



MARSHALL & POLK RURAL WATER SYSTEM
401 NORTH MAIN
WARREN, MINNESOTA 56762

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Quality On Tap Report



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OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Friday
8:00 A.M. to Noon
and
12:30 to 4:30 P.M.

PHONE

1-218-745-5471
Outside the Warren area,
call 1-800-569-1367

STAFF

Jason Hillman Manager
Virlynn Hanson Sec./Bkpr.
Anthony Deschene Chief Operator
Kelly Durand Operator
Meter Readings

E-MAIL

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AFTER OFFICE HOURS

The office phone is equipped with call forwarding, which will transfer your call to someone on call. Please keep in mind that whoever is on call may not be by the phone 100% of the time. If you do not get an answer at first, try again later.

BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE

The Marshall & Polk Rural Water System Board meetings are held the third Tuesday of each month. The monthly schedule for the remainder of 2014 and 2015 is as follows:

Date	Time
July 15, 2014	8:00 P.M.
August 19, 2014	8:00 P.M.
September 16, 2014	8:00 P.M.
October 21, 2014	8:00 P.M.
November 18, 2014	10:00 A.M.
December 16, 2014	10:00 A.M.
January 20, 2015	10:00 A.M.
February 17, 2015	10:00 A.M.
March 17, 2015	10:00 A.M.
April 21, 2015	8:00 P.M.
May 19, 2015	8:00 P.M.
June 16, 2015	8:00 P.M.
July 21, 2015	8:00 P.M.
August 18, 2015	8:00 P.M.
September 15, 2015	8:00 P.M.
October 20, 2015	8:00 P.M.
November 17, 2015	10:00 A.M.
December 15, 2015	10:00 A.M.

The meetings are held in the Marshall & Polk Rural Water System office at 401 North Main Street, Warren, Minnesota.

If you have anything to be presented at a board meeting, they are open to the public and you may attend, or you may wish to contact your local director or this office to have your item addressed at a meeting. If you are planning to attend a meeting, you may call to verify that the meeting is being held on the scheduled date.



Marshall & Polk Rural Water System

Quality On Tap Report

— PROVIDING RURAL WATER SERVICE SINCE 1977 — June 2014

The winter of 2014 was one of the most difficult for the staff of Marshall & Polk Rural Water in the past several years. With the unusually cold weather this past winter there were many waterlines that froze throughout the system. The first lines froze up on the 18th of February with several more to freeze in the next couple of months. Most recently a looped waterline west of Argyle and a main waterline north of Argyle froze on May 22nd. Hopefully this will be the last of the frozen lines for 2014. We appreciate those customers' patience that were affected by frozen waterlines. We had issues with waterlines freezing last winter also. Those pipes were lowered during the summer of 2013. None of the waterlines lowered last year froze up in 2014. When a waterline freezes it can be a timely process restoring service due to the amount of pipeline in the system. There can be several service disruptions of the temporary lines as they freeze and have to be thawed out. Some more lines will need to be lowered this summer so they won't freeze in the same place again next year. There will be some service disruptions throughout the system as these repairs are made. The customers affected by these repairs will be notified with a phone call or post card. If you are running water please keep it running until you are notified to turn it off which will be around the 4th of July. Where practical, we ask our customers not to remove snow over the waterlines as it acts as an insulator.

We are pleased to report our water met the state and federal drinking water standards in 2013. There were some changes made to the sampling requirements in 2013 regarding Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) and Haloacetic Acids (HAA5). A full year of TTHM sampling will not be complete until the end of the second quarter of 2014. There

Manager's Update

will be more information on the TTHM results in next year's newsletter. This standard was changed from an overall system average to a locational running average; meaning samples have to be taken from each of our water sources at the same location on a quarterly basis. The Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) for TTHM's is 80.4 parts per billion (ppb), and the MCL for HAA5 is 60 ppb for four consecutive quarterly samples. These contaminants are byproducts of chlorine used for drinking water disinfection. We anticipate with the new regulations the TTHM's may be over the MCL. The well field supplying



the water treatment plant which is located in the Radium area is the most affected. The area served by the water treatment plant is shaded pink and grey on the map included in the middle of the newsletter. The Euclid well site does not have any issues with TTHM's - the area served is blue on the map. Several different treatment techniques are being tested to see which one will have the most positive effect on lowering the TTHM's. We have been working with the Minnesota Department of Health to resolve the potential TTHM issue as quickly as possible. If you have any

questions about the information included in this report, please do not hesitate to contact us.

