2024 ANNUAL DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT

NORTHWEST RURAL WATER DISTRICT

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We are pleased to present to you this year's ***Annual Drinking Water Quality Report***. This report is required by the federal Safe Drinking Water Act (SWDA) and we encourage you to share and discuss the contents with consumers who do not receive or may not understand the information contained herein. This report is designed to inform you about the safe clean water we deliver to you every day. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water.

We are pleased to report that our drinking water is safe and meets federal and state requirements.

If you own or manage an apartment complex or have renters, we encourage you to share this report with them. If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact Ben Clarys, our Manager, at (701) 774-8915. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled board meetings that are held on the third Tuesday of every month at 7:30 AM at the Northwest Rural Water District office. If you are aware of non-English speaking individuals who need help with the appropriate language translation, please call Ben Clarys at the number listed above.

This report has required definitions of terms, language requirements, tables of water quality data and other pertinent information you will hopefully find interesting and educational.

Northwest Rural Water District's water source is the Western Area Water Supply which obtains its water from the Missouri River. The Water Treatment Plant is located on the north bank of the Missouri River near the Lewis & Clark Bridge on Highway 85. During high demands, Northwest Rural Water may receive water through the R & T Water Supply system, which is not likely susceptible to potential contaminant sources. Recent amendments to the Safe Drinking Water Act require the North Dakota Department of Environmental Quality to complete a source water assessment (SWA) for the Western Area Water Supply. The Department of Environmental Quality completed this assessment of our water source in 2003 and determined that our water system is moderately susceptible to potential contaminant sources. They also noted that "historically, the Williston Water Plant has effectively treated this source water to meet drinking water standards." Information about the SWA can be obtained by calling the Water Treatment Plant at (701) 577-7104.

Northwest Rural Water District would appreciate it if large volume water customers posted copies of the CCR in conspicuous locations or distribute them to tenants, residents, patients, students, and/or employees, so individuals who consume the water, but do not receive a water bill can learn about our water system.

Northwest Rural Water District routinely monitors for contaminants in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. This table shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1 to December 31, 2024.

As authorized and approved by EPA, the state has reduced monitoring requirements for certain contaminants to less often than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year. Some of our data [e.g., for organic contaminants], though representative, is more than one year old.

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:

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 storm water 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 storm water 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 storm water 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, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

In this table you will find many terms and abbreviations you might not be familiar with. To help you better understand these terms we've provided the following definitions:

Non-Detects (ND) - laboratory analysis indicates that the contaminant is not present.

Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/l) - one part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in $10,000.

Parts per billion (ppb) or Micrograms per liter (mg/l) - one part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in $10,000,000.

Parts per trillion (ppt) or Nanograms per liter (nanograms/l) - one part per trillion corresponds to one minute in 2,000,000 years, or a single penny in $10,000,000,000.

Parts per quadrillion (ppq) or Picograms per liter (picograms/l) - one part per quadrillion corresponds to one minute in 2,000,000,000 years or one penny in $10,000,000,000,000.

Picocuries per liter (pCi/L) - picocuries per liter is a measure of the radioactivity in water.

Millirems per year (mrem/yr) - measure of radiation absorbed by the body.

Million Fibers per Liter (MFL) - million fibers per liter is a measure of the presence of asbestos fibers that are longer than 10 micrometers.

Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU) - nephelometric turbidity unit is a measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.

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

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

Maximum Contaminant Level - The "Maximum Allowed" (MCL) is 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.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal - The "Goal" (MCLG) is 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.

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

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL) 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.

Initial Distribution System Evaluation (IDSE) –

Umho/cm – Micromhos per centimeter (a measure of conductivity)

Obsvns – observations/field at 100 Power

EPA requires monitoring of over 80 drinking water contaminants. Those contaminants listed in the tables below are the only contaminants detected in your drinking water.

