

# 2019 Water Quality Report

## **Neenah Water: Quality From the Tap**

This is the 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 Gary Gorges at 920-886-6196.

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



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#### **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 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).

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#### **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** 

ΑL Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow. Level 1 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

Assessment found in our water system.

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 Level 2 violation has occurred or why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system, or both, on multiple occasions Assessment

For Disinfection Byproducts: The Level Found for MCL compliance is calculated using the running annual average (RAA) of samples from each Level Found

monitoring location across the system. 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) Parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/l) ppm Parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (ug/l) ppb Parts per trillion, or nanograms per liter ppt Parts per quadrillion, or picograms per liter ppq TCR

Total Coliform Rule

Treatment Technique: A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

#### Disinfection Byproducts

| Contaminant (units) | Site | MCL | MCLG | Level Found | Range     | Sample Date (if prior to 2019) | Violation | Typical Source of Contaminant             |
|---------------------|------|-----|------|-------------|-----------|--------------------------------|-----------|---|
| HAA5 (ppb)          | D10  | 60  | 60   | 30          | 12–46     |                                | No        | By-product of drinking water chlorination |
| TTHM (ppb)          | D10  | 80  | 0    | 57.3        | 16.9-89.7 |                                | No        | By-product of drinking water chlorination |
| HAA5 (ppb)          | D16  | 60  | 60   | 30          | 13–38     |                                | No        | By-product of drinking water chlorination |
| TTHM (ppb)          | D16  | 80  | 0    | 50.6        | 21.5-71.1 |                                | No        | By-product of drinking water chlorination |
| HAA5 (ppb)          | D17  | 60  | 60   | 30          | 14-40     |                                | No        | By-product of drinking water chlorination |
| TTHM (ppb)          | D17  | 80  | 0    | 58          | 22.6-87.8 |                                | No        | By-product of drinking water chlorination |
| HAA5 (ppb)          | D4   | 60  | 60   | 29          | 14–38     |                                | No        | By-product of drinking water chlorination |
| TTHM (ppb)          | D4   | 80  | 0    | 58.6        | 21.4-85.4 |                                | No        | By-product of drinking water chlorination |

#### Inorganic Contaminants

| _                     |     |      |             |       |                                   |           |   |
|-----------------------|-----|------|-------------|-------|-----------------------------------|-----------|---|
| Contaminant (units)   | MCL | MCLG | Level Found | Range | Sample Date<br>(if prior to 2019) | Violation | Typical Source of Contaminant   |
| BARIUM (ppm)          | 2   | 2    | 0.005       | 0.005 |                                   | No        | Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits  |
| FLUORIDE (ppm)        | 4   | 4    | 0.6         | 0.61  |                                   | No        | Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories                 |
| NICKEL (ppb)          | 100 | N/A  | 1.1         | 1.1   |                                   | No        | Nickel occurs naturally in soils, ground water and surface waters and is often used in electroplating, stainless steel and alloy products |
| NITRATE (N03-N) (ppm) | 10  | 10   | 0.51        | 0.51  |                                   | No        | Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits   |
| SODIUM (ppm)          | N/A | N/A  | 14.00       | 14    |                                   | No        | N/A   |

#### Inorganic Contaminants

| Contaminant (units) | Action<br>Level | MCLG | 90th<br>Percentile<br>Level Found | # of Results                                 | Sample Date<br>(if prior to 2019) | Violation | Typical Source of Contaminant  |
|---------------------|-----------------|------|-----------------------------------|--|-----------------------------------|-----------|--|
| Copper (ppm)        | AL=1.3          | 1.3  | 0.049                             | 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    | 4.5                               | 0 of 30 results were above the action level. |                                   | No        | Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits                                   |

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#### Volatile Organic Contaminants

| Contaminant (units)         | MCL | MCLG | Level Found | Range       | Sample Date<br>(if prior to 2019) | Violation | Typical Source of Contaminant             |   |
|-----------------------------|-----|------|-------------|-------------|-----------------------------------|-----------|---|---|
| TOTAL TRIHALOMETHANES (ppb) | 80  | 0    | 38.3        | 38.3 - 38.3 | 2017                              | No        | By-product of drinking water chlorination | l |

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. The EPA requires this report to list all unregulated contaminants that have been detected within the past 5 years.

#### **Unregulated Contaminants**

| Contaminant (units) | Level Found | Range       | Sample Date<br>(if prior to 2019) |
|---------------------|-------------|-------------|-----------------------------------|
| HAA5 (ppb)          | 26.2        | 17.5 – 34.7 |                                   |
| HAA5 (ppb)          | 27.7        | 26.0 - 29.0 | 2018                              |
| HAA6Br (ppb)        | 2.0         | 1.6 – 2.2   |                                   |
| HAA6Br (ppb)        | 2.7         | 2.7 – 2.8   | 2018                              |
| HAA9 (ppb)          | 28.2        | 19.1 – 36.4 |                                   |
| HAA9 (ppb)          | 30.4        | 28.7 – 31.7 | 2018                              |
| SULFATE (ppm)       | 27          | 27          |                                   |

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

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

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

- Water Quality, Treatment, Leaks and Main Breaks: 920-886-6190
- Billing Questions, Name Changes, and Final Readings: 920-886-6149



#### Additional Health Information

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/lead.

#### **Trihalomethanes**

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.

#### 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 0.3NTU. 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 0.16 NTU. The lowest monthly percentage of samples meeting the turbidity limits was 100 percent.