

## 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.

## Additional Health Information

Some people who drink water containing **trihalomethanes** in excess of the MCL over many years may experience problems with their liver, kidneys, or central nervous system, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

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. Wis Rapids Water Works & Lighting Comm 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](http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead).

## Information on Monitoring for Cryptosporidium and Radon

Our water system did not monitor our water for cryptosporidium or radon during 2020. We are not required by State or Federal drinking water regulations to do so.

## Water Works and Lighting Commission

Administrative Office Located at:  
221 16th Street South  
Wisconsin Rapids, WI

Phone: 715-423-6300  
Fax: 715-423-2831

Web:  
<http://wrwwlc.com/water/water-quality.php>  
E-mail: [water@wrwwlc.com](mailto:water@wrwwlc.com)

Hours: 7:00am - 4:30pm  
Monday - Friday

### Member of:

American Water Works  
Association (AWWA)

Wisconsin Rural Water  
Association (WRWA)



## Wisconsin Rapids Water Works and Lighting Commission 2021 Annual Drinking Water Report

This brochure explains the quality of drinking water provided by Wisconsin Rapids. Included is a listing of results from water quality tests for 2020 as well as an explanation of where our water comes from and tips on how to interpret the data. We're proud to share our results with you. Please read them carefully.

### Water Source(s)

Source id	Source	Depth (in feet)	Status
1	Groundwater	61	Active
2	Groundwater	62	Active
3	Groundwater	63	Active
4	Groundwater	70	Active
5	Groundwater	69	Active

### Important 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 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 microbial contaminants are available from the Environmental Protection Agency's safe drinking water hotline (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:

(A) Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.

(B) 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.

(C) Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses.

(D) 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.

(E) 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 which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

## Key to Table

TCR = Total Coliform Rule

AL = Action Level

MCL = Maximum Contaminant Level

MCLG = Maximum Contaminant  
Level Goal

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)

NA = not applicable

### How to Read The Water Quality Table

The results of tests performed in 2009 or the most recent testing available are presented in the table. Terms used in the Water Quality Table and in other parts of this report are defined here.

**Maximum Contaminant Level or MCL:** 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 or MCLG:** 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.

**Detected Level:** The highest level detected of a contaminant for comparison against the acceptance levels for each parameter. These levels could be the highest single measurement, or an average of values depending on the contaminant.

**Action Level:** The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

**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.

**Range:** The lowest to the highest values for all samples tested for each contaminant. If only one sample is tested, or no range is required for this report, then no range is listed for that contaminant in the table.

\* Systems exceeding a lead and/or copper action level must take actions to reduce lead and/or copper in the drinking water. The lead and copper values represent the 90th percentile of all compliance samples collected. If you want information on the number of sites or the actions taken to reduce these levels, please contact your water supply operator.

For more information, call *Dale Scheunemann* with  
Wisconsin Rapids Water Works & Lighting Commission at 715-422-9045.

We encourage public interest and participation in our community's decisions affecting drinking water. Regular board meetings are held on the second Wednesday of each month in the Conference Room of Water & Light at 1:00PM, located at 221 16th Street South.  
Public is welcome.

# Wisconsin Rapids Water Quality Table

## Number of Contaminants Required to be Tested

This table displays the number of contaminants that were required to be tested in the last five years. The CCR may contain up to five years worth of water quality results. If a water system tests annually, or more frequently, the results from the most recent year are shown on the CCR. If testing is done less frequently, the results shown on the CCR are from the past five years.

Contaminant Group	# of Contaminants
Disinfection Byproducts	2
Inorganic Contaminants	16
Microbiological Contaminants	3
Radioactive Contaminants	4
Synthetic Organic Contaminants including Pesticides and Herbicides	23
Unregulated Contaminants	34
Volatile Organic Contaminants	20

## Disinfection Byproducts

Contaminant (units)	Site	MCL	MCLG	Level Found	Range	Sample Date (if Prior to 2020)	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
HAA5 (ppb)	D-51	60	60	31	28-34		No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
TTHM (ppb)	D-51	80	0	59.5	41.8-80.6		No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
HAA5 (ppb)	SM-4	60	60	28	24-30		No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
TTHM (ppb)	SM-4	80	0	68.5	51.3-88.0		No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
HAA5 (ppb)	3/SM-5	60	60	32	29-37		No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
TTHM (ppb)	3/SM-5	80	0	61.3	44.2-71.8		No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
HAA5 (ppb)	SM6	60	60	37	34-41		No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
TTHM (ppb)	SM6	80	0	52.8	37.4-81.7		No	By-product of drinking water chlorination

## Disinfection Byproducts

Contaminant (units)	MCL	MCLG	Level Found	Range	Sample Date (if Prior to 2020)	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
HEXACHLOROXY-CLOPENTADIENE (ppb)	50	50	0	0	2/6/2017	No	Discharge from Chemical Factories

## Inorganic Contaminants

Contaminant (units)	MCL	MCLG	Level Found	Range	Sample Date (if Prior to 2020)	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
BARIUM (ppm)	2	2	.024	.024	3/9/2020	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
COPPER (ppm)	AL=1.3	1.3	.1700	0 of 30 results were above the action level	10/1/2020	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
FLUORIDE (ppm)	4	4	.7	.7	3/9/2020	No	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
LEAD (ppb)	AL=15	0	10.00	2 of 30 results were above the action level	8/14/2020	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
NICKEL (ppb)	100		.4900	.4900	3/9/2020	No	Nickel occurs naturally in soils, groundwater and surface waters and is often stainless steel and alloy products
NITRATE (NO3-N) (ppm)	10	10	.73	.73		No	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
SODIUM (ppm)	n/a	n/a	40.00	40.00	3/9/2020	No	Household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits

## Radioactive Contaminants

Contaminant (units)	MCL	MCLG	Level Found	Range	Sample Date (if Prior to 2020)	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
RADIUM, (226 + 228) (pCi/l)	15	0	0.1	0.1		No	Erosion of natural deposits

## Unregulated Contaminants

Contaminant (units)	MCL	MCLG	Level Found	Range	Sample Date (if Prior to 2020)	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
SULFATE (Secondary) (ppm)	250	250	15.50	14.00-17.00		No	n/a

Contaminant (units)	SMCL	HAL	Level Found	Range	Sample Date (if Prior to 2021)	Typical Source of Contaminant
CHLORIDE (ppm)	250		37.00	37.00	9/9/2020	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits, road salt, water softeners
IRON (ppm)	0.3		0.09	0.09	9/9/2020	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits, industrial wastes
MANGANESE (ppm)	0.05	0.3	0.00	0.00	9/9/2020	Leaching from natural deposits
SULFATE (ppm)	250		17.00	14.00-17.00	3/9/2020	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits, industrial wastes
ZINC (ppm)	5		0.05	0.05	2/6/2017	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits, industrial wastes