The construction schedule for 2014 continues to get busier. Marshall County will be widening and grading Highway 6 east of Florian. There is some water line that will need to be lowered and gate valves that will be relocated. There is no road work in Polk County that will affect us until 2015 when they grade and widen Highway 15 west of Fisher. We will be replacing gate valves that have been damaged or are not working throughout the distribution system. There will be occasional outages to some customers in the areas where waterline is being relocated and gate valves replaced. We will notify the customers whose service will be disrupted by these projects. In addition, we will be installing some new services throughout the system. The minimum cost for water service is \$10,500 which has remained at the same price since 2011. Estimates to determine the cost of installing rural water service are done at no charge. If you have any questions or know of anybody interested in rural water service, please contact our office.

The water rate was increased from \$7.00 to \$7.50 per thousand gallons beginning January 1st, 2014. This increase will help offset the large expense occurred this past winter to temporarily repair frozen waterlines and make permanent repairs this summer. The facility charge will remain at \$7.00. It remains the highest priority of the board of directors and staff is to deliver the highest quality product at the lowest rate.

Have a good summer,
Jason Hillman
Manager

CLOSED FRIDAY, JULY 4

We will be closed Friday, July 4, 2014 in observance of the 4th of July holiday.

MARSHALL & POLK RURAL WATER SYSTEM

— 2013 DRINKING WATER REPORT —

The Marshall & Polk Rural Water System is issuing the results of monitoring done on its drinking water for the period from January 1 to December 31, 2013. The purpose of this report is to advance consumers' understanding of drinking water and heighten awareness of the need to protect precious water resources.

Source of Water

The Marshall & Polk Rural Water System provides drinking water to its residents from the following groundwater sources:

- Four wells ranging from 171 to 419 feet deep, that draw water from the Quaternary Buried Artesian Aquifer.
- Purchases treated water from the Grand Forks-Traill Water District, which obtains its water from 15 wells in the Elk Valley Aquifer.

The water provided to customers may meet drinking water standards, but the Minnesota Department of Health has also made a determination as to how vulnerable the source of water may be to future contamination incidents. If you wish to obtain the entire source water assessment regarding your drinking water, please call 651-201-4700 or 1-800-818-9318 (and press 5) during normal business hours. Also, you can view it online at www.health.state.mn.us/divs/eh/water/swa.

Call 218-745-5471 or 1-800-569-1367 if you have questions about the Marshall & Polk Rural Water System drinking water or would like information about opportunities for public participation in decisions that may affect the quality of the water.

Results of Monitoring

No contaminants were detected at levels that violated federal drinking water standards. However, some contaminants were detected in trace amounts that were below legal limits. The table that follows shows the contaminants that were detected in trace amounts last year. (Some contaminants are sampled less frequently than once a year; as a result, not all contaminants were sampled for in 2013. If any of these contaminants were detected the last time they were sampled for, they are included in the table along with the date that the detection occurred.)

Key to abbreviations:

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.

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.

MRDL — Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level.

MRDLG — Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal.

AL — Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirement which a water system must follow.

90th Percentile Level — This is the value obtained after disregarding 10 percent of the samples taken that had the highest levels. (For example, in a situation in which 10 samples were taken, the 90th percentile level is determined by disregarding the highest result, which represents 10 percent of the samples.) Note: In situations in which only 5 samples are taken, the average of the two with the highest levels is taken to determine the 90th percentile level.

