2024 Consumer Confidence Report

WATER UTILITY

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) requires drinking water utilities to provide an annual Consumer Confidence Report to help consumers understand where their drinking water comes from, so they can make informed decisions about their health and protection of the environment.

Poor Washington’s Public Works Wate Utility produces some of the highest quality drinking water in the nation. Last year, and in years past, your tap water met and exceeded every federal and state drinking water health standard.

With our commitment to providing you with useful information, this report summarizes the quality of water provided to our customers in 2024. You will find the following:

- Information about the source of your drinking water
- Results of water quality testing and compliance with water quality laws and standards
- Additional education information

Opportunities to Participate on Decisions Regarding Your Water

Participate in decisions that affect drinking water quality at meetings of the City of Port Washington Board of Public Works. The Board of Public Works Commission meets at 5:30 PM on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at City Hall, located at 100 West Grand Avenue, Port Washington, WI 53074.

100 West Grand Avenue – Port Washington, Wisconsin 53074 – Office: 262-284-5585
Email: dfisher@portwashingtonwi.gov – Dan Fisher, Water Utility Superintendent

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Water System Information

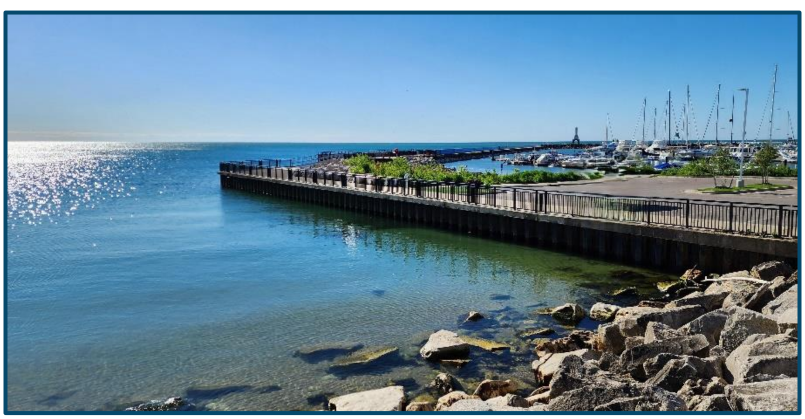
The City of Port Washington Water Utility provides clean, safe water to all residents of the City of Port Washington. The population of Port Washington is approximately 13,000, with a total land area of 5.8 square miles. To serve this customer base, the Utility manages and operates approximately sixty-eight miles of water main and approximately 650 hydrants. The Water Utility maintains and operates a surface water treatment plant, which produces an average of 1.24 million gallons of drinking water per day (MGD), with a total capacity of 4 MGD. The Utility also maintains three elevated storage towers, three booster stations and over 5,300 residential and commercial customers.

For more system information, or questions about this report, please call Dan Fisher, Utility Superintendent, at the Port Washington Water Utility, (262-284-2172) or email, (dfisher@portwashingtonwi.gov).

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) and the CDC at cdc.gov/parasites/crypto.



Source of Water & Educational Information

Port Washington's drinking water comes from Lake Michigan, a surface water source. 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, or substances, which may be present in source water include:

- **Microbial contaminants,** such as viruses, protozoa, and bacteria, may come from leaky sewer pipes, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations and wildlife.
- **Inorganic contaminants,** such as salts and metals, 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, are byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production, and also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems.
- **Radioactive contaminants,** which can be naturally occurring or the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which 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. 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.

Detected Contaminants or Substances

Your water was tested for many contaminants last year. We are allowed to monitor for some contaminants lass frequently than once a year. The following tables show the regulated contaminants, or substances, detected in Port Washington's drinking water distribution system during 2024. It also includes all contaminants tested for in the most recent (2023) Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule – Phase 5 (UCMR5) mandatory monitoring program. If a 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. **All contaminants detected continue to meet or exceed drinking water standards for health and safety and are within applicable state and federal laws.**

The tables contain the name of each contaminant, the highest level regulated (Maximum Contaminant Level, or MCL), the ideal goals for public health (Maximum Contaminant Level Goal, or MCLG,) the average value detected, the usual sources of such contamination, possible health effects, and footnotes explaining the findings and units of measurement. **The presence of a substance in drinking water does not necessarily indicate the water poses a health risk. Certain quantities of some substances are essential to good health, but excessive quantities can be hazardous.**

