2024 City of Monticello
Drinking Water Report

CITY OF Monticello UTILITIES

Making Safe Drinking Water

Clean and safe drinking water is a top priority for the City of Monticello. To make sure you are well informed about your water, the Monticello Water & Sewer Utility Department provides this annual report that outlines the quality of our drinking water, what it contains, and how its quality compares to Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and State of Minnesota standards.

About Our Water

Your drinking water comes from a groundwater source, five wells ranging from 148 to 310 feet deep, that draw water from the Quarternary Buried Artesian and Mt. Simon-Red Clastics aquifers.

Monticello works hard to provide you with safe and reliable drinking water that meets federal and state water quality requirements. The purpose of this report is to provide you with information on your drinking water and how to protect our precious water resources. This report contains our monitoring results from January 1 to December 31, 2024.

Drinking Water Standards

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency sets safe drinking water standards. These standards limit the amount of specific contaminants allowed in drinking water. This ensures that tap water is safe to drink for most people. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration regulates the amount of certain contaminants in bottled water. Bottled water must provide the same public health protection as public tap water.

Monticello's Water is Safe

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 (800) 426-4791.

City of Monticello Contact

Contact Mat Stang, Utilities Superintendent, at 763-271-3274 or Mat.Stang@MonticelloMN.gov if you have questions about Monticello's drinking water or to request a copy of this report to be mailed to you. You can also ask for information about how you can take part in decisions that may affect water quality.

Definitions

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

EPA: Environmental Protection Agency

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.

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.

Level 1 Assessment: A study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why total coliform bacterial have been found in our water system.

Level 2 Assessment: A very detailed study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why an E. coli MCL violation has occurred and/or why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system on multiple occasions.

MRDL: Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level: The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

MRDLG (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal): The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

N/A (Not Applicable): Does not apply.

NTU (Nephelometric Turbidity Units): A measure of the cloudiness of the water (turbidity).

pCi/l (Picocuries Per Liter): A measure of radioactivity.

ppb (Parts per Billion): One part per billion in water is like one drop in one billion drops of water, or about one drop in a swimming pool. ppb is the same as micrograms per liter (ug/l).

ppm (Parts per Million): One part per million is like one drop in one million drops of water, or about one cup in a swimming pool. ppm is the same as milligrams per liter (mg/l).

PWSID: Public Water System Identification.

TT (Treatment Technique): A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

Variances and Exemptions: State or EPA permission is not to meet an MCL or a treatment technique under certain conditions.

Monticello Monitoring Results

We work with the Minnesota Department of Health to test drinking water for more than 100 contaminants. It is not unusual to detect contaminants in small amounts. No water supply is ever completely free of contaminants. Drinking water standards protect Minnesotans from substances that may be harmful to their health.

Learn more by visiting the Minnesota Department of Health's Basics of Monitoring and Testing of Drinking Water in Minnesota webpage at www.health.state.mn.us/divs/eh/water/factsheet/com/sampling.html.

Drinking Water Sources

Minnesota's primary drinking water sources are groundwater and surface water. Groundwater is the water found in aquifers beneath the surface of the land. Groundwater supplies 75% of Minnesota's drinking water. Surface water is the water in lakes, rivers, and streams above the surface of the land. Surface waters supplies 25% of Minnesota's drinking water.

Common Contaminants in Most Water Systems

Contaminants can get in drinking water sources from the natural environment and from people's daily activities. There are five main types of contaminants in drinking water sources.

Microbial Contaminants, such as viruses, bacteria, and parasites. Sources include sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, pets, and wildlife.

Inorganic Contaminants, such as salts and metals from natural sources (e.g. rock and soil), oil and gas production, mining and farming operations, urban stormwater runoff, and wastewater discharges.

Pesticides and Herbicides are chemicals used to reduce or kill unwanted plants and pests. Sources include agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and commercial and residential properties.