2024 TEST RESULTS FOR NORTHWEST RURAL WATER DISTRICT

Contaminant	Violation Yes/No	Level Detected	Range	Date (year)	Unit Measurement	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Inorganic Contaminants								
2. Copper	No	90th% 0.0285	ND to 0.0387	2023	ppm	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits, leaching from wood preservatives
3. Lead	No	90th% = No Detect	ND to 10.80	2023	ppb	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits
Disinfectants								
6. Chloramine	No	2.7	2.45 to 2.98	2024	ppm	MRDLG =4	MRDL =4.0	Water additive used to control microbes
Disinfection By-products								
7. TTHM [Total trihalomethanes] –	No	23	8.43 to 23.86	2024	ppb	0	80	By-product of drinking water chlorination
8. Total Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) –	No	10	ND to 12.03	2024	ppb		60	By-product of drinking water disinfection

Bacteriological Monitoring Data – RTCR

Coliforms are bacteria which are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other; potentially harmful, bacteria may be present.

Total Coliform Data: September had the highest number of Total Coliform Samples Total Coliform Positives for that Month: 2

All required repeat samples were satisfactory. Northwest Rural Water had no Total Coliform monitoring violations in 2024.

2024 TEST RESULTS FOR R & T WATER SYSTEM

Contaminant	Violation Yes/No	Level Detected	Range	Date (year)	Unit Measurement	Samples exceed AL	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Inorganic Contaminants									
1. Nitrate-Nitrite	No	.03	2024	Ppm		10	10	N/A	N/A
2. Copper	No	90th% .0769	ND to 0.351	2024	ppm	0	1.3	AL =1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
3. Lead	No	90th% 1.67	ND to 351.0	2024	ppb	1	0	AL =15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits
Disinfectants									
10. Chloramine	No	2.8	1.81 to 3.25	2024	ppm		MRDLG =4	MRDL = 4	Water additive used to control Microbes
Disinfection Byproducts									
11. TTHM [Total trihalomethanes]-	No	15	2.13 to 17.23	2024	ppb			80	By-product of drinking water chlorination
12. Total Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) –	No	8	ND to 6.22	2024	ppb			60	By-product of drinking water disinfection

2024 TEST RESULTS FOR CITY OF WILLISTON

Contaminant	Violation Yes/No	Level Detected	Range	Date (year)	Unit Measurement	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Microbiological Contaminants								
1. Turbidity	No	0.419		2024		n/a	TT	Soil runoff

The lowest monthly % of samples meeting the Turbidity limits equals 100%

Inorganic Contaminants								
2. Copper	No	90th% 0.0205	ND to 0.0559	2023	ppm	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
3. Lead	No	90th% = No Detect	ND to 1.55	2023	ppb	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits
4. Nitrate-Nitrite	No	.173		2024	ppm	10	10	Infants below the age of six months who drink water containing nitrate in excess of the MCL could become seriously ill and, if untreaded may die. Symptoms include shortness of breath and blue baby syndrome.
Total Organic Carbon Removal								
4. Alkalinity – source	No	188	102.00 to 188.00	2024	MG/L			
5. Carbon, Total Organic (TOC)- Finished	No	2.6	2.10 to 2.60	2024	MG/L			
6. Carbon, Total Organic (TOC) - Source	No	4.3	3.10 to 4.30	2024	MG/L			
Disinfectants								
10. Chloramines	No	2.7	0 to 2.81	2024	ppm	MRDLG = 4	MRDL = 4.0	Water additive used to control Microbes
Disinfection Byproducts								
11. TTHM [Total trihalomethanes]-	No	22	14.76 to 24.98	2024	ppb	0	80	By-product of drinking water chlorination
12. Total Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	No	11	3.83 to 8.69	2024	ppb		60	By-product of drinking water disinfection

Once every five years EPA issues a list of unregulated contaminants to be monitored by public water systems.

The City of Williston was selected by EPA to sample for thirty (30) unregulated contaminants during 2023-2024. Samples were collected four times at the Entry Point to the distribution system (EP), as required.

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. Should you have any questions, please contact our office.

The following unregulated contaminant was the only contaminant detected during this sampling.

Unregulated Contaminant	Average value at EP sampling point (ug/L)
Lithium 79.0 SE1 66.2 SE2 63.2 SE3 68.5 SE4	69.23 (Range: 63.2 to 79.0)

Surface Water Treatment Rule Monitoring Data:

Lowest Monthly Percentage of Samples Meeting Turbidity Limits= 100
Highest Single Measurement = 0.419

*Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. The city of Williston monitors it because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of their filtration system. Turbidity is measured every four hours during treatment plant operations. 100% of samples met turbidity limits.

