



# Annual Drinking Water Consumer Confidence Report

TO: All Menasha Water Utility Customers

June 2021

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We are pleased to present you with this year's **Annual Drinking Water Consumer Confidence Report**. This report is designed to keep you and/or your family informed about the quality of water and services we deliver to you every day. Our goal is to continuously provide you with a safe and reliable supply of drinking water. Menasha Water Utility is committed to improving the water treatment process and protecting our natural water resources.

## Water System Information

If you have questions about this report please contact our Water Utility Manager Adam Smith at 920-967-3451. You can learn more about our Water Utility by visiting the Menasha Utilities web site at [www.menashautilities.com](http://www.menashautilities.com). We want our valued customers to be informed about the Menasha Water Utility. We also welcome you to provide public input at the Menasha Utilities Commission meetings the fourth Wednesday of each month at 8:00 a.m. The meetings are held at our Office and Operations Complex located at 321 Milwaukee Street.

## Water Source

Our surface water source is Lake Winnebago. The lake water is treated, filtered, and disinfected at our Water Filtration Plant. It is then pumped to our customers through the water distribution system. Menasha Utilities has a source water assessment available for Menasha residents. If you would like a summary of the source water assessment, please contact the Water Utility Manager.

## Health Information

We continuously monitor and test the water we deliver to you in accordance with State and Federal regulations. 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. We have learned through monitoring and testing our water that some contaminants have been detected at levels below the Maximum Contaminant level. The MCL is the highest concentration allowed in drinking water for that contaminant. The EPA sets the MCL at very stringent levels to protect public health.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immune-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 microbiological contaminants are available from the Environmental Protection Agency Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800)-426-4791.

Included in this report is a table showing the test results for our water from January 1, 2020 to December 31, 2020. The dates and results for less frequent samples tested are also included in this table.

In summary, the DNR and EPA have determined that our water is safe even though low concentrations of some contaminants are present. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800)-426-4791.

## Educational Information

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 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, urban stormwater 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 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 that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which shall provide the same protection for public health.

## Definitions

Term	Definition
AL	Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
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.
NTU	Nephelometric Turbidity Units
pCi/l	Picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)
ppm	parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/l)
ppb	parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (ug/l)

## Detected Contaminants

Your water was tested for many contaminants last year. We are allowed to monitor for some contaminants less frequently than once a year. The following tables list only those contaminants which were detected in your water. If a contaminant was detected last year, it will appear in the following tables without a sample date. If the contaminant was not monitored last year, but was detected within the last 5 years, it will appear in the tables along with the sample date.

## Disinfection Byproducts

Contaminant (units)	Site	MCL	MCLG	Level Found	Range	Sample Date (if prior to 2020)	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
HAA5 (ppb)	D31	60	60	20	12 - 28		No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
TTHM (ppb)	D31	80	0	27.7	22.2-36.1		No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
HAA5 (ppb)	D35	60	60	19	12-31		No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
TTHM (ppb)	D35	80	0	28.6	21.1-39.1		No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
HAA5 (ppb)	D44	60	60	20	12 - 29		No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
TTHM (ppb)	D44	80	0	28.7	22.1 – 39.9		No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
HAA5 (ppb)	D45	60	60	19	12 - 30		No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
TTHM (ppb)	D45	80	0	26.9	20.9-36.6		No	By-product of drinking water chlorination

## Inorganic Contaminants

Contaminant (units)	Site	MCL	MCLG	Level Found	Range	Sample Date (if prior to 2020)	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
ARSENIC (ppb)		10	n/a	0.38	0.38		No	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
BARIUM (ppm)		2	2	0.014	0.014		No	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
FLUORIDE (ppm)		4	4	0.6	0.6		No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
NICKEL (ppb)		100		0.54	0.54		No	Nickel occurs naturally in soils, ground water and surface waters and is often used in electroplating, stainless steel and alloy products.
NITRATE (NO <sub>3</sub> -N) (ppm)		10	10	0.51	0.51		No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
SODIUM (ppm)		n/a	n/a	37.00	37.00		No	n/a

  

Contaminant (units)	Action Level	MCLG	90th Percentile Level Found	# of Results	Sample Date (if prior to 2020)	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
COPPER (ppm)	AL=1.3	1.3	0.1200	0 of 60 results were above the action level.	3/1/2018	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives
LEAD (ppb)	AL=15	0	19.00	10 of 60 results were above the action level.	3/1/2018	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits

## Radioactive Contaminants

Contaminant (units)	Site	MCL	MCLG	Level Found	Range	Sample Date (if prior to 2020)	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
GROSS ALPHA, EXCL. R & U (pCi/l)		15	0	1.8	1.8		No	Erosion of natural deposits

## Synthetic Organic Contaminants including Pesticides and Herbicides

Contaminant (units)	Site	MCL	MCLG	Level Found	Range	Sample Date (if prior to 2020)	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
ATRAZINE (ppb)		3	3	0.0	0.0 - 0.1		No	Runoff from herbicide used on row crops
HEXACHLOROCYCLOPENTADIENE (ppb)		50	50	0.0	0.0 - 0.0		No	Discharge from chemical factories

## Unregulated Contaminants

Unregulated contaminants are those for which EPA has not established drinking water standards. The purpose of unregulated contaminant monitoring is to assist EPA in determining the occurrence of unregulated contaminants in drinking water and whether future regulation is warranted. EPA required us to participate in this monitoring.

Contaminant (units)	Level Found	Range	Sample Date (if prior to 2020)	Violation
SULFATE (ppm)	54.0	54.0		No
METOLACHLOR (DUAL) (ppb)	0.02	0.00-0.03		No

Contaminant (units)	Level Found	Range	Sample Date (if prior to 2020)	Violation
MANGANESE (ppb)	1.29	0.51-2.1	5/6/2019 – 2/10/2020	No
BROMOCHLOROACETIC ACID (ppb)	1.49	1.2-1.9	5/6/2019 – 2/10/2020	No
BROMODICHLOROACETIC ACID (ppb)	0.71	0.0-1.1	5/6/2019 – 2/10/2020	No
CHLORODIBROMOACETIC ACID (ppb)	0.05	0.0-0.41	5/6/2019 – 2/10/2020	No
DICHLOROACETIC ACID (ppb)	12.2	7.5-17.0	5/6/2019 – 2/10/2020	No
TRICHLOROACETIC ACID (ppb)	5.94	2.9-12.0	5/6/2019 – 2/10/2020	No
MONOBROMOACETIC ACID (ppb)	0.03	0.0-0.53	5/6/2019 – 2/10/2020	No
MONOCHLOROACETIC ACID (ppb)	0.38	0.0-3.9	5/6/2019 – 2/10/2020	No
DIBROMOACETIC ACID (ppb)	0.03	0.0-0.45	5/6/2019 – 2/10/2020	No

## Health effects for any contaminants with MCL violations/Action Level Exceedances

### Contaminant Health Effects

**LEAD** Infants and children who drink water containing lead in excess of the action level could experience delays in their physical or mental development. Children could show slight deficits in attention span and learning abilities. Adults who drink this water over many years could develop kidney problems or high blood pressure.

In 2018, Menasha Water Utility had an Action Level Exceedance for lead. The EPA Action Level for lead is 15 ppb. If the 90<sup>th</sup> percentile lead result is greater than 15 ppb an Action Level Exceedance is issued. Our 90<sup>th</sup> percentile lead result was 19 ppb. We are persistently working to reduce lead exposure to customers who have lead plumbing. We are using a uni-directional flushing program to clean the distribution system, we are exploring ways to optimize our corrosion control treatment, and we are replacing lead service lines.

### Additional Health Information

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 Menasha Water Utility 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 by a contracted lab. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Environmental Protection Agency Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at [www.epa.gov/safewater/lead](http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead).

### Information on Monitoring for Cryptosporidium and Radon

Menasha Water Utility uses UV Disinfection and Granular Activated Carbon Contactors to meet or exceed the level of treatment required for cryptosporidium by the EPA's Long Term 2 Enhanced Surface Water Treated Rule. Our water system did not monitor finished water for cryptosporidium or radon during 2020. We are not required by State or Federal drinking water regulations to do so.

### Monitoring/Reporting Violations

None

### Turbidity Monitoring

In accordance with NR 810.29, Wisconsin Administrative Code, the treated surface water is monitored for turbidity to confirm the filter is less than 0.3 NTU. Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. We monitor for it because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filtration system. During the year, the highest single-entry point turbidity measurement was 0.24 NTU. The lowest percent of samples meeting the turbidity limit was 100 percent.