



ALGOMA UTILITIES 2019 Consumer Confidence Report

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Introduction

We are pleased to present this year's Annual Water Quality Report, also referred to as the Consumer Confidence Report. This report is designed to inform you about the quality water and services we deliver to you every day. Water is vital to our community and we are fortunate in Algoma to have a high-quality water supply. One of our priorities is protecting this natural resource! Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. Efforts are made to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water. **Algoma Utilities is pleased to report that our drinking water is safe and meets federal and state requirements.**

Water System Information

If you would like to know more about the information contained in this report, please contact the general manager at (920) 487-5556.

Opportunity for input on decisions affecting your water quality

The Algoma Utility Commission meets monthly. Meetings are held in the Utility Conference Room located at 1407 Flora Ave, Algoma. Please call for meeting date and time.



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	589	Active
3	Groundwater	504	Active
5	Groundwater	472	Active



To obtain a summary of the source water assessment, please contact the general manager at (920) 487-5556.



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.
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 below along with the sample date.

Disinfection Byproducts

Contaminant (units)	Site	MCL	MCLG	Level Found	Range	Sample Date (if prior to 2019)	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
HAA5 (ppb)	D-28	60	60	3	3		No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
TTHM (ppb)	D-28	80	0	9.9	9.9		No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
HAA5 (ppb)	D-31	60	60	3	3		No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
TTHM (ppb)	D-31	80	0	8.1	8.1		No	By-product of drinking water chlorination

Inorganic Contaminants

Contaminant (units)	Site	MCL	MCLG	Level Found	Range	Sample Date (if prior to 2019)	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
ARSENIC (ppb)		10	n/a	2	1 - 2	2/14/2017	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
BARIUM (ppm)		2	2	0.049	0.026 - 0.049	2/14/2017	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
FLUORIDE (ppm)		4	4	0.9	0.5 - 0.9	2/14/2017	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories

Contaminant (units)	Site	MCL	MCLG	Level Found	Range	Sample Date (if prior to 2019)	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
NICKEL (ppb)		100		0.6200	0.0000 - 0.6200	2/14/2017	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	0.59	0.00 - 0.59		No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
SODIUM (ppm)		n/a	n/a	120.00	110.00 - 120.00	2/14/2017	No	n/a

Contaminant (units)	Action Level	MCLG	90th Percentile Level Found	# of Results	Sample Date (if prior to 2019)	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
COPPER (ppm)	AL=1.3	1.3	0.4600	0 of 10 results were above the action level.	6/19/2017	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives
LEAD (ppb)	AL=15	0	9.00	0 of 10 results were above the action level.	6/17/2017	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits

Unregulated Contaminants

Contaminant	Level Found	Range	Sample Date
MANGANESE	5.6	1.3 to 5.6	2015 UCMR-3 Monitoring
STRONTIUM	393.5	222.4 to 393.5	2015 UCMR-3 Monitoring
1,4-DIOXANE	0.5	0.3 to 0.5	2015 UCMR-3 Monitoring



What is Cryptosporidium?

Cryptosporidium is a one-celled primitive form of animal life called a protozoan. Protozoans can survive a long time in the natural environment. Typically, cryptosporidium is found in rivers, lakes, and streams contaminated with animal feces. In only a few cases has tested drinking water samples shown evidence of cryptosporidium. Our water system did not monitor its water for cryptosporidium during 2019. We are not required by State or Federal drinking water regulations to do so.

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. Algoma Utilities 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. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.



What does this mean?

As you can see by the tables, our system had **NO VIOLATIONS**. We are proud that your drinking water meets or exceeds all Federal and State requirements. We have learned through our monitoring and testing that some constituents have been detected. The EPA has determined that your water IS SAFE at these levels. In our continuing efforts to maintain a safe and dependable water supply, it may be necessary to make improvements in your water system. The costs of these improvements may be reflected in the rate structure. Rate adjustments may be necessary in order to address these improvements. The Utility is continuously involved with system maintenance. Flushing mains through hydrants is one such activity. Flushing helps prevent corrosion products from forming on the wall of the pipe. Flushing is an important part of ensuring that fresh, quality water is delivered to the consumer. Please feel free to call our office at (920) 487-5556 if you have questions or would like additional information.



Meter Maintenance

Algoma Utilities' employees are conducting meter maintenance. Don't be alarmed if you see them in your yard. In most cases, the electric meter is located outside. If the meter is in a fenced area our employees require access to the meter and will attempt to enter the fence.

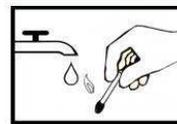
Your water meter is typically in the basement. Therefore, access to your home is required. Our employees carry identification and their vehicle will have the Algoma Utilities' logo. (Our logo is shown on this report). Your safety is important to us! If you have concerns, ask for identification or contact our office at (920) 487-5556 to verify that we are at your property.



Rabas Street Water Tower

You may have noticed a lot of activity going on at Algoma Utilities Rabas Street water tower last year. Yes, it was recently painted. Due to the inclement weather in 2019, the project could not be completed. Work to complete the painting will commence when the weather permits. The Wolf logo will return to the water tower after the painting is completed.

SAFE TO DRINK



What is done to keep our water safe?

As an Algoma Utilities' water customer, you are part of a public water system. Wisconsin has more public drinking water systems than anywhere else in the nation. These public water systems are essential for providing safe water to the citizens of the state. Federal regulations are in place to help public water system owners and operators so they can provide this vital resource to their valued customers.

Testing frequency and requirements vary depending on the type of system and a variety of other factors. The DNR sends monitoring schedules to public water system owners and operators every year indicating what types of monitoring must be done. Samples must be submitted to a laboratory certified for doing safe drinking water analysis. The laboratory will provide the sample results to the utility as well as the DNR. If the results exceed allowed limits the DNR will notify the utility and will provide guidance on next steps. If a contaminant is detected in a sample, there are immediate retesting requirements. If contaminants are confirmed in the water supply, action must be taken to provide safe water. All public water systems receive inspections (sanitary surveys) on a regular basis which are conducted by the DNR. Sanitary surveys evaluate the adequacy of the water source and examine the facilities, equipment, operation, maintenance, monitoring, record keeping and any required public noticing. Community systems will receive a sanitary survey once every three years. After the inspection, the utility will receive a report which will outline corrective actions if any are needed.

WATER WATCHERS PROGRAM

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! If you see any suspicious activity at any Algoma Utilities' property, please immediately contact the Algoma Police Department at 487-3311 or Algoma Utilities at 487-5556.