TEST RESULTS: (Samples collected throughout the System)

Contaminant	Units	MCLG	AL	90% Level	# sites over AL	Water Supply Reporting	Meets Regulations	Typical Source of Contaminant
Copper (2013)	ppm	N/A	1.3	.45	0 out of 10	A, B	✓	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits.
(2011)	ppm	N/A	1.3	0.08	0 out of 20	C	✓	
Lead (2013)	ppb	N/A	15	2.5	0 out of 10	A, B	✓	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits.
(2011)	ppb	N/A	15	No Detect	0 out of 20	C	✓	

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. Marshall & Polk Rural Water 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>.

pCi/l — PicoCuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity).
ppb — Parts per billion, which can also be expressed as micrograms per liter (ug/l).
ppm — Parts per million, which can also be expressed as milligrams per liter (mg/l).
nd — No detection.
N/A — Not Applicable (does not apply).

Compliance With National Primary Drinking Water Regulations

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.

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 storm water 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, urban storm water runoff and residential uses.

Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban storm water 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, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (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.

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.

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/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.

PAYMENT BY ACH OFFERED

We offer payment by ACH, where we can automatically draft your water bill from your checking or savings account. If interested, contact our office.



FREE ADDRESS LABELS

For your convenience in addressing envelopes for sending in your water payments, we are offering free address stickers. You can get your labels by returning a self-addressed, stamped envelope.

BACKFLOW CONTAMINATION

One of the main objectives of any water system is to deliver safe water. One of the greatest threats to delivering safe water is contamination from accidental backflow. Backflow can occur under several conditions that are all very preventable.

Under normal conditions the water will flow in one direction. Backflow can take place when pressure is not maintained or there is a negative pressure in the line. This can be caused by a break in the pipe or another system malfunction.

The meter setups are equipped with check valves. These valves are effective in preventing backflow but they should be used along with an air gap to prevent contamination.

2014 FEATURED EMPLOYEE:

TONY DESCHENE

Tony has been employed as a Water Operator with the Marshall & Polk Rural Water System since September of 2004. Prior to this, Tony worked for the City of Argyle for eight years. Tony has a Class C Water Operator's license. Tony works in all areas of the system doing everything from water treatment, to construction and troubleshooting problems at customer's homes.

Tony and his wife, Holly, live in Argyle with their three children. Tony enjoys hunting, fishing, being outdoors and spending quality time with his family. He is currently a Firefighter 1, Interior Officer and an EMT for the Argyle Volunteer Fire Department. Tony is also on the Argyle City Council, a member of the Argyle Sportsman's Club and firearms safety instructor for the local youth.



Many simple things can be done to prevent backflow:

- Do not submerge a free – running hose in water
- Never leave a hose submersed in standing water
- Use backflow prevention devices such as vacuum breakers on hydrants or any device used to fill spray tanks
- Always have the appropriate air gap when filling spray tanks

When using a garden hose to fill water tanks, the hose should be suspended above the fill point creating an air gap. The air gap should be no less than two times the diameter of the hose. The air gap will eliminate the possibility of contamination from backflow out of the tank.

TEST RESULTS: (Consumer Confidence Report, continued from page Three)

Contaminant (units)	MRDLG	MRDL	****	*****	Water Supply Reporting	Meets Regulations	Typical Source Of Contaminant
Chlorine (ppm) (2013)	4	4	.27-3.0	1.62	A, B	✓	Water additive used to control microbes
(2013)	4	4	.33-.47	0.5	C	✓	

****Highest and Lowest Monthly Average

*****Highest Quarterly Average

Monitoring may have been done for additional contaminants that do not have MCLs established for them and are not required to be monitored under the Safe Drinking Water Act. Results may be available by calling 651-201-4700 or 1-800-818-9318 during normal business hours. In the table that follows are the unregulated contaminants that were detected:

Contaminant	Unit	Level		Water Supply Reporting	Meets Regulations	Typical Source of Contaminant
		Range (2010)	Ave./ Result			
Sodium (2008) (2010) (2008)	ppm	N/A	130 192 7.2	A B C	✓ ✓ ✓	Erosion of natural deposits.
Sulfate (2008) (2010) (2008)	ppm	N/A	81.4 17.6 15	A B C	✓ ✓ ✓	Erosion of natural deposits.

