



WAUSAU WATERWORKS

FOR YOU!

important water quality information enclosed

Dlaim ntawv tshaabxu nuav muaj lug tseem-ceeb heev nyob rua huv hws has txug cov dlej mej haus. Kuas it tub paab txhais rua koj, los nrug ib tug kws paub lug thaam.

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

Water Quality Report

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).



Did You Know?

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.

Lead & Copper

As a result of materials used in your home's plumbing, it is possible that lead levels at your home may be higher than at other homes in the community. If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Infants and children who drink water containing lead in excess of the action level could experience delays in their physical or mental development. They could also 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. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. Wausau Water Works 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.

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. Additional information is also available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline from EPA, 1-800-426-4791.



Let's Raise Our Glasses to Toast Water Quality Excellence!

Wausau Water Works is proud to present this year's Water Quality Report, and even more proud to announce that our test results for 2018 met all the requirements for safe, excellent water quality. A complete list of the results of these tests is shown on pages 4-5 of this report. We are often asked "why do you prepare this report?" Because we want you, our valued customers, to be informed about your drinking water, and know that the product you are drinking is safe and of the highest quality. The federal government also wants you to be informed about your drinking water, and requires all water utilities in the United States to provide this information to their customers on an annual basis. So let's raise our glasses (of water, of course) and toast to another year of water quality excellence!



Private Well Permits

Property owners in the City of Wausau are required to have a permit for wells on their property. Wells that do not meet code requirements or that are not operational must be properly abandoned.

The procedure for obtaining a permit has changed in response to changes in the Wisconsin Administrative Code. To obtain or renew a well permit the property owner must submit an application form, an inspection report from a licensed well driller or pump installer certifying that the well is in compliance, a passing bacteria test, and a \$100 fee plus the cost of water samples.

Wells that are not in use must be properly abandoned by a licensed well driller or pump installer. DO NOT attempt to fill a well yourself as it is very expensive to remove unapproved materials from the well casing.

Please contact Wausau Water Works at 715-261-7262 if you need an application for a well permit or information on well abandonment.



Routine Water Quality Testing...

The Water Quality Test Results shown on pages 4-5 only lists substances which were detected. **We run numerous tests for substances which are not detected.** We also run routine tests to help us evaluate water characteristics such as pH, alkalinity, hardness, etc. A summary of those results is shown below.

pH - Typical result: 8.5. Ideal range: 7 to 8.5. Measure of acidity—low values may indicate corrosive water.

Alkalinity - Typical result: 70 to 80 mg/l. Measure of water's ability to neutralize acids—is related to pH and hardness.

Hardness - Typical results: 80 to 100 mg/l or 4-1/2 to 6 grains/gallon. Wausau's water is moderately soft. Hard water is beneficial to health, but high levels can decrease soap's cleaning ability and cause scaling inside of pipes.

Iron - Typical result: less than 0.05 mg/l. Natural levels in our well water can be high, but it is removed by our treatment plant - not a health concern, but it can cause taste and odor problems as well as staining of laundry when bleach is used.

Manganese - Typical result: less than 0.04 mg/l. Like iron, a naturally occurring mineral that is removed at the treatment plant.

What these tests indicate is that we have high quality, good tasting water available right at our taps!



Wausau Water Works would like to welcome our newest distribution maintainers. John Langren and Jonathan Lindloff have recently joined the water department. Welcome aboard guys!

Definitions of Terms

Action Level (AL) - the concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow. The Action Level is reported to the 90th of homes at risk.

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, way an E. coli MCL violation has occurred or why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system, or both, on multiple occasions.

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) - is the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water.

MCLG - Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG) is a level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health.

Parts Per Billion (PPB) - some water constituents are measured in units that are really small. A PPB is a microgram per liter (ug/l) - For example, a part of a billion equates to two drops of water in a house pool of 15,000 gallons; or a second of time in 31.7 years, or the first 16 inches of a trip to the moon.

Parts Per Million (PPM) A PPM equates a milligrams per liter (mg/l) - one part per million corresponds to $\frac{3}{4}$ of a cup in a house pool of 15,000 gallons, a second of time in 11.6 days.

Picocuries per liter (pCi/l) - a measure of radioactivity

ND - None detected in the drinking water.

TCR - Total Coliform Rule.

Where Does Our Water Come From?

Wausau's drinking water comes from six municipal wells, all of which are located near the Wisconsin River. These wells range in depth of 95 feet to 160 feet and pump anywhere from 900 to 3000 gallons per minute.

From the wells, the water travels to our Water Treatment Plant where it undergoes treatment to remove iron and manganese. It then enters the distribution system made up of approximately 250 miles of mains that deliver the water from the Treatment Plant to close to 16,000 homes and businesses served by Wausau Water Works.



