation Yes/No	Level Detected	Unit Measurement	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Total Coliform Bacteria	N			0	Presence of coliform bacteria in 5% of monthly samples.	Naturally present in the environment
3 Required Samples taken per month						

### MICROBIOLOGICAL CONTAMINANTS

Barium	N	.267	ppm	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Beryllium	N	.0002	ppm	.004	.004	Discharge from metal refineries and coal-burning factories; discharge from electrical, aerospace, and defense industries.
Cadmium	N	.0003	ppm	.005	.005	Corrosion of galvanized pipes; erosion of natural deposits, discharge from metal refineries; runoff from waste batteries and paints
Copper	N	.194	ppm	1.3	1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Nickel	N	.016	ppm		N/A	
Fluoride	N	.76	ppm	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Lead	N	0.0056	ppm	0	0.015	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate (as Nitrogen)	N	ND	ppm	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Sodium	N	13	ppm	N/A	N/A	Erosion of natural deposits

### SYNTHETIC ORGANIC CONTAMINANTS INCLUDING PESTICIDES AND HERBICIDES

Soc Di(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate	N	1.0	ppb	0	6	Discharge from rubber and chemical factories
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### VOLATILE ORGANIC COMPOUNDS

Bromodichloromethane	N	ND	ppb		N/A	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Chloroform	N	ND	ppb		N/A	By-product of drinking water chlorination
TTHM [Total Trihalomethanes]	N	9.6	ppb	0	80	By-product of drinking water chlorination
HAA5 [Total Haloacetic Acids]	N	6.4	ppb		60	By-product of drinking water chlorination

**Nitrate:** Drinking water at levels above 10 parts per million (ppm) is a health risk for infants of less than six months of age. High nitrate levels in drinking water can cause blue baby syndrome. Nitrate levels may rise quickly for short periods of time because of rainfall or agriculture activity. If you are caring for an infant, you should ask for advice from your health care provider.

**Lead:** Lead in drinking water is rarely the sole cause of lead poisoning, but it can add to a person's total lead exposure. All potential sources of lead in the household should be identified and removed, replaced or reduced. If present, elevated levels of 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. Our system is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

**MCL's** are set at very stringent levels. To understand the possible health effects described for many regulated constituents, a person would have to drink 2 liters of water every day at the MCL level for a lifetime to have a one-in-a-million chance of having the described health effect.

### CONCLUSION

Peru Utilities' employees work around the clock to provide top quality water to every tap. We ask that all our customers help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community, our way of life and our children's future. If you have any questions or require further assistance please contact Mike Dahlquist, Division of Water Management Superintendent, at 765-473-7651 or visit our web site at [www.peruutilities.com](http://www.peruutilities.com).

# THIS IS YOUR ANNUAL REPORT ON DRINKING WATER QUALITY.

## WHAT ARE DRINKING WATER STANDARDS?

Under the authority of the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA), EPA sets standards for approximately 90 contaminants in drinking water. For each of these contaminants, EPA sets a legal limit, called a maximum contaminant level, or requires a certain treatment. Water

Suppliers may not provide water that doesn't meet these standards. Water that meets EPA standards is safe to drink.

**En Español:  
Este informe  
contiene información  
muy importante sobre su  
agua beber. Tradúzcalo ó  
hable con alguien que lo  
entienda bien.**

drinking water. Under SDWA, EPA sets standards for drinking water quality and oversees the states, localities, and water suppliers who implement those standards. The SDWA covers all public water systems with piped water for human consumption with at least 15 service connections or a system that regularly serves at least 25 individuals.

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 the water poses a health risk. **More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by simply calling the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).**

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised 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 (1-800-426-4791)**.

## WHY DO I NEED TO READ THIS?

A survey conducted by the American Water Works Research Foundation in 1993 found that nearly two-thirds of water consumers surveyed said they received "very little" or "no" information on the quality of

their water. The water quality reports will increase the availability of information. Informed and involved citizens can be strong allies of water systems, large and small, as they take action on pressing problems. Also, an increase in public awareness can give sensitive sub-populations the information that they need to protect themselves. Drinking water can come from either ground water sources (via wells) or surface water sources (such as rivers, lakes, and streams).

Nationally, most water systems use a ground water source (80%), but most people (66%) are served by a water system that uses surface water. This is because large metropolitan areas tend to rely on surface water, whereas small and rural areas tend to rely on ground water. In addition, 10-20% of people have their own private well for drinking water.

## WHERE CAN I GET MORE INFORMATION?

Information on water quality in your area is available from several sources, including your local public health department and your water supplier. You can determine whom to contact by checking your water bill or by calling your local town hall. You can also contact your state drinking water program or call EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791. EPA has also prepared a citizen's guide to drinking water called "**Water on Tap: A Consumer's Guide to the Nation's Drinking Water.**"

## TERMINOLOGY

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, stormwater runoff, and residential uses.

**Organic chemical contaminants**, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-product of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems.

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

**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.**