Miscellaneous Information For You

Yours, Mine or Ours? For your reference, the following is a summary of whose responsibility it is to repair and maintain your water service. Contact the office if you have any questions.

Marshall & Polk Rural Water System is responsible for:

- ✓ The water line up to the curb stop.
- ✓ The **curb stop**
- ✓ The **water meter** and the **pressure reducing valve**

Users are responsible for:

- ✓ The service line (the line from the **curb stop** to the house and all lines on the landowner's side of the curb stop including the connection to the curb stop).
- ✓ All of the pressure gauges, ball valves, couplers and other parts included in the meter set up, except the **meter** and the **pressure reducing valve**.
- ✓ All household plumbing.

Damaged Meters, Pressure Reducing Valves and Curb Stops:

- ✓ **Curb Stops.** Marshall & Polk Rural Water System policy is that work on or near the curb stop will be performed by the rural water system. If the damage is on the customer's side of the curb stop, or due to negligence, the customer will be billed. If you need your water turned on or off, give us a call to set this up. Marshall & Polk Rural Water System policy is that no person shall turn on or off any water supply at any curb stop without a permit from the water system. A \$100.00 penalty will be charged to the homeowner for anyone operating the curb stop other than Marshall &

Polk Rural Water System.

- ✓ **Meters and Pressure Reducing Valves.** Customers will be billed for repair or replacement of a meter or pressure reducing valve damaged by freezing or customer neglect.

Delinquent Account and Other Related Fees

The following is a list of fees charged by Marshall & Polk Rural Water System..

- \$6.49 certified delinquent notice
- \$25 reconnection fee, no reconnections after hours
- \$20 trip charge for collections
- \$10 penalty for not sending a meter reading
- \$20 trip charge for a meter reading (Meter reading fees can be avoided by sending or calling in your reading by the 10th of each month or emailing them to ruralwater@mncable.net)
- \$25 NSF check charge
- \$75 per hour for service labor
- **\$50 fee and water shut off for not showing up for the final reading appointment**
- **\$100.00 penalty charged to the homeowner for anyone operating the curb stop other than Marshall & Polk Rural Water System**

Note: The hourly rate for service labor includes mileage to the work site. The hourly rate is for billable work only; there are many services that we continue to provide free of charge. For example, we do not charge to come out and turn your water off, nor do we charge to help you look for a water leak. If you are uncertain about whether or not a service is billable, be sure to ask.

SYSTEM RULES AND REGULATIONS

The board of directors of the Marshall & Polk Rural Water System would like to remind you of some of the rules and regulations which govern our system.

One Assessment Needed For Each Permanent Home.

Each meter service shall supply water to only one residence or business establishment. A separate assessment is required when there is more than one house in a yard. In accordance with the rules and regulations of the Marshall & Polk Rural Water System, if it is determined that anyone is supplying more than one house from a single sign-up, they will be charged for an additional assessment.

Cross Connections are Not Allowed. Due to the possibility of contamination of your own and your neighbor's water supply, the Minnesota Department of Health and the Marshall and Polk Rural Water System do not allow cross connections. A cross connection occurs when a private well or water supply and rural water system lines are not separated completely. There can be no connection at all between the two systems. Having a cross connection is grounds for disconnection of your water service. Please contact our office immediately if you know of any cross connections.

All Water Must Be Metered. No user shall use any water before it has been measured by the water meter, nor shall they maintain an outlet from the water pipe before the water has gone through the water meter and been properly measured. No user shall remove a meter or in any way interfere with the proper functioning or measuring of a water meter. Use of unmetered water may result in civil and/or criminal penalties.

Water Leaks Cost You Money. Each user is responsible for the cost of water that has been metered. Water lost due to household plumbing leaks or leaks on a service line will be billed to the user, with no reduction or credit given for the resulting water charges. It is cost effective to keep household plumbing in good repair.

Report Meter Readings Monthly. Water users will read their own meters on the first day of each month, or the earliest date thereafter, and send them with their monthly payment. If a user does not read his meter, there shall be a \$10.00 charge for not reading the meter. A \$20.00 fee will be charged if it becomes necessary for a water system operator to read the meter of a user who habitually neglects to send in a meter reading.