EPA requires monitoring of over 80 drinking water contaminants. Those contaminants listed in the table above are the only contaminants detected in your drinking water.

Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filtration system.

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 the 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 (1-800-426-4791).

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

MCL's are set at very stringent levels. To understand the possible health effects described for many regulated contaminants, a person would have to drink 2 liters of water every day at the MCL level for a lifetime to have a one-in-a-million chance of having the described health effect.

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. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

There is no safe level of lead in drinking water. Exposure to lead in drinking water can cause serious health effects in all age groups, especially pregnant people, infants (both formula-fed and breastfed), and your children. Some of the health effects to infants and children include decreases in IQ and attention span. Lead exposure can also result in new or worsened learning and behavior problems. The children of persons who are exposed to lead before or during pregnancy may be at increased risk of these harmful health effects. Adults have increased risks of heart disease, high blood pressure, kidney or nervous system problems. Contact your health care provider for more information about your risks.

Lead can cause serious health effects in people of all ages, especially pregnant people, infants (both formula-fed and breastfed), and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and parts used in service lines and in home plumbing. Northwest Rural Water District is responsible for providing high quality drinking water and removing lead pipes but cannot control the variety of materials used in the plumbing in your home.

Because lead levels may vary over time, lead exposure is possible even when your tap sampling results do not detect lead at one point in time. You can help protect yourself and your family by identifying and removing lead materials within your home plumbing and taking steps to reduce your family's risk. Using a filter, certified by an American National Standards Institute accredited certifier to reduce lead, is effective in reducing lead exposures. Follow the instructions provided with the filter to ensure the filter is used properly.

Use only cold water for drinking, cooking and making baby formula. Boiling water does not remove lead from water. Before using tap water for drinking, cooking or making baby formula, flush your pipes for several minutes. You can do this by running your tap, taking a shower, doing laundry or a load of dishes. If you have a lead service line or galvanized requiring replacement service line, you may need to flush your pipes for a longer period. If you are concerned about lead in your water and wish to have your water tested, contact Northwest Rural Water District at 701-774-8915. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

USEPA has recently published the Lead and copper Rule Revision. The purpose of this revision is to strengthen public health protections by removing lead service lines with public water systems. One requirement of this rule version was to inventory all drinking water service lines within our public water system and notify consumers which type of line serves each property. You may have recently received a letter from our system with this information.

The inventory is a listing of all service lines and the material composition of each line. The types of lines being documented are Lead lines, Galvanized Requiring Replacement (GRR) and lines made of Unknown Material. Classification of a service line as being comprised of Unknown service Line material indicates that our system cannot currently confirm the material of both the public and private provisions of the line with written records. Non-lead lines were also documented; however, we were not required to notify consumers with documented nonlead lines. The classification of the type of service line serving a residence was based on historical data regarding the property and in some cases verification of the type of material on the privately owned side of the line by visual inspection or replacement records of the owner.

The current Service Line Inventory for our system has been completed and is available for viewing at our office OR is available on-line at www.northwestruralwater.com. Please contact Northwest Rural Water District at 701-774-8915should you have any questions.

Additional work to update the service line inventory, including inspection of the line, may need to be performed to further document and confirm the type of material making up both eh public and private portions of the line serving your home or business. We will need the help of the home/building owners in order to access the service line on the private side of the service line to positively identify the material of the line that carries water within your home/building. Our system may perform this work with our own system employees or we contract with engineering firms or third party contractors to complete this work to improve our service line inventory.

Thank you for allowing us to provide your family with clean, quality water this year. In order to maintain a safe and dependable water supply we sometimes need to make improvements that will benefit all of our customers. These improvements sometimes require rate structure adjustments.

Please call our office if you have questions. Northwest Rural Water District works around the clock to provide top quality water to every tap. We ask that all our customers help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community, our way of life and our children's future.

Quality On Tap!

Our Commitment Our Profession