



# 2014 Water Quality Report

## Neenah Water: Quality From the Tap

This is the seventeenth annual report on the quality of water delivered by the Neenah Water Utility. This report meets the Federal Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) requirements for "Consumer Confidence Reports", and contains information on the source of Neenah's water, its constituents, and the health risks associated with the contaminants.

### Lake Winnebago is Primary Source of Neenah Drinking Water

The Neenah Water Treatment Plant is supplied by surface water from Lake Winnebago. We also have an emergency intake in the Fox River near Riverside Park. 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 human activity. Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

1. Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations and wildlife.
2. Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining or farming.
3. Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff and residential uses.
4. 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 storm water runoff and septic systems.
5. 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.

To obtain a summary of the source water assessment please contact Mark Zempel at 920-886-6190.

### Opportunity for Input in Decisions Affecting Your Water Quality

The Neenah Water Commission meets at 4:30 on the third Monday of each month. The meetings are in the Council Chambers at City Hall, 211 Walnut Street, Neenah.

### For More Information on Any Topic in This Report, Call the Numbers Listed Below:

- Mark Zempel, Plant Manager : 920-886-6196 E-mail: mzempel@ci.neenah.wi.us
- Water Quality, Treatment, Leaks and Main Breaks: 886-6190
- Billing Questions, Name Changes, and Final Readings: 886-6149

### 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. Immunocompromised 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).

**Este informe contiene información importante acerca de su agua potable. Haga que alguien lo traduzca para usted, o hable con alguien que lo entienda.**

**Dlaim ntawv tshaabzu nuav muaj lug tseemceeb heev nyob rua huv kws has txug cov dlej mej haus. Kuas ib tug paab txhais rua koj, los nrug ib tug kws paub lug thaam.**

## 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.

### 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.
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)
n/a	Not applicable
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
TCR	Total Coliform Rule
TT	Treatment Technique: A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
ppq	Parts per quadrillion, or picograms per liter

### Disinfection Byproducts

Contaminant (units)	Site	MCL	MCLG	Level Found	Range	Sample Date (if prior to 2014)	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
HAA5 (ppb)	D10	60	60	29	22-37		No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
TTHM (ppb)	D10	80	0	59.4	34.4-80.3		No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
HAA5 (ppb)	D16	60	60	27	20-34		No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
TTHM (ppb)	D16	80	0	57.3	33.4-77.6		No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
HAA5 (ppb)	D17	60	60	28	22-33		No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
TTHM (ppb)	D17	80	0	58.9	33.8-84.3		No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
HAA5 (ppb)	D4	60	60	29	22-35		No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
TTHM (ppb)	D4	80	0	59.6	36.5-76.3		No	By-product of drinking water chlorination

### Inorganic Contaminants

Contaminant (units)	MCL	MCLG	Level Found	Range	Sample Date (if prior to 2014)	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
BARIUM (ppm)	2	2	0.004	0.004		No	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
CHROMIUM (ppb)	100	100	2	2		No	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; Erosion of natural deposits
CYANIDE (ppb)	200	200	11	11		No	Discharge from steel/metal factories; Discharge from plastic and fertilizer factories
FLUORIDE (ppm)	4	4	0.5	0.5		No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
NITRATE (NO <sub>3</sub> -N) (ppm)	10	10	0.58	0.58		No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
SODIUM (ppm)	n/a	n/a	12.00	12.00		No	n/a

### Inorganic Contaminants

Contaminant (units)	Action Level	MCLG	90th Percentile Level Found	# of Results	Sample Date (if prior to 2014)	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
Copper (ppm)	AL=1.3	1.3	0.0450	0 of 30 results were above the action level.		No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives
Lead (ppb)	AL=15	0	18.00	4 of 30 results were above the action level.		Yes	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits

**Synthetic Organic Contaminates including Pesticides and herbicides**

Contaminant (units)	MCL	MCLG	Level Found	Range	Sample Date (if prior to 2014)	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
HEXACHLOROCYCLOPENTADIENE (ppb)	50	50	0	0-0		No	Discharge from chemical factories

**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.

Contaminant (units)	Level Found	Range	Sample Date (if prior to 2014)
CHROMIUM (ppb)	1.9	1.4-2.1	
CHROMIUM (ppb)	1.5	1.4-1.8	2013
CHLORATE (ppb)	47	47-94	
CHLORATE (ppb)	160	140-160	2013
CHLORODIFLUOROMETHANE (ppb)	0.081	0.081	
STRONTIUM (ppb)	40	40-54	
STRONTIUM (ppb)	51	51-53	2013
SULFATE (ppm)	33	33	
VANADIUM (ppb)	5.1	4.6-5.8	
VANADIUM (ppb)	5.9	4.3-5.9	2013

**Information on Monitoring for Cryptosporidium and Radon**

Our water system did not monitor our water for cryptosporidium or radon during 2014. We are not required by State or Federal drinking water regulations to do so.

**TURBIDITY MONITORING**

In accordance with s.NR810.29, Wisconsin Administrative Code, the treated surface water is monitored for turbidity to confirm that the filtered water is less than 0.1 NTU/0.3NTU. Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of water. We monitor for it because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filtration system. During the year, the highest single entry point turbidity measurement was 0.13 NTU. The lowest monthly percentage of samples meeting the turbidity limits was 100 percent.

**Health Effects for any Contaminants with MCL violations/Action Level Exceedances**

**Contaminant:**

high blood pressure.

**LEAD:**

**Health Effects:** Infants and children who drink water containing lead in excess of the action level could experience delays in their physical or mental development. Children could show slight deficits in attention span and learning abilities. Adults who drink this water over many years could develop kidney problems or

**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. Neenah Water Utility 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/](http://www.epa.gov/safewater/) lead.

**Monitoring and Reporting Violations**

Description	Contaminant Group	Sample Location	Compliance Period Beginning	Compliance Period Ending
DBP MONITORING REPORTING	TOC_RAW	2	11/1/2014	11/30/2014

We are required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not your drinking water meets health standards. During the compliance period noted in the above table, we did not complete all monitoring or testing for the contaminant(s) noted, and therefore cannot be sure of the quality of your drinking water during that time.

**Actions Taken**

The total Alkalinity test, as part of the TOC test, will be taken as scheduled in 2015. Missing this test in 2014 does not affect public health.