Policy For Change Of Ownership Or Tenant. Marshall & Polk Rural Water System policy requires that a water system operator must read the water meter when a home served by the system has been sold or rented. It is the responsibility of the user moving out to contact the water system office to report a forwarding address and set up an appointment to have the meter read. **There is a \$50.00 fee and water shut off for not showing for a scheduled final reading appointment.** The new occupant(s) must provide the office with information needed to set up a billing account and pay a \$50.00 non-refundable charge or fee which is required by water system policy.

Space does not allow for a complete listing of the regulations of the Marshall & Polk Rural Water System. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the rural water office.

TEST RESULTS FOR:

A = Warren Well Site, B = Euclid Well Site, C = Supplied by Grand Forks Trail

				Level Found		See System map for area served by each water supply		
Contaminant (Last Tested)	Units	MCLG	MC L	Range (2013)	Ave. Result*	Water Supply Reporting	Meets Regulations	Typical Source of Contaminant
Fluoride (2013)	ppm	4	4	1.3-1.5	1.35	A, B	✓	State of Minn. Requires all municipal water systems to add fluoride to the drinking water to promote strong teeth; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
(2008)	ppm	4	4	N/A	1.41	C	✓	
Zinc (2008)	ppm		N/A	N/A	0.001	C	✓	
Barium (2006)	ppm	2	2	N/A	.13	A	✓	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits.
(2010)	ppm	2	2	N/A	.45	B	✓	
(2008)	ppm	2	2	N/A	0.014	C	✓	
Nitrate + Nitrite (As N) (2013)	ppm	10	10.4	nd-1.6	1.6	A	✓	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.
(2013)	ppm	10	10.4	.05	.05	B	✓	
(2013)	ppm	10	10	.13	.13	C	✓	
Nitrate (As N) (2007)	ppm	1	1	N/A	.02	B	✓	
Arsenic (2010)	ppb	0	10	NA	1.15	B	✓	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronics production wastes.
Radon (2007)	pCi/l			N/A	202	B	✓	Erosion of natural deposits.
Combined Radium (2003)	pCi/l			N/A	2.29	A	✓	Erosion of natural deposits.
(2013)	pCi/l	0	5.4	nd-2.5	2.2	B	✓	
(2009)	pCi/l			N/A	0.11	C	✓	
Alpha Emitters (2003)	pCi/l			N/A	1.45	A	✓	Erosion of natural deposits.
(2013)	pCi/l	0	15.4	nd-3.9	3.9	B	✓	
(2009)	pCi/l			N/A	0.53	C	✓	
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (2013)	ppb	0	60	2.6-44.4	44.4	A, B	✓	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
(2011)					2	C	✓	
Trihalomethanes TTHM, Total (2013)	ppb	0	80	19.3-156.1	156.1	A, B	✓	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
(2008)	ppb		80	N/A	13	C	✓	
Mercury (Inorganic) (2007)	ppb	2	2	N/A	.06	B	✓	Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from refineries and factories; Runoff from landfills; Runoff from cropland.

*This is the value used to determine compliance with federal standards. It sometimes is the highest value detected and sometimes is an average of all the detected values. If it is an average, it may contain sampling results from the previous year.

✓Four quarterly samples are required to determine an average compliance value for this contaminant. At the end of 2013, less than four samples had been collected, therefore violation criteria could not be determined.

(Consumer Confidence Report continued on page Seven)

Kittson County

Marshall County

Polk County

Marshall & Polk Rural Water System

Legend

- Area A** = Supplied by Warren Well Site
- Area B** = Supplied by Euclid Well Site*
- Area C** = Supplied by Grand Forks Trail Water Users
- Area A B** = Supplied by a Mixture of Water from the Warren & Euclid Well Sites

*The Euclid Well Site includes our new well near Warren. DNR has issued us a water appropriation permit by amending our Euclid Well permit, therefore we will continue to refer to that area as the Euclid Well Site area.