Definitions	
<	"Less Than" or not detected
AL	Action level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow
Haloacetic Acids	HAA5: Monochloroacetic acid, dichloroacetic acid, trichloroacetic acid, monobromoacetic acid, dibromoacetic acid, tribromoacetic acid, bromochloroacetic acid, dibromochloroacetic acid, and bromodichloroacetic acid.
HA	Health Advisory: An estimate of acceptable drinking water levels for a chemical substance based on health effects information; a Health Advisory is not a legally enforceable federal standard, but serves as technical guidance to assist federal, state, and local officials.
HAL	Health Advisory Level: A concentration of contaminant which, if exceeded, poses a health risk, and may require a system to post a public notice.
MFL	Million Fibers Per Liter
MCL	Maximum Contaminant Level: The highest level of a contaminant allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as 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 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.

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Unit Abbreviations	
NTU	Nephelometric Turbidity Units
ppm	Parts Per Million, or Milligrams Per Liter (mg/l)
ppb	Parts Per Billion, or Micrograms Per Liter (mg/l)
ppt	Parts Per Trillion, or Nanograms Per Liter
NTU	Nephelometric Turbidity Unit: A unit to measure turbidity
pCi/L	Picocuries per Liter: A measure of radioactivity
SMCL	Secondary drinking water standards or Secondary Maximum Contaminant Levels for contaminants that affect taste, odor, or appearance of the drinking water. The SMCLs do not represent health standards.
TT	Treatment Technique: A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water
Trihalomethanes	TTHMs: Chloroform, bromodichloromethane, dibromochloromethane, and bromoform
Turbidity	Turbidity has no health effects. However, turbidity can interfere with disinfection and provide a medium for microbial growth. Turbidity may indicate the presence of disease-causing organisms. These organisms include bacteria, viruses, and parasites that can cause symptoms such as nausea, cramps, diarrhea, and associated headaches.

Disinfection Byproducts

Contaminant (units)	MCL	MCLG	Level Found	Range	Sample Date (If prior to 2023)	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
HAA5 (ppb)	60	60	15	11 - 20		No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
TTHM (ppb)	80	0	32.1	16.0 - 37.8		No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
HAA5 (ppb)	60	60	15	8 - 23		No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
TTHM (ppb)	80	0	28.1	9.6 - 39.5		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
BARIUM	2	2	0.021	0.021		No	Discharge from drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
FLUORIDE (ppm)	4	4	0.70	0.70		No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
NITRATE (N03-N) (ppm)	10	10	0.33	0.33		No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
SODIUM (ppm)	N/A	N/A	8.60	8.60		No	N/A

Contaminant (units)	Action Level	MCLG	90th Percentile Level Found	Range	# of Results	Sample Date (If prior to 2023)	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
COPPER (ppm)	AL = 1.3	1.3	0.0590	0.0023 - 0.0950	0 of 33 results were above action level	8/2/2023	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives
LEAD (ppb)	AL = 15	0	4.10	0.00 - 11.00	0 of 33 results were above action level	8/2/2023	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion

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 lists PFAS contaminants which were detected in your water 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 PRHGS 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.

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Note: The recommended health-based levels in the table below were in effect in 2024. These levels were revised by WDHS in 2025. They can be found here, **https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/water/gws.htm**

Typical Source of Contaminant: 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 into groundwater from places that make or use PFAS and release from consumer products in landfills.

Contaminant (units)	RPHGS or HAL (ppt)	Level Found	Range	Sample Date (if prior to 2023)
PFBS (ppt)	450000	0.39	0.35 - 0.39	1/17/2023
PFHXS (ppt)	40	0.70	0.68 - 0.70	1/17/2023
PFHXA (ppt)	150000	1.60	1.50 - 1.60	1/17/2023
PFOS (ppt)	20	2.10	1.90 - 2.10	1/17/2023
PFOA (ppt)	20	2.30	1.80 - 2.30	1/17/2023
PFOA & PFOS TOTAL (ppt	20	4.40	3.70 - 4.40	1/17/2023

Radioactive Contaminants

Contaminant (units)	MCL	MCLG	Level Found	Range	Violation	Sample Date (If prior to 2023)	Typical Source of Contaminant
RADIUM, (226 +228 (pCi/1)	5	0	0.2	0.2	No	9/28/2023	Erosion of Natural Deposites
COMBINED URANIUM (ug/1)	30	0	0.2	0.2	No	9/28/2023	Erosion of Natural Deposites

