



# 2023 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, the 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.



### 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 at 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. The 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 at 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.

## 2023 WATER QUALITY REPORT

Term	Definition
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: The concentrations 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 the US EPA.
HI	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 Found	For Disinfection Byproducts: The Level Found for MCL compliance is calculated using the locational running annual average (LRAA) of samples from each 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.
MRDL	Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level: The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that the 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 (ng/l)
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 drinking water standards or Secondary Maximum Contaminant Levels 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.

### 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 2023)	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
HAA5 (ppb)	D10	60	60	20	14–21		No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
TTHM (ppb)	D10	80	0	41.4	24.0–51.8		No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
HAA5 (ppb)	D16	60	60	18	12–21		No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
TTHM (ppb)	D16	80	0	37.3	19.8–41.7		No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
HAA5 (ppb)	D17	60	60	21	13–23		No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
TTHM (ppb)	D17	80	0	42.2	24.8–47.0		No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
HAA5 (ppb)	D4	60	60	20	14–21		No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
TTHM (ppb)	D4	80	0	42.4	26.3–50.3		No	By-product of drinking water chlorination

### Inorganic Contaminants

Contaminant (units)	MCL	MCLG	Level Found	Range	Sample Date (if prior to 2023)	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
ARSENIC (ppb)	10	N/A	0	0	2021	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
BARIUM (ppm)	2	2	0.006	0.006		No	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
CHROMIUM (ppb)	100	100	1	1	2021	No	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; Erosion of natural deposits
FLUORIDE (ppm)	4	4	0.6	0.6		No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
NICKEL (ppb)	100	N/A	0.3900	0.3900	2020	No	Nickel occurs naturally in soils, ground water and surface waters and is often used in electroplating, stainless steel and alloy products

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### Inorganic Contaminants *continued*

Contaminant (units)	MCL	MCLG	Level Found	Range	Sample Date (if prior to 2023)	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
NITRATE (NO <sub>3</sub> -N) (ppm)	10	10	0.82	0.82		No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
SODIUM (ppm)	N/A	N/A	14.00	14.00		No	N/A

Contaminant (units)	Action Level	MCLG	90th Percentile Level Found	# of Results	Sample Date (if prior to 2023)	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
Copper (ppm)	AL=1.3	1.3	0.044	0 of 30 results were above the action level	2020	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives
Lead (ppb)	AL=15	0	5.90	0 of 30 results were above the action level	2020	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits

### Radioactive Contaminants

Contaminant (units)	MCL	MCLG	Level Found	Range	Sample Date (if prior to 2023)	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
Radium, (226+228) (pCi/l)	5	0	1.3	1.3		No	Erosion of natural deposits
Combined Uranium (ppb)	3	3	0	0		No	Erosion of natural deposits

### Synthetic Organic Contaminants including Pesticides and Herbicides

Contaminant (units)	MCL	MCLG	Level Found	Range	Sample Date (if prior to 2023)	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
ATRAZINE (ppb)	3	3	0	0		No	Runoff from herbicide used on crops
HEXACHLOROCYCLOPENTADIENE (ppb)	50	50	0.000	0.000		No	Discharge from chemical factories

### Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule Sample Results

Unregulated contaminants are those for which the EPA has not established drinking water standards. The purpose of unregulated contaminant monitoring is to assist the EPA in determining the occurrence of unregulated contaminants in drinking water and whether future regulation is warranted. The 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.

Contaminant (units)	Level Found	Range	Sample Date (if prior to 2023)
HAA5 (ppb)	26.2	17.5–34.7	2019
HAA6Br (ppb)	2.0	1.6–2.2	2019
HAA9 (ppb)	28.2	19.1–36.4	2019
METOLACHLOR (DUAL) (ppb)	0.09	0.00–0.09	2020
METOLACHLOR (DUAL) (ppb)	0.02	0.01–0.02	

### PFAS Contaminants with a Recommended Health Advisory Level

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's. 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

Contaminant (units)	RPHGS or HAL (PPT)	Level Found	Range	Sample Date (if prior to 2023)	Typical Source of Contaminant
PFBS (ppt)	450,000	0.71	0.68–0.73		Drinking water is one way that people can be exposed to PFAS. In Wisconsin, two-thirds of people use groundwater as their drinking water source. PFAS can get in groundwater from places that make or use PFAS and release from consumer products in landfills.
PFHXS (ppt)	40	0.47	0.45–0.49		
PFHXA (ppt)	150,000	1.25	1.10–1.40		
PFOS (ppt)	20	1.00	1.00		
PFOA (ppt)	20	1.11	0.92–1.30		
PFOA and PFOS Total (ppt)	20	2.11	1.92–2.30		

### Contaminants with a Health Advisory Level or a Secondary Maximum Contaminant Level

The following table lists contaminants which were detected in your water and that have either a 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. Groundwater Standards or Secondary Maximum Contaminant Levels are levels that do not present health concerns but may pose aesthetic problems such as objectionable taste, odor, or color. Health Advisory Levels are levels at which concentrations of the contaminant present a health risk.

Contaminant (units)	SMCL (ppm)	HAL (ppm)	Level Found	Range	Sample Date (if prior to 2023)	Typical Source of Contaminant
SULFATE (ppm)	250		28	28		Runoff/leaching from natural deposits, industrial wastes

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

### 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](http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead).

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

The Neenah Water Commission meets at 4:30pm on the third Monday of each month. 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:

**Plant Manager, Gary Gorges:**  
920-886-6196  
E-mail: [ggorges@neenahwi.gov](mailto:ggorges@neenahwi.gov)

**Water Quality, Treatment, Leaks and Main Breaks:**  
920-886-6190

**Billing Questions, Name Changes, and Final Readings:**  
920-886-6149

**Meter Change Appointments:**  
920-886-6180

