Manganese Water Testing in Iowa Private Wells from 7/1/19 to 12/24/19

- Current Health Advisory Levels/Limits –
  For healthy infants up to 6 months in age no greater than 0.3 mg/L (or 0.3 parts per million).
  For healthy adults no greater than 1.0 mg/L (or 1.0 parts per million).
The information below is based on Statewide Manganese Data Collection of 1836 private well water samples submitted via the IDNR Private Well Tracking System (PWTS) as of 12/24/2019.

The current Health Advisory Levels (HALs) for maximum manganese ingestion from consumable water is 0.3 mg/L for healthy infants up to 6 months of age, and 1 mg/L for healthy adults.

Summary of results – Note milligrams per Liter (mg/L) and parts per million (ppm) are equivalent measures.

6.1% or 113 sampled sites resulted in levels < 0.010 mg/L

86.9% or 1595 sampled sites resulted in levels 0.010 – 0.30 mg/L

93% of the sample sites are <= the current Health Advisory Level for infants currently 0.3 mg/L

5.7% or 104 sampled sites resulted in levels 0.031 – 1.0 mg/L

98.7% of the sample sites are <= the current Health Advisory Level for adults – currently 1.0 mg/L

< 1% or 18 sampled sites resulted in levels 1.1 – 5.0 mg/L

< 1% or 1 sampled sites resulted in levels 5.1 – 19.9 mg/L

< 1% or 5 samples sites resulted in levels => 20 mg/L with 20 mg/L is the highest levels recorded to date.

When the HALs are exceeded – or anytime water users have concerns about manganese in their water supply – the well user(s) should take steps to lower levels of this contaminant in the water they consume. These steps include applying appropriate water treatment to lower the manganese levels in the water, or using an alternative water source known to be safe from manganese and other contaminants of concern.

Common water treatment options found in separate document.