

City of Strong

2023 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

We're pleased to present to you this year's Annual Drinking Water Quality Report. This report is designed to inform you about the quality water and services we deliver to you every day. Our goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water, and we want you to understand, and be involved in, the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources.

Where Does Our Drinking Water Come From?

Rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells are sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water). Three wells pump water from the Sparta Sand Aquifer, which is our source.

How Safe Is The Source Of Our Drinking Water?

The Arkansas Department of Health has completed a Source Water Vulnerability Assessment for the City of Strong. The assessment summarizes the potential for contamination of our drinking water sources and can be used as a basis for developing a source water protection plan. Based on the various criteria of the assessment, our water sources have been determined to have a low susceptibility to contamination. You may request a summary of the Source Water Vulnerability Assessment from our office.

What Contaminants Can Be In Our Drinking Water?

As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, 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 assure tap water is safe to drink, EPA has regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

Am I at Risk?

All 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 the water poses a health risk. However, 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 small amounts of contamination. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791. In addition, EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by microbiological contaminants are also available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline.

Lead and Drinking Water

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. We are 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 <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

How Can I Learn More About Our Drinking Water?

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact Kashuna Howard, at 870-797-7343. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. We hold a meeting on the second Thursday of each month, at 6:00 PM, at City Hall. If you want to learn more, please contact us at the number above.

TEST RESULTS

We routinely monitor constituents in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. The test results table shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1st to December 31st, 2023. In the table you might find terms and abbreviations you are not familiar with. To help you better understand these terms we've provided the following definitions:

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

Maximum Contaminant Level (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 (MCLG) - unenforceable public health 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.

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.

NA - Not applicable

Parts per billion (ppb) - a unit of measurement for detected levels of contaminants in drinking water. One part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000.

Parts per million (ppm) - a unit of measurement for detected levels of contaminants in drinking water. One part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in \$10,000.

INORGANIC CONTAMINANTS						
Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Unit	MCLG (Public Health Goal)	MCL (Allowable Level)	Major Sources in Drinking Water
Lead	NA	Average: 0.65 Range: 0 - 1.3	ppb	0	AL=15	Erosion of natural deposits

LEAD AND COPPER TAP MONITORING					
Contaminant	Number of Sites Sampled over Action Level	90 th Percentile Result	Unit	Action Level	Major Sources in Drinking Water
Lead	0 of 10	0.002	ppm	0.015	Corrosion from household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Copper	0 of 10	0.33	ppm	1.3	

♦ The results above are from our last monitoring period in 2023. Our next required monitoring period is in 2026.
♦ Below are the results of lead monitoring at customers' taps in 2023. The Action Level for lead is 0.015 ppm.

Site ID	Analyte	Level Detected/Unit
556YL034	Lead	0.0039/ppm
556YL001	Lead	0.0028/ppm
556YL038	Lead	0.0027/ppm
556YL005	Lead	0.002/ppm
556YL008	Lead	0.0015/ppm
556YL016	Lead	0.001/ppm
556YL006	Lead	Not Detected
556YL039	Lead	Not Detected
556YL026	Lead	Not Detected
556YL006	Lead	Not Detected

REGULATED DISINFECTANTS						
Disinfectant	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Unit	MRDLG (Public Health Goal)	MRDL (Allowable Level)	Major Sources in Drinking Water
Chlorine	N	Average: 0.48 Range: 0.25 - 0.60	ppm	4.0	4.0	Water additive used to control microbes

BY-PRODUCTS OF DRINKING WATER DISINFECTION					
Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Unit	MCLG (Public Health Goal)	MCL (Allowable Level)
HAA5 [Haloacetic Acids]	N	Highest Annual Running Average: 5 Range: 0 - 4.73	ppb	0	60
TTHM [Total Trihalomethanes]	N	Highest Annual Running Average: 11 Range: 1.18 - 40.4	ppb	NA	80

VIOLATIONS - Strong			
TYPE: Ground Water Rule Compliance	FROM:	TO:	CORRECTIVE ACTION:
Failure to address a Significant Deficiency as specified by the Ground Water Rule	9/1/2022	Current	Deficiency was/was not addressed
TYPE: Bacteriological Monitoring			
Failed to routinely monitor for coliform bacteria, as specified in the RTRC	9/1/2023	9/30/2023	Resumed submission of the sampling report as required by state and federal regulations
TYPE: Consumer Notice			
Consumer Notice - Failed to provide results to customers who tested for lead and copper.	7/1/2022	Current	Posted results on the 2023 CCR as required by the state and federal lead and copper rule.
TYPE: Consumer Confidence Reporting			
Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) - Failure to provide annual water quality report to customers	7/1/2023	8/8/2023	Made report available to the public

SIGNIFICANT DEFICIENCY - STRONG	
Under the new Ground Water Rule, each Water Treatment System must be surveyed (audited) by the Arkansas Department of Health and all uncorrected Significant Deficiencies must be identified, corrected and reported to the public.	
Nature of Deficiencies	Progress to Date
Tank roof needs extensive repair.	Incomplete.
CCCP customer survey and test record missing.	Incomplete.
A backup operator is required since the Operator is part-time.	A confirmation record is needed.
Qualified tank inspection overdue.	Incomplete.