Minneapolis
City of Lakes

mpls

Your 2024 Minneapolis drinking water report

Dear Resident,

This report is issued to educate you about the quality of the drinking water produced by the City of Minneapolis in 2024. We take pride in the water we provide to our residents.

We are happy to report that no contaminants were detected at levels that violated federal drinking water standards during 2024.

NO VIOLATIONS 2024

Attention:	If you want help translating this information, call 311.
Spanish–atención:	Si desea recibir asistencia gratuita para traducir esta informacion, llame al 311.
Somali – ogow:	Haddii aad dooneyso in lagaa kaalmeeyo tarjamadda macluumaadkani oo lacag la' aan wac 311.
Hmong – ceeb toom:	Yog koj xav tau kev pab dawb txhais cov xov no, hu 311.
TTY:	612-263-6850

Your drinking water comes from the Mississippi River.

Making drinking water safe:

Minneapolis works hard to provide you with safe and reliable drinking water that meets or exceeds federal and state water quality requirements.

Call 612-673-3000 or 311 if you have questions about Minneapolis drinking water. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency sets safe drinking water standards. These standards limit the amounts of specific contaminants allowed in drinking water. This ensures that tap water is safe to drink for most people.

Minneapolis monitoring results:

We tested Minneapolis drinking water all year—from January 1 through December 31, 2024. 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.

Want to learn more?

Visit: Basics of monitoring and testing of drinking water
health.state.mn.us/communities/environment/water/factsheet/sampling.html

Questions? Call 311 or 612-673-3000

How to read the water quality data tables

Detected contaminants only

The following tables 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 we tested for but did not find are not included in the tables.

Rolling averages explained

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.

Some results are from past years

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.

Want full results? We also test for other substances not listed in the Safe Drinking Water Act. To request those results, call the Minnesota Department of Health at 651-201-4700, Monday–Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

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)	The Federal Government Agency charged with setting standards and regulations for drinking water in the United States.
MCL (maximum contaminant level)	The highest level of a contaminant 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.
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 (turbidity) of the water.
ppt (parts per trillion)	One part per trillion is like one drop in one trillion drops of water, or about one drop in an Olympic sized swimming pool. ppt is the same as nanograms per liter (ng/l).
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 (µg/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)	A unique identifier for each public water system.
TT (treatment technique)	A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

Monitoring results: Regulated substances

Lead & copper: tested at customer taps

Contaminant	EPA's Ideal Goal (MCLG)	EPA's Action Level	90% of Results Were Less Than	Number of Homes with High Levels	Range of Detected Test Results	Met Standards	Typical Sources
Lead (08/15/24)	0 ppb	90% of homes less than 15 ppb	2 ppb	1 out of 67*	<1.0 – 4.0 ppb, One result of 133,000 ppb*	✓	Corrosion of household plumbing.
Copper (08/15/24)	0 ppm	90% of homes less than 1.3 ppm	0.07 ppm	1 out of 67*	<0.02- 0.12 ppm, One result of 1.48 ppm*	✓	Corrosion of household plumbing.

**Follow up sampling for the single highest result showed lead levels below 2 ppb and copper levels below 0.07 ppm*

Inorganic & organic contaminants: tested in drinking water

Contaminant	EPA's Ideal Goal (MCLG)	EPA's Limit (MCL)	Highest Average or Highest Single Test Result	Range of Detected Test Results	Met Standards	Typical Sources
Nitrate	10 ppm	10 ppm	0.86 ppm	0.72 - 0.86 ppm	✓	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.

Contaminants related to disinfection: tested in drinking water

Substance	EPA's Ideal Goal (MCLG or MRDLG)	EPA's Limit (MCL or MRDL)	Highest Average or Highest Single Test Result	Range of Detected Test Results	Met Standards	Typical Sources
Total Trihalomethanes, TTHMs	N/A	80 ppb	36.7 ppb	10.00 - 58.30 ppb	✓	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
Total Haloacetic Acids, HAA	N/A	60 ppb	24.1 ppb	1.00 - 39.00 ppb	✓	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
Chloramine	4.0 ppm	4.0 ppm	3.33 ppm	2.80 - 3.70 ppm	✓	Water additive used to control microbes.

