

2024 CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT

Water quality is our primary commitment at Ottumwa Water & Hydro. We believe that the best way to assure you that your drinking water is safe is to provide you with accurate facts.

The information in this Consumer Confidence Report summarizes the results of our water monitoring program during 2023 as required by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Many of the analyses are required by the Safe Drinking Water Act and other regulations. However, we monitor for contaminants above and beyond the basic requirements. If you have questions about the information in this report, please contact us at (641) 684-4606.

We are dedicated to providing you, the customer, with the safest and most dependable supply of drinking water available.



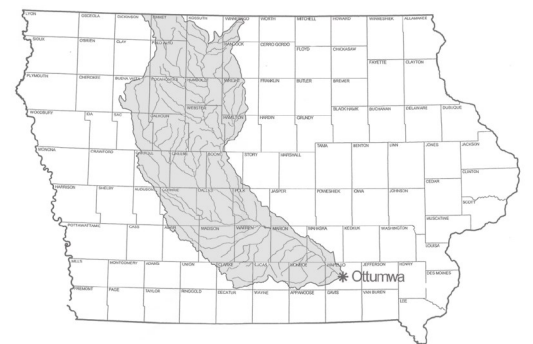
WHERE DOES MY WATER COME FROM?

The source of your water supply is the Des Moines River and the Ottumwa Reservoir. The Ottumwa Water & Hydro operates a low head hydro-electric generation facility that dams the Des Moines River, creating a reservoir of source water for our public water supply.

SOURCE WATER ASSESSMENT

An assessment of the Des Moines River watershed was completed in 2002. The assessment identifies and prioritizes potential sources of contamination in the Des Moines River Watershed. The susceptibility of these water sources is high. These potential sources include, but are not limited to: soil erosion, chemicals such as fertilizer and pesticides, animal agriculture, wastewater treatment facilities - including septic systems, and petroleum products. To view the Source Water Assessment, contact Ottumwa Water & Hydro at (641) 684-4606.

WATERSHED MAP



QUALITY TAP WATER



FOR MORE INFORMATION on this Consumer Confidence Report or other water quality concerns, please contact:

Ottumwa Water & Hydro
230 Turner Drive
Ottumwa, Iowa 52501
Phone: (641) 684-4606
Fax: (641) 682-3269

Public meeting information:

We encourage our customers to attend and participate in the meetings of our water utility. The Ottumwa Water & Hydro five-member Board of Trustees meets on the third Tuesday of each month at 4:00 p.m. Board meetings are open to the public.

Ottumwa Water & Hydro

230 Turner Drive
Ottumwa, Iowa 52501
Phone: (641) 684-4606

Drinking Water and Health Information from the EPA

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.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons, such as persons with cancer undergoing chemo-therapy, 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 from their health care providers about drinking water. The EPA and Centers for Disease Control guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 10 ppm is a health risk for infants of less than six months of age. High nitrate levels in drinking water can cause blue baby syndrome. Nitrate levels may rise quickly for short periods of time because of rainfall or agricultural activity. If you are caring for an infant, you should ask for advice from your health care provider.

Many customers wish to know if bottled water is safer than regular tap water. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) establishes limits for contaminants in bottled water that must provide the same protection for public health. Any bottled water labeled "drinking water" must meet EPA's drinking water regulations. Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of a contaminant does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk.

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. Ottumwa Water and Hydro 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 about lead in drinking water, testing methods and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by contacting the:

**EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline, 1-800-426-4791 or
<http://water.epa.gov/drink>**

AWWA Safe Drinking Water Website—www.drinktap.org

2023 Water Quality Results—Ottumwa Water & Hydro

ANALYTE	MCLG	MCL	LEVEL DETECTED	RANGE OF DETECTION	VIOLATION YES/NO	YEAR SAMPLED	SOURCES OF CONTAMINANT
TREATED WATER							
Turbidity (NTU)	N/A	TT	0.11	0.03 - 0.11 (100% met limits)	No	2023	Soil runoff
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	0.65 RAA	0.59 - 0.75	No	2023	Additive to promote strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories; erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate [as N] (ppm)	10	10	4.5	0.1 - 4.5	No	2023	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Sodium (ppm)	N/A	N/A	54	N/A	No	2023	Erosion of natural deposits; added to water during treatment process
Barium (ppm)	2	2	0.0746	N/A	No	2021	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Selenium (ppb)	50	50	1.20	N/A	No	2021	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from mines
Atrazine (ppb)	3	3	0.77	N/A	No	2023	Runoff from herbicide used on row crops
Total Trihalomethane (ppb)	N/A	80	74 LRAA	54 - 115	No	2023	Byproduct of treatment process
Total Haloacetic Acids (ppb)	N/A	60	30LRAA	21 - 45	No	2023	Byproduct of treatment process
DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM							
Chlorine (ppm)	MRDLG = 4	MRDL = 4	2.4 RAA	ND - 2.96 MRDL	No	2023	Additive used to control microbes
AT CUSTOMER TAP							
Copper (ppm) (90th percentile)	1.3	AL = 1.3	0.0417	ND - 0.0714	No	2022	Corrosion of home plumbing; erosion of natural deposits
Lead (ppb) (90th percentile)	0	AL = 15	1.1	ND - 5	No	2022	Corrosion of home plumbing; erosion of natural deposits
REMOVAL RATIO REQUIRED							
ANALYTE	REMOVAL RATIO REQUIRED	MCL	REMOVAL RATIO ACHIEVED		VIOLATION YES/NO	YEAR SAMPLED	SOURCES OF CONTAMINANT
SOURCE WATER							
Total Organic Carbon	15% - 25%	TT	27.31 - 47.09		No	2023	Naturally present in the environment

NOTE: The EPA requires monitoring of over 80 drinking water contaminants. Those listed above are the only contaminants detected in your drinking water. For a complete list, contact Ottumwa Water & Hydro.

Notice of Violation:

In January 2024, we failed to monitor for Nitrate and Total Organic Carbon. Adverse health effects, if any, are not known. Monitoring procedures have been corrected to avoid future violations.

UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency required cities our size to take samples in 2023 for an assessment monitoring program for the Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR5). Detection levels were set at the parts per billion range (ppb). The EPA will review the findings of this nationwide assessment to determine if any new regulations are needed. Four contaminants were detected in our testing.

Contaminant	Average	Range	Additional Information
Lithium (ppb)	31.5	ND - 48	Naturally occurring metal that may concentrate in brine waters; lithium salts are used as pharmaceuticals, used in electrochemical cells, batteries, and in organic syntheses.
PFBA (ppb)	0.004	ND - 0.013	PFBA and PFPeA are PFAS compounds. PFAS are a group of synthetic chemicals used in a wide range of consumer products and industrial applications including: non-stick cookware, water-repellent clothing, stain-resistant fabrics and carpets, cosmetics, fire-fighting foams, electroplating, and products that resist grease, water, and oil. PFAS are found in the blood of people and animals and in water, air, fish, and soil at locations across the United States and the World.
PFPeA (ppb)	0.0004	ND - 0.003	

Definitions

Action Level (AL) » The concentration of a contaminant that, if exceeded, triggers a treatment or other requirement that a water system must follow.

Contaminant » Any physical, chemical, biological or radiological substance or matter in water. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk.

Distribution System » The network of piping that delivers water from the treatment plant to customers. It is built and maintained to provide water with adequate quality, quantity and pressure to meet customer needs.

LRAA » Locational Running Annual Average

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) » The highest level of a contaminant allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG) » The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health.

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.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG) » 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.

N/A » Not applicable

ND » Not detected at testing limit

NTU » Nephelometric Turbidity Units

ppb » Parts of contaminant per billion parts of water. One part per billion (ppb) is equivalent to a single penny in ten million dollars.

ppm » Parts of contaminant per million parts of water. One part per million (ppm) is equivalent to a single penny in ten thousand dollars.

RAA » Running Annual Average

RTCR » Revised Total Coliform Rule

Source Entry Point » The point where water enters the distribution system after it has been treated by your water utility.

TT » Treatment Technique - A required process intended to reduce the level of contaminant in drinking water.

Turbidity » Turbidity is an indicator of treatment filter performance and is regulated as a treatment technique.

Additional Information

Chlorine Disinfectant » The most common drinking water treatment is disinfection. Disinfection is considered to be the primary mechanism to kill bacteria and other germs to prevent the spread of waterborne diseases. Chlorine is the most widely used disinfectant.

Disinfectants combine with organic and inorganic matter present in water to form chemicals called disinfection byproducts. EPA sets standards for controlling the levels of disinfectants and disinfection byproducts in drinking water. The water quality chart in this report reflects these standards and the utility's ability to meet those standards.

Fluoride » Some fluoride is naturally present in the source water. The amount is carefully monitored every day, so optimum concentration is maintained. If you have concerns about fluoride, you should discuss this topic with your dentist and doctor.