2018 Consumer Confidence Report Data
ASHLAND WATER UTILITY, PWS ID: 80203739

Water System Information

If you would like to know more about the information contained in this report, please contact Chanz Green, Utility Operations Manager at (715) 682-7061. Additional information can be found on the City of Ashland's web site at www.coawi.org.

Opportunity for input on decisions affecting your water quality

The Ashland City Council meets on the second and last Tuesday of each month at City Hall, 601 Main St. West, Ashland, WI 54806

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. Immuno-compromised 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).

Source(s) of Water

Source ID	Source	Depth (in feet)	Waterbody Name	Status
1	Surface Water		LAKE SUPERIOR	Active

To obtain a summary of the source water assessment please contact, Chanz Green at (715) 682-7061.

Educational Information

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 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 storm water 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 storm water 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 storm water 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 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.

Definitions

Term	Definition
AL	Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
Level 1 Assessment	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 found in our water system.
Level 2 Assessment	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 violation has occurred or why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system, or both, on multiple occasions.
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)
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.

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.

Microbiological Contaminants

Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially harmful, waterborne pathogens may be present or that a potential pathway exists through which contamination may enter the drinking water distribution system. We found coliforms indicating the need to look for potential problems in water treatment or distribution. When this occurs, we are required to conduct assessments to identify problems and to correct any problems that were found during these assessments.

Disinfection Byproducts

Contaminant (units)	Site	MCL	MCLG	Level Found	Range	Sample Date (if prior to 2017)	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
HAA5 (ppb)	#10	60	60	53	37-70		No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
TTHM (ppb)	#10	80	0	77.3	49.4-99.1		No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
HAA5 (ppb)	DIST 1	60	60	58	34-55		No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
TTHM (ppb)	DIST 1	80	0	67.4	35.9-92.8		No	By-product of drinking water chlorination

Inorganic Contaminants

Contaminant (units)	Site	MCL	MCLG	Level Found	Range	Sample Date (if prior to 2017)	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
ARSENIC (ppb)		10	n/a	1	1		No	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
BARIUM (ppm)		2	2	0.012	0.012		No	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
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 (N03-N) (ppm)		10	10	0.38	0.38		No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
SODIUM (ppm)		n/a	n/a	3.60	3.60		No	n/a

Contaminant (units)	Action Level	MCLG	90th Percentile Level Found	# of Results	Sample Date (if prior to 2017)	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
COPPER (ppm)	AL=1.3	1.3	0.2100	0 of 43 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	16.00	6 of 43 results were above the action level.		No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits

Radioactive Contaminants

Contaminant (units)	Site	MCL	MCLG	Level Found	Range	Sample Date (if prior to 2017)	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
RADIUM, (226 + 228) (pCi/l)		5	0	0.8	0.8	8/13/2014	No	Erosion of natural deposits

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 2018)
SULFATE (ppm)	4.40	3.90 - 4.60	

Health effects for any contaminants with MCL violations/Action Level Exceedances

Contaminant	Health Effects
LEAD	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 high blood pressure.

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. Ashland 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.

Other Compliance

Other Drinking Water Regulations Violations

Description of Violation	Date of Violation	Date Violation Resolved
Failure to complete requirements of the Lead/Copper Public Education Program	1/1/2018	3/30/2018
Failure to complete requirements for Lead Service Line Replacement	10/1/2018	10/19/2018

Actions Taken

NON 1-1-2018- Proper notification was never sent to the public regarding lead in the water system. We were notified from the DNR without proper time to respond which lead to an NON. NON 10-1-2018- Proper notification was not given to the DNR regarding the the number of lead lines that had been replaced. Once the information was gathered, the DNR was notified.

Copper is an essential nutrient, but some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over a relatively short amount of time could experience gastrointestinal distress. Some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over many years could suffer liver or kidney damage. People with Wilsons Disease should consult their personal doctor.

Uncorrected Significant Deficiencies

Deficiency Description and Progress to Date	Date System Notified	Scheduled Correction Date
System is not implementing a comprehensive Cross-Connection Control Program.1. The City adopted a cross connection control ordinance in 1981 which was updated after 2010 – which should be updated to use the Department's model ordinance. Presently, a written description of the cross connection control program has been created but needs to be finalized in order to establish a comprehensive program and meet current requirements. The City has hired a contractor to perform some commercial/industrial/public authority cross connection control inspections – not all facilities have been inspected and no schedule has been created. Residential inspections have not been on schedule either – the City is currently moving from a 10 year to a 20 year inspection schedule. Annual backflow assembly test reports are not currently collected – improving this part of the program was discussed. Public education materials are provided at the time of inspection and mailed to each customer annually in lieu of inspecting low hazard portions of residential services. Inspections, follow-up on deficiencies, and documentation for all services need to be completed and maintained on schedule. In accordance with section NR 810.15, Wisconsin Administrative Code, the City shall ensure that all commercial/industrial/public authority inspections are completed no later than December 31, 2019. In addition the City shall complete a written cross connection control program and ensure that inspections for all services remain on the proper schedule. As a reminder, an annual report including a total number of all service connections by category and a report indicating the number of surveys completed in each category for that year shall be submitted to the Department by March 1. Please provide updates to the progress for improving the cross connection control program including written confirmation that the remaining inspections have been completed.	7/6/2017	12/31/2019

Actions Taken

We have put in place a better accounting system that allows for better tracking of LSL replacements. We are working on a better understanding of the notifications and when to address them. A meeting with Aryn Webster from the DNR will help clear up any questions.

Turbidity Monitoring

In accordance with s. NR 810.29, 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 as it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filtration system.