Organic Chemical Contaminants include synthetic and volatile organic compounds. Sources include industrial processes and petroleum production, gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems.

Radioactive Contaminants such as radium, thorium, and uranium isotopes come from natural sources (e.g. radon gas from soils and rock), mining operations, and oil and gas production.

Source Water Assessment

The Minnesota Department of Health provides information about your drinking water sources in a source water assessment, including:

- How Monticello is protecting your drinking water sources;
- Nearby threats to your drinking water sources;
- How easily water and pollution can move from the surface of the land into drinking water sources, based on natural geology and the way wells are constructed.

Find your source water assessment at Minnesota Department of Health's Source Water Assessments webpage at www.health.state.mn.us/divs/eh/water/swp/swa/ or call (651) 201-4700 or (800) 818-9318 between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday thru Friday.

Possible 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. The developing fetus and; therefore, pregnant women may also be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water.

These people or their caregivers 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 microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

Water Quality Data

The tables provided show the contaminants we found last year or the most recent time we sampled for that contaminant. They also show the levels of those contaminants and the Environmental Protection Agency's limits. Substances that we tested for but did not find are not included in the tables.

We sample for some contaminants less than once a year because their levels in water are not expected to change from year to year. If we found any of these contaminants the last time we sampled for them, we included them in the tables below with the detection date. We may have done additional monitoring for contaminants that are not included in the Safe Drinking Water Act. To request a copy of these results, call the Minnesota Department of Health at 651-201-4700 or 1-800-818-9318 between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Some contaminants are monitored regularly throughout the year, and rolling (or moving) annual averages are used to manage compliance. Because of this averaging, there are times where the Range of Detected Test Results for the calendar year is lower than the Highest Average or Highest Single Test Result, because it occurred in the previous calendar year.

Inorganic & Organic Contaminants (tested in drinking water)

Contaminant	EPA Limit (MCL)	EPA Goal (MCLG)	High Avg or High Ind Test	Range Detected	Violation	Typical Sources
Nitrate	10 ppm	10 ppm	1.3 ppm	0.00-1.30 ppm	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits.
Barium (04/21/2022)	2 ppm	2 ppm	0.41 ppm	N/A	No	Discharge from drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits.

Contaminants Related to Disinfection (tested in drinking water)

Substance	EPA Limit (MCL or MRDL)	EPA Goal (MCLG)	High Avg or High Ind Test	Range Detected	Violation	Typical Sources
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs)	80 ppb	N/A	2.4 ppb	2.10-2.40 ppb	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
Total Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	60 ppb	N/A	1.3 ppb	N/A	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
Total Chlorine	4.0 ppm	4.0 ppm	0.39 ppm	0.27-0.57 ppm	No	Water additive used to control microbes.

* Total HAA refers to HAA5

Other Substances (tested in drinking water)

Substance	EPA Limit (MCL)	EPA Goal (MCLG)	High Avg or High Ind Test	Range Detected	Violation	Typical Sources
Fluoride	4.0 ppm	4.0 ppm	0.75	0.66-0.81 ppm	No	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive to promote strong teeth.

Potential Health Effects and Corrective Actions (if applicable)

Fluoride: Fluoride is nature's cavity fighter, with small amounts present naturally in many drinking water sources. There is an overwhelming weight of credible, peer-reviewed, scientific evidence that fluoridation reduces tooth decay and cavities in children and adults, even when there is availability of fluoride from other sources, such as fluoride toothpaste and mouth rinses. Since studies show that optimal fluoride levels in drinking water benefit public health, municipal community water systems adjust the level of fluoride in the water to an optimal concentration between 0.5 to 0.9 parts per million (ppm) to protect your teeth. Fluoride levels below 2.0 ppm are not expected to increase the risk of a cosmetic condition known as enamel fluorosis.

