

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).

Key to Table

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.

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

HA=Health Advisory: An estimate of acceptable drinking water levels for a chemical substance based on health effects information.

HAL=Health Advisory Level: 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=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.

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=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=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 Maximum Contaminant Levels: Secondary drinking water standards 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.

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

Hours: 7:30am - 3:30pm
Monday - Thursday

Hours: 7:30am - 12:30pm
Friday

Member of:

American Water Works Association
(AWWA)



Wisconsin Rapids Water Works and Lighting Commission

2025 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 2025 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	Temporarily Inactive as of 10/26/2023

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. Wis Rapids Water Works & Lighting Comm 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 Wis Rapids Water Works & Lighting Comm Adam Breunig at (715) 423-6300. 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 developed an inventory of service lines connected to our distribution system. You can access the inventory by following these instructions: https://www.wrwwlc.com/water/pdf/Water_Service_Material_Inventory.pdf

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 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.

For more information, call *Adam Breunig* with Wisconsin Rapids Water Works & Lighting Commission at 715-423-6300.

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 2:00PM, located at 221 16th Street South. Public is welcome.

Wisconsin Rapids Water Quality Table

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)	D-51	60	60	23	17-30		No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
TTHM (ppb)	D-51	80	0	40.1	17.7-53.0		No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
HAA5 (ppb)	SM-4	60	60	27	18-29		No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
TTHM (ppb)	SM-4	80	0	35.6	15.4-46.3		No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
HAA5 (ppb)	SM-6	60	60	30	25-27		No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
TTHM (ppb)	SM-6	80	0	32.4	15.6-42.8		No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
HAA5 (ppb)	SM-3/5	60	60	26	7-32		No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
TTHM (ppb)	SM-3/5	80	0	43.1	18.4-61.1		No	By-product of drinking water chlorination

PFAS Contaminants

Contaminant (units)	HAL	Level Found	Range	Sample Date (if Prior to 2024)
PFBS (ppt)	450000	1.60	1.60	
PFOS (ppt)	20	1.60	1.60	
PFOA (ppt)	20	0.72	0.72	
PFHXA (ppt)	150000	0.82	0.82	
PFOA AND PFOS TOTAL (ppt)	20	2.32	2.32	

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>.

Inorganic Contaminants

Contaminant (units)	MCL	MCLG	Level Found	Range	Sample Date (if Prior to 2024)	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
BARIUM (ppm)	2	2	.023	.023	5/15/2023	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
COPPER (ppm)	AL=1.3	1.3	.1000	0 of 60 results were above the action level		No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
FLUORIDE (ppm)	4	4	.8	.8	5/15/2023	No	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
LEAD (ppb)	AL=15	0	8.10	1 of 60 results were above the action level		No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
NITRATE (NO3-N) (ppm)	10	10	.88	.88		No	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
SODIUM (ppm)	n/a	n/a	43.00	43.00	5/15/2023	No	Household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits

Synthetic Contaminants

Contaminant (units)	MCL	MCLG	Level Found	Range	Sample Date (if Prior to 2024)	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
HEXACHLOROCYCLOPENTA DIENE (ppb)	50	50	0.0	0.0	5/15/2023	No	Discharge from chemical factories

Radioactive Contaminants

Contaminant (units)	MCL	MCLG	Level Found	Range	Sample Date (if Prior to 2024)	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
RADIUM, (226+228) (pCi/l)	5	0	0.9	0.9	5/15/2023	No	Erosion of natural deposits
COMBINED URANIUM (ug/l)	30	0	0.0	0.0	5/15/2023	No	Erosion of natural deposits

The following table lists contaminants which were detected in your water and that have either a Public Health Groundwater Standard (PHGS), Health Advisory Level (HAL), or a Secondary Maximum Contaminant Level (SMCL), or both. There are no violations for detections of contaminants that exceed Health Advisory Levels, Public Health Groundwater Standards or Secondary Maximum Contaminant Levels. Secondary Maximum Contaminant Levels are levels that do not present health concerns but may pose aesthetic problems such as objectionable taste, odor, or color. Public Health Groundwater Standards and Health Advisory Levels are levels at which concentrations of the contaminant present a health risk.

Contaminants with a Public Health Groundwater Standard, Health Advisory Level, or a Secondary Maximum Contaminant Level

Contaminant (units)	SMCL	HAL	Level Found	Range	Sample Date (if Prior to 2024)	Typical Source of Contaminant
SULFATE (ppm)	250		15.00	15.00	5/15/2023	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits, industrial wastes