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 2018)	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
HAA5 (ppb)	D-11	60	60	11	11		No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
TTHM (ppb)	D-11	80	0	6.2	6.2		No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
HAA5 (ppb)	D-16	60	60	7	7		No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
TTHM (ppb)	D-16	80	0	4.4	4.4		No	By-product of drinking water chlorination

Inorganic Contaminants

Contaminant (units)	Site	MCL	MCLG	Level Found	Range	Sample Date (if prior to 2018)	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
ARSNIC (ppb)		10	n/a	1	1 - 1	9/5/2017	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Run off from electronics production wastes
BARIUM (ppm)		2	2	0.006	0.006 - 0.006	9/6/2017	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
FLUORIDE (ppm)		4	4	0.7	0.6 - 0.7	9/5/2017	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
NITRATE (NO3-N) (ppm)		10	10	0.46	0.42 - 0.46		No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
NITRITE (NO2-N) (ppm)		1	1	0.065	0.000 - 0.065	9/5/2017	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
SODIUM (ppm)		n/a	n/a	21.00	18.00 - 21.00	9/6/2018	No	n/a

Contaminant (units)	Action Level	MCLG	90th Percentile Level Found	# of Results	Sample Date (if prior to 2018)	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
COPPER (ppm)	AL=1.3	1.3	0.0281	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	7.6	1 of 30 results was 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 2018)	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
RADIUM, (226 + 228) (pCi/l)		5	0	0.8	0.5 - 0.8	9/11/2014	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)	15.00	8.30 - 15.0	9/6/2017
HEXAVALENT CHROMIUM (ppm)		0.10 - 0.13	8/13/2015
CHLORATE (ppm)		300 - 320	8/13/2015
STRONTIUM (ppm)		66 - 69	8/13/2015
VANADIUM (ppm)		1.70 - 1.80	8/13/2015

Questions About This Water Report?

If you have questions regarding this water quality report, or concerns about your water, please contact Eric Lindman, Director of Public Works and Utilities at 715-261-6745 or Scott Boers, Drinking Water Superintendent at 715-261-7286. If you'd like to learn more about Wausau Water Works visit our website at www.ci.wausau.wi.us/Departments/WausauWaterWorks.aspx.

Commission Authorizes Request To PSC for Simplified Rate Case

The Wausau Water Works Commission at its June 4th, 2019 meeting authorized a request to submit an application to the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin for a Simplified Rate Case in the amount of 3%. More information on this rate increase request and impact on customer's bills are shown in this newsletter. This increase is needed to help cover the ever increasing costs of utilities, chemicals and other operating expenses. This increase will be put into place August 1, 2019.

Utility Commission Meets Monthly

The Wausau Water Works Commission typically meets the first Tuesday of each month at 1:30 p.m. in City Hall (some exceptions do apply)

If you'd like to learn more about Wausau Water Works, please feel free to attend any of our regularly scheduled Commission meetings. If you wish to have an item placed on the agenda for Commission consideration, please contact Michelle Weasler at 715-261-7289 two weeks prior to the next scheduled meeting.

Meeting agendas and minutes of prior meetings are available on the city website at www.ci.wausau.wi.us.

Notice of Rate Increase Water Customers of the Wausau Water Utility

This is to give you notice that the Wausau Water Utility will file an application on June 17, 2019, with the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin (PSC), for authority to increase water rates. Rates for general service will increase 3.0 percent. The increase is necessary to reduce the existing deficiency in present rates. The request is being made under Wis. Stat. 196.193. Rate increases granted under this statute do not require a public hearing. The effect of the increase for some selected customers is shown below. Public Fire Protection and Wholesale rates (if applicable) will also increase 3.0 percent.

Customer Classification	Meter Size	Cubic Feet	Existing Quarterly Rate	Revised Quarterly Rate
Average Residential	5/8	1,600	\$52.08	\$53.70
Commercial	1	7,800	\$197.53	\$203.62
Public Authority	1 1/2	20,700	\$485.23	\$499.68
Multifamily	2	12,200	\$331.56	341.58
Industrial	4	115,000	\$2,394.91	\$2,464.45

This rate increase will go into effect on August 1, 2019. If you have any questions about the rate increase request, call the Wausau Water Utility at (715) 261-6530.

Fireworks Safety

The Fourth of July can be a fun time for friends and families but the Wausau Fire Department would like to encourage everybody to keep safety in mind. Fireworks and celebration seem to go together, especially at this time of the year, but fireworks can be dangerous and cause injury and even death. In 2016 nearly 11,100 Americans were treated in emergency departments for fireworks-related injuries, 31% of them children younger than 15 years of age. Burns were the most common cause of injury with most of the injuries affecting hands, eyes and head. Although many times it is not a consideration, fireworks also contribute to the threat of wildland fires, structure fires and vehicle fires. The consequences of these fires include numerous deaths, multiple injuries and millions of dollars in direct property damage.

