

# Wyandotte Nation

## 2023 Consumer Confidence Report (CCR)

**PWS ID: 062005883**

**Released: May 2024**

### **Is my water safe?**

We are pleased to present this year's Annual Water Quality Report (Consumer Confidence Report) as required by the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). This report is designed to provide details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to standards set by regulatory agencies. This report is a snapshot of last year's water quality. We are committed to providing you with information because informed customers are our best allies.

### **Do I need to take special precautions?**

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 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/Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Water Drinking Hotline (800-426-4791).

### **Where does my water come from?**

Your water comes from the Roubidoux Aquifer and is pumped through 3 groundwater wells. Two of our wells are regulated under EPA Region 6, and we also receive water from a third well that is regulated under ODEQ (Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality).

### **Source Water Assessment and its availability**

The 1996 amendments to the Safe Drinking Water Act authorizes a Source Water Assessment to determine the susceptibility of a public drinking water supply to contamination. Potential sources of contaminants regulated by the Safe Drinking Water Act are required to be inventoried during the assessment process. The EPA Region 6 Source Water Protection Branch, in cooperation with Wyandotte Nation conducted this assessment in September of 2008. Based on the following

factors, your water system was determined to have a **Low** susceptibility to contamination. The physical integrity of the well, the characteristics of the hydrologic system around the well, the characteristics of the contaminants inventoried and the likelihood of those contaminants to reach the source of the drinking water supply all impact the susceptibility of the source to contamination. A copy of this report is available at our water office for your review.

## **Why are there contaminants in my drinking water?**

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 (EPA) Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791). 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.

*Microbial contaminants*, such as viruses and bacteria, 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 stormwater 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 stormwater 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 stormwater runoff, and septic systems; and *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. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

## **How can I get involved?**

You can assist the Wyandotte Nation Water Utilities Department and the community in protecting our valuable water resources by conserving water usage, reporting broken water lines or unusual activity near well houses, storage tanks or hydrants. For more information, please contact our office at 918-678-6335.

## **Description of Water Treatment Process**

Your water is treated by disinfection. Disinfection involves the addition of chlorine or other disinfectant to kill dangerous bacteria and microorganisms that may be in the water. Disinfection is considered to be one of the major public health advances of the 20th century.

## Water Conservation Tips

Did you know that the average U.S. household uses approximately 400 gallons of water per day or 100 gallons per person per day? Luckily, there are many low-cost and no-cost ways to conserve water. Small changes can make a big difference - try one today and soon it will become second nature.

- Take short showers - a 5-minute shower uses 4 to 5 gallons of water compared to up to 50 gallons for a bath.
- Shut off water while brushing your teeth, washing your hair and shaving and save up to 500 gallons a month.
- Use a water-efficient showerhead. They're inexpensive, easy to install, and can save you up to 750 gallons a month.
- Run your clothes washer and dishwasher only when they are full. You can save up to 1,000 gallons a month.
- Water plants only when necessary.
- Fix leaky toilets and faucets. Faucet washers are inexpensive and take only a few minutes to replace. To check your toilet for a leak, place a few drops of food coloring in the tank and wait. If it seeps into the toilet bowl without flushing, you have a leak. Fixing it or replacing it with a new, more efficient model can save up to 1,000 gallons a month.
- Adjust sprinklers so only your lawn is watered. Apply water only as fast as the soil can absorb it and during the cooler parts of the day to reduce evaporation.
- Teach your kids about water conservation to ensure a future generation that uses water wisely. Make it a family effort to reduce next month's water bill!
- Visit [www.epa.gov/watersense](http://www.epa.gov/watersense) for more information.

## Source Water Protection Tips

Protection of drinking water is everyone's responsibility. You can help protect your community's drinking water source in several ways:

- Eliminate excess use of lawn and garden fertilizers and pesticides - they contain hazardous chemicals that can reach your drinking water source.
- Pick up after your pets.
- If you have your own septic system, properly maintain your system to reduce leaching to water sources or consider connecting to a public water system.
- Dispose of chemicals properly; take used motor oil to a recycling center.
- Volunteer in your community. Find a watershed or wellhead protection organization in your community and volunteer to help. If there are no active groups, consider starting one. Use EPA's Adopt Your Watershed to locate groups in your community, or visit the Watershed Information Network's How to Start a Watershed Team.
- Organize a storm drain stenciling project with your local government or water supplier. Stencil a message next to the street drain reminding people "Dump No Waste - Drains to River" or "Protect Your Water." Produce and distribute a flyer for households to remind residents that storm drains dump directly into your local water body.

## **Additional Information for Lead**

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. We are 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 <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

## **Violations**

Our water system did not incur any drinking water violations during the calendar year of 2023. Water sampling results show no violation for EPA Well 2, and no violations were incurred from our ODEQ Well #3.

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## **Water Quality Data Tables**

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The table below lists all of the drinking water contaminants that were detected during the calendar year (2023) of this report. Although many more contaminants were tested, only those substances listed below were found in your water. All sources of drinking water contain some naturally occurring contaminants. At low levels, these substances are generally not harmful in our drinking water. Removing all contaminants would be extremely expensive, and in most cases, would not provide increased protection of public health. A few naturally occurring minerals may actually improve the taste of drinking water and have nutritional value at low levels.

Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table is from testing done in the calendar year of the report. The EPA or the State requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not vary significantly from year to year, or the system is not considered vulnerable to this type of contamination. As such, some of our data, though representative, may be more than one year old. In this table you will find terms and abbreviations that might not be familiar to you. To help you better understand these terms, we have provided the definitions below the table.

## 2023 Detected Regulated Contaminants

Contaminants	MCLG or MRDLG	MCL, TT, or MRDL	Highest Detect In Your Water	Range		Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
				Low	High			
<b>Radioactive Contaminants</b>								
Beta/photon emitters (pCi/L)	0	50	1.88	N/A	N/A	2021	No	Decay of natural and man-made deposits. The EPA considers 50 pCi/L to be the level of concern for Beta particles.
Radium (combined 226/228) (pCi/L)	0	5	0.718	N/A	N/A	2021	No	Erosion of natural deposits
<b>Inorganic Contaminants</b>								
Barium (ppm)	2	2	0.008	N/A	N/A	2019	No	Discharge of drilling waste; discharge from metals refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	0.35	N/A	N/A	2019	No	Natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth
<b>Secondary Contaminants. (No Federal Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) has been Established)</b>								
Sodium (ppm)	-	-	12.4	N/A	N/A	2023	No	Naturally present in the environment
<b>Disinfectants</b>								
Chlorine (ppm)	< 4.0	4.0	0.50 Avg	0.05	0.65	2023	No	Water additive to control growth of microbes
Contaminants	ALG	AL	Your Water (90 <sup>th</sup> percentile)	Sample Date	# Samples Exceeding AL	Exceeds AL	Typical Source	
<b>Inorganic Contaminants (Lead and Copper)</b>								
Copper – action level at consumer taps (ppm)	< 1.3	1.3	0.053	2022	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits	
Lead – action level at consumer taps (ppb)	0	15	ND	2022	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits	

The samples below were collected from the entry point of Well #3 (**OK2005883**) that is regulated by the Oklahoma Dept. of Environment Quality (ODEQ) during the same period. These well supplies water to our EPA regulated water system. The below contaminants were detected.

Contaminants	MCLG or MRDLG	MCL, TT, or MRDL	Highest Detect In Your Water	Range		Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
				Low	High			
<b>Radioactive Contaminants</b>								
Radium (combined 226/228) (pCi/L)	0	5	3.5	NA	NA	8/09/2023	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Gross Alpha, excl. Radon and U (pCi/L)	0	15	2.2	NA	NA	8/09/2023	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Gross Beta Particle Activity (pCi/L)	0	50	1.95	NA	NA	8/09/2023	No	Decay of natural and man-made deposits.
<b>Inorganic Contaminants</b>								
Barium (ppm)	2	2	0.008	0.008	0.008	8/09/2023	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	0.36	0.36	0.36	8/09/2023	No	Natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth.
<b>Inorganic Contaminants (Lead and Copper)</b>	<b>Monitoring Period</b>	<b>90<sup>th</sup> Percentile</b>	<b>Range (low/high)</b>	<b>Unit</b>	<b>AL</b>	<b>Sites over AL</b>		
Copper, Free	2020 - 2022	0.06	ND – 0.100	ppm	1.3	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Lead	2020 - 2022	ND	ND	ppb	15	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
<b>Disinfectants</b>	<b>MPA</b>	<b>MPA Unit</b>	<b>RAA</b>	<b>RAA Unit</b>	<b>Sample Dates</b>	<b>Violation</b>		
<b>Chlorine/ Chloramines</b>	0.98	mg/L	0.6	mg/L	01/01/2023–01/31/2023	No		Water additive to control growth of microbes
<b>Secondary Contaminants (Non-Health Based Contaminants) No Federal Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) has been Established.</b>								
<b>Contaminant</b>	<b>Highest Detect in Your Water</b>	<b>Range (low/high)</b>	<b>Sample Date</b>	<b>Typical Source</b>				
Sodium (mg/L)	11	11	8/09/2023	Naturally present in the environment				

<b>Unit Descriptions</b>	
<b>Term</b>	<b>Definition</b>
ppm	ppm: parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/L)
ppb	ppb: parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (µg/L)
pCi/L	pCi/L: picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)
NA	NA: Not applicable
ND	ND: Not detected
<b>Important Drinking Water Definitions</b>	
<b>Term</b>	<b>Definition</b>
RAA	Running Annual Average: an average of sample results obtained over the most current 12 months and used to determine compliance with MCLs.
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.
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.
TT	Treatment Technique: A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
AL	Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
ALG	Action Level Goal: The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. ALGs allow for a margin of safety.
Variances and Exemptions	Variances and Exemptions: State or EPA permission not to meet an MCL or a treatment technique under certain conditions.
MRDLG	Maximum residual disinfection 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.
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.
MPA	Monitoring Period Average: An average of sample results obtained during a defined time frame. Common examples of monitoring periods are monthly, quarterly, and yearly.
90 <sup>th</sup> percentile	90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile: A value at which 90% of all samples collected tested at, or below this value

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