Lead in Drinking Water

You may be in contact with lead through paint, water, dust, soil, food, hobbies, or your job. Coming in contact with lead can cause serious health problems for everyone. There is no safe level of lead. Babies, children under six years, and pregnant women are at the highest risk.

Lead is rare in a drinking water source, but it can get in your drinking water as it passes through lead service lines and your household plumbing system. Monticello provides high quality drinking water, but it cannot control the plumbing materials used in private buildings.

Read below to learn how you can protect yourself from lead in drinking water.

1. Let the water run for 30-60 seconds before using it for drinking or cooking if the water has not been turned on in over six hours. If you have a lead service line, you may need to let the water run longer. A service line is the underground pipe that brings water from the main water pipe under the street to your home.
    - You can find out if you have a lead service line by contacting your public water system, or you can check by following the steps at: Are your pipes made of lead? Here's a quick way to find out: www.mprnews.org/story/2016/06/24/npr-find-lead-pipes-in-your-home.
    - The only way to know if lead has been reduced by letting it run is to check with a test. If letting the water run does not reduce lead, consider other options to reduce your exposure.
2. Use cold water for drinking, making food, and making baby formula. Hot water releases more lead from pipes than cold water.
3. Test your water. In most cases, letting the water run and using cold water for drinking and cooking should keep lead levels low in your drinking water. If you are still concerned about lead, arrange with a laboratory to test your tap water. Testing your water is important if young children or pregnant women drink your tap water.
    - Contact a Minnesota Department of Health accredited laboratory to get a sample container and instructions on how to submit a sample: Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program (https://apps.health.state.mn.us/eldo/public/accreditedlabs/labsearch.seam). The Minnesota Department of Health can help you understand your test results.
4. Treat your water if a test shows your water has high levels of lead after you let the water run.
    - Read about water treatment units: Point-of-Use Water Treatment Units for Lead Reduction (http://www.health.state.mn.us/divs/eh/water/factsheet/com/poulead.html).

Service Line Material Inventory

The City of Monticello has completed and submitted a service line materials inventory to the Minnesota Department of Health. The service line inventory is publicly available, and you can check the materials for your service line by visiting the Lead Inventory Tracking Tool (LITT) (https://maps.umn.edu/LSL/).

To complete the service line inventory, the City reviewed building and street improvement documents, as well as requested assistance from utility customers, who provided us with pictures and/or verbal confirmation of the service line material. Utility Department staff provided free inspections upon request. As of October 16th, 2024, our inventory contains 0 lead, 0 galvanized requiring replacement, 0 unknown material, and 4604 non-lead service lines.

Contact the Monticello Utility Department by phone at 763-271-3274 or by email at Utilities@MonticelloMN.gov with any questions or concerns.

Learn More

- Visit Lead in Drinking Water: www.health.state.mn.us/divs/eh/water/contaminants/lead.html
- Visit Basic Information About Lead in Drinking Water: epa.gov/safewater/lead
- To learn about how to reduce your contact with lead from sources other than your drinking water, visit Lead Poisoning Prevention: Common Sources (www.health.state.mn.us/divs/eh/lead/sources.html).
- Call the EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

Be Aware: Head Start Programs, Child Care Centers, Public and Charter Schools all have requirements to test for lead in drinking water. These programs can learn more about requirements and resources for testing and remediation at MDH Drinking Water in Schools and Child Cares (www.web.health.state.mn.us/communities/environment/water/schools/index.html)

Lead & Copper (tested at customer taps)

Contaminant	EPA Action Level	EPA Goal (MCLG)	90% of Results were Less Than	No. of Homes with High Levels	Range of Detected Test Results	Violation	Typical Sources
Lead (07/14/2022)	90% of homes less than 15 ppb	0 ppb	3.19 ppb	2 out of 30	0-50.4 ppb	No	Corrosion of household plumbing.
Copper (07/14/2022)	90% of homes less than 1.3 ppb	0 ppb	0.41 ppb	0 out of 30	0.03-0.66 ppm	No	Corrosion of household plumbing.