Wisconsin State statute section 167.10 allows consumers to possess the following fireworks: cylinder fountains, cone fountains, sparklers that are less than 36 inches and containing no magnesium, chlorate or perchlorate; small smoke devices and snakes containing no mercury. This law prohibits firecrackers, wheels, torpedoes, skyrockets, roman candles, aerial salutes and bombs. A commonly used "rule of thumb" is that consumers are not allowed to possess any fireworks that explode or leave the ground without a permit.

The following are tips to keep your Fourth of July celebration safe if you choose to use fireworks:

- ✓ Make sure the fireworks are legal before buying or using them.
- ✓ Always purchase fireworks from a reliable, legitimate source.
- ✓ Always read and follow label instructions.
- ✓ Never allow children to play with or ignite fireworks.
- ✓ Adults should always supervise fireworks activities. Parents often don't realize that there are many injuries to children caused by sparklers. Sparklers burn at temperatures of about 2,000 degrees; hot enough to melt some metals.
- ✓ Never experiment with homemade fireworks.
- ✓ Never have any portion of your body directly above a fireworks device when lighting the fuse.
- ✓ Always light fireworks on a hard surface.
- ✓ Maintain a safe distance immediately after lighting.
- ✓ Never try to re-light or pick up fireworks that have not fully functioned.
- ✓ Light only one item at a time and then move back quickly.
- ✓ Never point or throw fireworks at another person.
- ✓ Keep a bucket of water or garden hose handy in case of fire or other mishap.
- ✓ After fireworks are completely spent, douse with plenty of water to prevent trash can fires.
- ✓ Make sure your outdoor area is safe for the use of fireworks.
- ✓ Alcohol and fireworks do not mix.

The best way to prevent injuries caused by fireworks is to leave the fireworks to the professionals.

The Wausau Fire Department Wants You to

Have a Safe and Happy

4th of July

Sharing Family Stories

Looking for a unique family activity to do this summer on your own time? The Marathon County Historical Society has created a simple tool that families can use to encourage grandparents to tell their childhood stories to grandchildren.

Given today's fascination with finding out more about one's ancestry, people can go a little deeper by interviewing older family members. Our new "Sharing Family Stories" template offers beginning questions aimed at several age levels of children and teens. It's meant to be a springboard to more conversation between generations.

Go to <http://www.marathoncountyhistory.org/news-and-events/sharing-family-stories> to download the PDF and get your family started Sharing Family Stories.

If you're looking for ways to create new memories, why not visit the Marathon County Historical Society? We offer guided tours of the Yawkey House Museum, free exhibits at the Woodson History Center, free Story Times in the Garden monthly through the summer, History Speaks presentations, and other events. MCHS also houses a research library full of resources for digging into local history and family genealogy.

The Historical Society is open 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Tuesdays through Fridays, 1 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays. Closed Mondays and holidays.

For more information, call 715-842-5750, log on to <http://www.marathoncountyhistory.org/> or keep up with MCHS on Facebook.

**The Marathon County
Historical Society** *Presents*



Story Time in the Garden



1:30 pm second

**Thursdays this summer:
June 14, July 12, Aug. 9**

Yawkey House Museum Gardens
403 McIndoe Street, Wausau



Preschool and early elementary children and parent/caregiver listen to a vintage picture book and play old-fashioned games.

Free. Siblings welcome.

In case of rain, Story Time moves indoors to Woodson History Center, across McIndoe Street.

More information:
marathoncountyhistory.org
715-842-5750
[@marcohistory](#)

City Of Wausau Yard Waste Site

The City of Wausau Yard Waste Site is located at the east end of East Chellis Street.

2019 Hours Of Operation

The Yard Waste Site will be open Wednesday, April 17, 2019

During the following hours:

Monday	CLOSED
Tuesday	CLOSED
Wednesday	9 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Thursday	CLOSED
Friday	9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Saturday	9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Sunday	9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Closed Easter Sunday – April 21

***NOTE*- Schedule times may vary in the fall, call D.P.W. at 715-261-6960 to confirm scheduled hours.**

The site will be locked and gated during non-operating hours. The site is monitored by video surveillance. Citations will be issued to parties who leave yard waste outside the gate of the facility.

Materials Accepted:

Garden & flower debris, Grass, Leaves, Tree branches/brush

The City of Wausau appreciates your cooperation. The site is for City of Wausau residents only. Call The Department of Public Works at 715-261-6960, if you have any questions, Office hours are: Monday thru Friday 7:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