Treatment indicator: tested during treatment

Substance	Removal Required	Lowest Monthly Percent of Results in Compliance	Highest Test Result	Met Standards	Typical Sources
Turbidity	Treatment Technique	100%	0.11 NTU	✓	Soil runoff.

Promoting Dental Health

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. Fluoride levels below 2.0 ppm are not expected to increase the risk of a cosmetic condition known as enamel fluorosis. 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**.

Other substances: tested in drinking water

Substance	EPA's Ideal Goal (MCLG)	EPA's Limit (MCL)	Highest Average or Highest Single Test Result	Range of Detected Test Results	Met Standards	Typical Sources
Fluoride	4.0 ppm	4.0 ppm	0.7 ppm	0.66 - 0.71 ppm	✓	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive to promote strong teeth.

Disinfection byproduct indicator: tested in source water and in drinking water

Substance	Removal Required	Range of Percent Removal Achieved	Average of Percent Removal Achieved	Met Standards	Typical Sources
Total Organic Carbon	Variable	54 - 63	59	✓	N/A

*The percentage of **Total Organic Carbon (TOC)** removal was measured each month. Minneapolis met all TOC removal requirements.*

Some people may need extra protection

Some people are more sensitive to contaminants in drinking water, even at low levels. This includes:

- People with cancer or immune conditions
- People who've had organ transplants
- People with HIV/AIDS
- Pregnant people and developing babies
- Infants and older adults

If this sounds like you or someone in your care, talk to your health provider.

You can also get guidance from the EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline: 1-800-426-4791.

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. Minnesota Department of Health (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.

Why do we test for these substances?

Unregulated contaminant testing helps health agencies decide whether new regulations are needed.

Your water may have been tested in 2024 as part of the **EPA's Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR 5).** Results are still being processed.

You can look up UCMR 5 data here:
epa.gov/dwucmr/fifth-unregulated-contaminant-monitoring-rule-data-finder

Learn more about these substances

A–Z list of contaminants in water
health.state.mn.us/communities/environment/water/contaminants

Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule 4 (UCMR 4)
health.state.mn.us/communities/environment/water/com/ucmr4.html

EPA factsheet: UCMR 5 program overview
epa.gov/system/files/documents/202202/ucmr5factsheet.pdf

Unregulated/emerging contaminants: tested in drinking water

Contaminant	Comparison/Guidance Value	Highest Average Result or Highest Single Test Result	Range of Detected Test Results
Sodium	20 ppm	18.7 ppm	N/A
Sulfate	500 ppm	27.3 ppm	N/A
Perfluorobutanoic acid (PFBA)	7000 ppt	10.12 ppt	7.43 - 12.00 ppt
Perfluorohexanoic acid (PFHxA) (2021)	200 ppt	1 ppt	0.00 - 1.00 ppt
Perfluoropentanoic acid (PFPeA) (2021)	N/A	1 ppt	0.00 - 1.00 ppt

- *Sodium levels change seasonally based on river conditions. People on a sodium-restricted diet should be aware of the sodium level in their drinking water.*
- *Sulfate levels above 250 ppm may result in a noticeable salty taste in the water.*
- *PFBA, PFHxA, and PFPeA are breakdown products of other per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances.*

Learn more about your drinking water

Groundwater

supplies **75% of Minnesota's drinking water**. It's stored underground in natural spaces called aquifers.

Surface water

Supplies **25% of Minnesota's drinking water**. This includes lakes, rivers, and streams.

Contaminants

can get in drinking water sources from the natural environment and from people's daily activities.

What can get into drinking water?

Inorganic contaminants iIncludes salts and metals from rock and soil.

Sources: *mining, farming, stormwater, oil and gas, and wastewater.*

Microbial contaminants Includes bacteria, viruses, and parasites.

Sources*: pets, livestock, septic systems, and wildlife.*

Radioactive contaminants Includes radium and uranium from rock, soil, and gas.

Sources*: natural deposits, mining, oil and gas activity.*

Organic chemical contaminants Includes synthetic chemicals like fuel or solvents.

Sources*: industry, gas stations, stormwater, and septic systems.*

Pesticides and herbicides Chemicals used to kill weeds or bugs.