Monitoring Results — Unregulated Substances/Emerging Contaminants

In addition to testing drinking water for contaminants regulated under the Safe Drinking Water Act, we sometimes also monitor for contaminants that are not regulated. Unregulated contaminants do not have legal limits for drinking water. MDH, EPA, and other health agencies may have developed comparison values for some of these compounds. Some of these comparison values are based solely on potential health impacts and do not consider our ability to measure contaminants at very low concentrations nor the cost and technology of prevention and/or treatment. These values may be set at levels that are costly, challenging, or impractical for a water system to meet (for example, large-scale treatment technology may not exist for a given contaminant). Sample data are listed along with comparison values in the table below; it is important to note that these comparison values are not enforceable.

Detection alone of a regulated or unregulated contaminant should not cause concern. The significance of a detection should be determined considering current health effects information. We are often still learning about the health effects, so this information can change over time.

A person drinking water with a contaminant at or below the comparison value would be at little to no risk for harmful health effects. If the level of a contaminant is above the comparison value, people of a certain age or with special health conditions-like a fetus, infants, children, elderly, and people with impaired immunity—may need to take extra precautions. We are notifying you of the unregulated/emerging contaminants we have detected as a public education opportunity.

Unregulated contaminant monitoring helps EPA to determine where certain contaminants occur and whether the Agency should consider regulating those contaminants in the future.

- More information is available on MDH's A-Z List of Contaminants in Water (www.health.state.mn.us/communities/environment/water/contaminants/index.html)
- Fourth Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR 4) (www.health.state.mn.us/communities/environment/water/com/ucmr4.html)
- Fifth Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (www.epa.gov/dwucmr/fifth-unregulated-contaminant-monitoring-rule)
- EPA has developed a UCMR5 Program Overview Factsheet (www.epa.gov/system/files/documents/2022-02/ucmr5-factsheet.pdf) describing UCMR 5 contaminants and standards.

In the past year, your drinking water may have tested for additional unregulated contaminants as part of the Fifth Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (www.epa.gov/dwucmr/fifth-unregulated-contaminant-monitoring-rule) and results are still being processed. The Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule 5 (UCMR 5) Data finder allows people to easily search for, summarize, and download the available UCMR 5 analytical results (www.epa.gov/dwucmr/fifth-unregulated-contaminant-monitoring-rule-data-finder).

Contaminant	Comparison Value	Highest Avg or Highest Single Test Result	Range of Detected Test Results
Manganese	100 ppb	711 ppb	416.00-715.00 ppb
Sodium* (2023)	20 ppm	10.9 ppm	3.65 - 10.90 ppm
Sulfate (2023)	500 ppm	38.4 ppm	11.10 - 38.40 ppm
Perfluorobutanoic acid (PFBA) (2021)	7000 ppt	4.6 ppt	0.00-4.60 ppt
Perfluorohexanesulfonate (PFHxS) (2021)	47 ppt	3.4 ppt	0.00-3.40 ppt

*Note that home water softening can increase the level of sodium in your water.

In early 2024, MDH released new comparison values for two PFAS compounds, PFOA and PFOS. MDH is still evaluating how to apply these comparison values to drinking water systems. Additionally, EPA released final MCLs for PFOA at 4.0 ppt, PFOS at 4.0 ppt, PFHxS at 10 ppt, HFPO-DA (Gen X) at 10 ppt, PFNA at 10 ppt, and a calculated Hazard Index at 1 (unitless) that will become enforceable April 26, 2029. Additional Information on PFAS system results is available at: Interactive Dashboard for PFAS Testing in Drinking Water - MN Dept. of Health www.health.state.mn.us/communities/environment/water/pfasmap.html.

Some People Are More Vulnerable to Contaminants in Drinking Water

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. The developing fetus and therefore pregnant women may also be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water. These people or their caregivers 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 microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.