

2024 Consumer Confidence Report Data

MONTELLO WATERWORKS, PWS ID: 43902815

Water System Information

If you would like to know more about the information contained in this report, please contact Michael Kohnke at (608) 297-2416.

Opportunity for input on decisions affecting your water quality

Public Works Meetings are at 6:30 pm the second Wednesday of each month at the City of Montello Municipal building at 20 Underwood Ave

Health Information

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 (800-426-4791).

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 systems 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 microbial contaminants are available from the Environmental Protection Agency's safe drinking water hotline (800-426-4791).

Source(s) of Water

Source ID	Source	Depth (in feet)	Status
1	Groundwater	142	Active
2	Groundwater	200	Active

To obtain a summary of the source water assessment please contact, Michael Kohnke at (608) 297-2416.

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.
HA and HAL	HA: Health Advisory. An estimate of acceptable drinking water levels for a chemical substance based on health effects information. HAL: Health Advisory Level is a concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, poses a health risk and may require a system to post a public notice. Health Advisories are determined by US EPA.
HI	HI: Hazard Index: A Hazard Index is used to assess the potential health impacts associated with mixtures of contaminants. Hazard Index guidance for a class of contaminants or mixture of contaminants may be determined by the US EPA or Wisconsin Department of Health Services. If a Health Index is exceeded a system may be required to post a public notice.

Term	Definition
Level 1 Assessment	A Level 1 assessment is a study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine, if possible, why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system.
Level 2 Assessment	A Level 2 assessment is a very detailed study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine, if possible, why an E. coli MCL violation has occurred or why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system, or both, on multiple occasions.
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.
MFL	million fibers per liter
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.
mrem/year	millirems per year (a measure of radiation absorbed by the body)
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)
ppt	parts per trillion, or nanograms per liter
ppq	parts per quadrillion, or picograms per liter
PHGS	PHGS: Public Health Groundwater Standards are found in NR 140 Groundwater Quality. The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, poses a health risk and may require a system to post a public notice.
RPHGS	RPHGS: Recommended Public Health Groundwater Standards: Groundwater standards proposed by the Wisconsin Department of Health Services. The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, poses a health risk and may require a system to post a public notice.
SMCL	Secondary drinking water standards or Secondary Maximum Contaminant Levels for contaminants that affect taste, odor, or appearance of the drinking water. The SMCLs do not represent health standards.
TCR	Total Coliform Rule
TT	Treatment Technique: A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

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 below along with the sample date.

Disinfection Byproducts

Contaminant (units)	Site	MCL	MCLG	Level Found	Range	Sample Date (if prior to 2024)	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
HAA5 (ppb)	11	60	60	0	0		No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
TTHM (ppb)	11	80	0	3.2	3.2		No	By-product of drinking water chlorination

Inorganic Contaminants

Contaminant (units)	Site	MCL	MCLG	Level Found	Range	Sample Date (if prior to 2024)	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
BARIUM (ppm)	2	2		0.024	0.023 - 0.024	8/15/2023	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
CHROMIUM (ppb)		100	100	2	2 - 2	8/15/2023	No	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; Erosion of natural deposits
FLUORIDE (ppm)	4	4		0.1	0.1 - 0.1	8/15/2023	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge

Contaminant (units)	Site	MCL	MCLG	Level Found	Range	Sample Date (if prior to 2024)	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
								from fertilizer and aluminum factories
NICKEL (ppb)		100		1.8000	0.0000 - 1.8000	8/15/2023	No	Nickel occurs naturally in soils, ground water and surface waters and is often used in electroplating, stainless steel and alloy products.
NITRATE (N03-N) (ppm)		10	10	3.20	2.70 - 3.20		No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
SODIUM (ppm)		n/a	n/a	24.00	23.00 - 24.00	8/15/2023	No	n/a

Contaminant (units)	Action Level	MCLG	90th Percentile Level Found	Range	# of Results	Sample Date (if prior to 2024)	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
COPPER (ppm)	AL=1.3	1.3	0.1900	0.0390 - 0.2800	0 of 10 results were above the action level.	8/16/2023	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives
LEAD (ppb)	AL=15	0	5.00	0.34 - 6.10	0 of 10 results were above the	8/16/2023	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of

Contaminant (units)	Action Level	MCLG	90th Percentile Level Found	Range	# of Results	Sample Date (if prior to 2024)	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
					action level.			natural deposits

PFAS Contaminants with a Recommended Health Advisory Level

Perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) are a large group of human-made chemicals that have been used in industry and consumer products worldwide since the 1950. The following table list PFAS contaminants which were detected in your water and that have a Recommended Public Health Groundwater Standard (RPHGS) or Health Advisory Level (HAL). There are no violations for detections of contaminants that exceed the RPHGS or HAL. The RPHGS are levels at which concentrations of the contaminant present a health risk and are based on guidance provided by the Wisconsin Department of Health Services.