Sources: *farms, lawns, stormwater, and commercial properties.*

Find out more about your water source

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

- How Minneapolis is protecting your drinking water source(s);
- 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 Source Water Assessments:
health.state.mn.us/communities/environment/water/swp/swa or call 651-201-4700 between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Lead in drinking water

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

Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. Our water system is responsible for providing high quality drinking water and working with you to replace your private lead water service line (if present) but we cannot control the variety of plumbing materials used in your home. You can take responsibility by identifying and removing lead materials within your home plumbing and taking steps to reduce your family's risk.

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

1. **Let the water run:** Before drinking tap water, flush your pipes for several minutes by running your cold water tap. If you have a lead service line, you may need to let the water run longer. The service line is the pipe that connects a property to the water main in the middle of the street.

   Activities such as doing laundry or dishes or taking a shower help keep water moving in your home system but are not a replacement for running the tap before you drink if it has not been used for a long period of time.

   - 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. **Treat your water:** If a test shows your water has high levels of lead after you let the water run, you can use a filter certified with ANSI/NSF standards 53 and 42 for lead reduction.

   - **Read about water treatment units:** Point-of-Use Water Treatment Units for Lead Reduction: health.state.mn.us/communities/environment/water/factsheet/poulead.html

3. **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: web.health.state.mn.us/communities/environment/water/schools/index.html

4. **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. Testing your water is important if young children or pregnant women drink your tap water.

   - The City of Minneapolis offers voluntary lead in drinking water testing to all residents. To request a free test kit go to: minneapolismn.gov/lead-testing or call 311.

5. **Use cold water** for drinking, making food, and making baby formula. Hot water releases more lead from pipes than cold water.

6. **Know your service line materials:** The City of Minneapolis has an interactive map that shows properties with lead service lines. It can be found at: minneapolismn.gov/lead-service-line-map

Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and other steps you can take to minimize exposure are available at:

- Visit EPA Basic Information about Lead in Drinking Water: epa.gov/safewater/lead
- Visit the Minnesota Department of Health Lead in Drinking Water: health.state.mn.us/communities/environment/water/contaminants/lead.html
- To learn about how to reduce your contact with lead from sources other than your drinking water, visit Lead Poisoning Prevention: Common Sources: health.state.mn.us/communities/environment/lead/fs/common.html

Service line material inventory

Minneapolis has completed and submitted our 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 minneapolismn.gov/lead-service-line-map or the state's Lead Inventory Tracking Tool (LITT) maps.umn.edu/LSL/. You may also contact us at us at 612-673-3000 or 311. As of 10/16/2024, our inventory contains 39,323 lead, 133 galvanized requiring replacement, 2,020 unknown material, and 60,337 non-lead service lines.

Service line replacement

Minneapolis is replacing lead water service lines. The service line is the pipe that connects a property to the water main in the middle of the street. In Minneapolis, the property owner owns the entire water service line.

State and Federal funds are paying for this work at no cost to property owners. Rules for state funding will determine the project areas. The City will contact eligible property owners before work begins on their property. Contractors will replace the service line, and the City will inspect their work.

The State of Minnesota's goal is to replace all lead service lines by 2033. The federal government is requiring replacement of all lead service lines by 2037. For more information about Minneapolis' lead service line replacement program visit: minneapolismn.gov/government/projects/lead-service-lines/

Enjoy your tap water, but use water wisely

The City has plenty of tap water for everyone to use but it's important to use this water wisely. You can find links to helpful resources at: dnr.state.mn.us/waters/watermgmt_section/appropriations/conservation.html

Switch to low-flow plumbing
Newer toilets can save two gallons or more of water per flush, and low-flow shower heads can use 2.5 fewer gallons per minute than ordinary ones.

Leaks and drips add up quickly
A slow drip from a tap can waste 15-20 gallons of water per day, and a leaky toilet can waste hundreds of gallons a day.

Smarter appliances use less water
When shopping for a new washing machine, pay attention to the water factor – the number of gallons of water needed for each cubic foot of laundry. The lower the number, the more water it saves.

Wash wisely
Consider how appliances use water. A washing machine uses 27 to 51 gallons per cycle, so make sure you use the right load size setting. A dishwasher uses 7 to 14 gallons no matter how many dishes are inside, so only run yours when it's full.

Rethink lawn watering
A rain gauge can help you determine whether and how much your lawn, garden and trees need to be watered. A good rain can eliminate the need to water for a week. If you do need to water, doing so at night will reduce evaporation; make sure the sprinkler isn't watering the street or the sidewalk.