



2019

Water Fluoridation Quality Award

LESUEUR

Minnesota

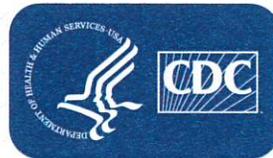
The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention commends this water system for its consistent and professional adjustment of the fluoride content to the recommended level for oral health for 12 consecutive months in 2019. High quality water fluoridation, as demonstrated by this water system, is a safe and effective method to prevent tooth decay and improve the oral health of all community residents.

Handwritten signature of Casey Hannan in blue ink.

Casey Hannan, MPH
Director, Division of Oral Health
National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Handwritten signature of Theresa J. Boehmer in blue ink.

Theresa "Tracy" J. Boehmer, P.E.
National Fluoridation Engineer, Division of Oral Health
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**U.S. Department of
Health and Human Services**
Centers for Disease
Control and Prevention



Protecting, Maintaining and Improving the Health of All Minnesotans

PRESS RELEASE

February 2021

The city of LeSueur has been recognized with a 2019 Water Fluoridation Quality Award for excellence in community water fluoridation. These awards are given by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) every year to communities maintaining a consistent level of fluoride in drinking water throughout the year.

Fluoride is natural to our environment. It is found in soils and water. Community water fluoridation adjusts the natural levels of fluoride to help prevent tooth decay. Fluoride helps strengthen teeth and has been shown to help prevent cavities.

Studies show that community water fluoridation prevents at least 25 percent of tooth decay in children and adults, even in a time when fluoride is widely available from other sources, like fluoride toothpaste.

“Providing fluoridated water through community water systems is an evidence-based, cost-effective and equitable way to prevent cavities and promote good health,” says Prasida Khanal, state oral health director at the Minnesota Department of Health. “Communities like the city of LeSueur play a key role in ensuring all Minnesotans can thrive.”

Research shows community water fluoridation can provide a return on investment ranging from \$4 for small communities for every dollar spent to as much as \$27 for large communities. CDC named it one of the top 10 public health achievements of the 21st century.

“The Minnesota Department of Health extends congratulations to all the communities receiving awards for their commitment to maintaining water fluoridation and protecting the health of their residents,” says Sandeep Burman, manager of the state’s Drinking Water Protection program.

For questions about the award or community water fluoridation, please contact health.oral@state.mn.us or health.drinkingwater@state.mn.us.