Note: The recommended health-based levels in the table below were in effect in 2024. These levels were revised by WDHS in 2025. They can be found here <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/water/gws.htm>.

Typical Source of Contaminant		Drinking water is one way that people can be exposed to PFAS. In Wisconsin, two-thirds of people use groundwater as their drinking water source. PFAS can get in groundwater from places that make or use PFAS and release from consumer products in landfills.			
Contaminant (units)	Site	RPHGS or HAL (PPT)	Level Found	Range	Sample Date (if prior to 2024)
PFBS (ppt)		450000	2.40	0.82 - 2.40	6/13/2023
PFHXS (ppt)		40	2.00	0.92 - 2.00	6/13/2023

Radioactive Contaminants

Contaminant (units)	Site	MCL	MCLG	Level Found	Range	Sample Date (if prior to 2024)	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
GROSS ALPHA, EXCL. R & U (pCi/l)		15	0	1.8	1.7 - 1.8	7/14/2020	No	Erosion of natural deposits
GROSS ALPHA, INCL. R & U (n/a)		n/a	n/a	1.8	0.0 - 1.8	7/13/2020	No	Erosion of natural deposits

Contaminant (units)	Site	MCL	MCLG	Level Found	Range	Sample Date (if prior to 2024)	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
COMBINED URANIUM (ug/l)		30	0	0.3	0.0 - 0.3	7/14/2020	No	Erosion of natural deposits

Additional Health Information

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. Montello Waterworks 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 Montello Waterworks (Michael Kohnke at (608) 297-2416). Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at <https://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

Additional Information on Service Line Materials

We are required to develop an initial inventory of service lines connected to our distribution system by October 16, 2024 and to make the inventory publicly accessible. You can access the service line inventory here/by: cityofmontello.com

Other Compliance

Other Drinking Water Regulations Violations

Description of Violation	Date of Violation	Date Violation Resolved
Failed to develop and report an initial inventory for service line materials that meets federal requirements and failed to make initial lead service line inventory publicly accessible	10/17/2024	
Failure to correct: SD1 By June 30, 2024, provide me with copies of either DNR Form 3300-005 ofr abandoned wells or a well permit packet for each of the 16 existing wells. The well permit packet for each shall include the following: • a copy of a recent negative bacti result, • a copy of a recent well inspection report on DNR Form 3300-305 signed by a licensed well driller or licensed pump installer showing the well meets the construction standards found in Ch. NR 812, Wis. Adm. Code, • a copy of a recent cross-connection inspection that documents the well is not connected to fixtures that are also connected to the City's water system, and • a stated need for the well. Please see Recommendation 2, below, for additional considerations.	1/1/2025	

Actions Taken

Violation started in 2023 and the Waterworks Department has been working on getting all properties compliant by talking in person, on phone, email, and letters. The Waterworks department also went forward and hired a company to get the required inspections done.

Exposure to lead in drinking water can cause serious health effects in all age groups. Infants and children can have decreases in IQ and attention span. Lead exposure can lead to new learning and behavior problems or exacerbate existing learning and behavior problems. The children of women who are exposed to lead before or during pregnancy can have increased risk of these adverse health effects. Adults can have increased risks of heart disease, high blood pressure, kidney or nervous system problems.

Copper is an essential nutrient, but some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over a relatively short amount of time could experience gastrointestinal distress. Some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over many years could suffer liver or kidney damage. People with Wilsons Disease should consult their personal doctor.

We failed to develop an inventory that meets all federal requirements and/or to make the inventory publicly accessible. We failed to submit this initial inventory of service lines by October 16, 2024.

Uncorrected Significant Deficiencies

Deficiency Description and Progress to Date	Date System Notified	Scheduled Correction Date
<p>SD1 The City has not addressed a deficiency from the 2020 sanitary survey. As a result, the deficiency has been elevated to significant and failure to complete the required corrective actions will result in a Treatment Technique Violation (TTV) in accordance with section NR 809.328(1), Wisconsin Administrative Code. The requirement from the 2020 sanitary survey report is included in italics. Montello is not requiring owners of private wells to provide documentation of a well inspection report by a licensed well driller or licensed pump installer in accordance with s. NR 810.16, Wis. Adm. Code. Currently the waterworks operator is verifying that the well meets the requirements of NR 812, Wis. Adm. Code; however, certified waterworks operators are not authorized to complete Form 3300-305. All the existing private wells in the City have permits that expire in 2020; renewal of these permits shall not be allowed unless Form 3300-305 is submitted. This issue dates back to 2018 when the department notified City staff that waterworks operators are not qualified to confirm that the well and pump meet the current NR 812 standards.</p>	11/22/2023	12/31/2024

Actions Taken

Property owners have been notified to become compliant by the end of June 2025 or the water service will be discontinued until they reach proper compliancy per DNR code for private wells.