Synthetic Organic Contaminants Including Pesticides & Herbicides

Contaminant (units)	MCL	MCLG	Level Found	Range	Violation	Sample Date (If prior to 2023)	Typical Source of Contaminant
ATRAZINE (ppb)	3	3	0	0.0 - 0.0	No	5/3/2023	Runoff From Herbicide Used On Row Crops

Contaminants with a Public Health Groundwater Standard, 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 Public Health Groundwater Standard (PHGS), 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, Public Health Groundwater Standards or Secondary Maximum Contaminant Levels. Secondary Maximum Contaminant Levels are levels that do not present health concerns but may pose aesthetic problems such as objectionable taste, odor, or color. Public Health Groundwater Standards and Health Advisory Levels are levels at which concentrations of the contaminant present a health risk.

Contaminant (units)	SMCL (ppm)	PHGS or HAL (ppm)	Level Found	Range	Sample Date (If prior to 2022)	Typical Source of Contaminant
SULFATE (ppm)	250		22.00	22	4/12/2021	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits, industrial wastes

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 2023)
HAA5 (ppb)	29.473	12.696 - 29.473	7/15/2019 - 4/7/2020
HAA6Br (ppb)	10.473	6.846 - 10.473	7/15/2019 - 4/7/2020
HAA9 (ppb)	38.673	20.096 - 38.673	7/15/2019 - 4/7/2020
METOLACHLOR (DUAL) (ppb)	0.00	0.00 - 0.01	5/3/2023

Other Compliance

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/0.3 NTU. Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of water. The Utility monitors 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 0.14 NTU. The lowest monthly percentage of samples meeting the turbidity limit was 100 percent.

Additional Health Information

Lead can cause serious health effects in people of all ages, especially pregnant women, infants (both formula-fed and breastfed), and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and parts used in service lines and in home plumbing. The Port Washington Water Utility is responsible for providing high quality drinking water and removing lead pipes but cannot control the variety of materials used in the plumbing in your home. Because lead levels may vary over time, lead exposure is possible even when your tap sampling results do not detect lead at one point in time.

You can help protect yourself and your family by identifying and removing lead materials within your home plumbing and taking steps to reduce your family's risk. Using a filter, certified by an American National Standards Institute accredited certifier to reduce lead, is effective in reducing lead exposures. Follow instructions provided with the filter to ensure the filter is used properly. Use only cold water for drinking, cooking, and making baby formula. Boiling water does not remove lead from water. Before using tap water for drinking, cooking, or making baby formula, flush your pipes for several minutes. You can do this by running your tap, taking a shower, doing laundry or a load of dishes. **When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing.**

If you have a lead service line or galvanized requiring replacement service line, you may need to flush your pipes for a longer period. If you are concerned about lead in your water and wish to have your water tested, contact the Port Washington Water Utility (Dan Fisher at (262) 284-2172.) **Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at https://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead**

Additional Information on Service Line Materials

The Port Washington Water Utility is required to develop an initial inventory of service lines connected to our distribution system by October 16, 2024, and to make the inventory publicly accessible. Visit: https://www.portwashingtonwi.gov/ under the I WANT TO tab, Identify Water Service Material, or visit https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/8e018179835b48bb9e492d54afd5d9f9/page/DATA-DASHBOARD to access the inventory or contact dfisher@portwashingtonwi.gov.

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Dear Port Washington Water Utility Consumers,

In 2024, Port Washington's drinking water met and exceeded all standards set by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR). The number one goal of the Water Utility is to provide safe, clean drinking water.

The City of Port Washington Water Treatment Plant treated and distributed over 461 million gallons of clean drinking water to over 5,000 customers. Utility operators work 24/7, performing thousands of analyses per year of raw and tap water while adjusting treatment operations, as necessary. Staff took hundreds of samples throughout the entire distribution system (roughly 68 miles) to ensure water quality.

Water Treatment Plant Improvements Project: In July of 2024, CD Smith arrived onsite. As the general contractor, they are responsible for the successful completion of this project by August 31, 2026.

Project Goals

- Address the deficiencies noted in the WDNR Sanitary Survey.
- Replace equipment that has reached the end of its service life.
- Replace and improve plant electrical equipment.

New Backup Generator

Overhead look of New Clearwell and Pumproom (South)

This improvement project is a major boost to the security and sustainability of providing safe, clean drinking water from one of the greatest sources on Earth. To learn more about this project please visit our website at https://www.portwashingtonwi.gov/departments/public-works/water-utility.

Sincerely,

Dan Fisher
Water Utility Superintendent

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Email: dfisher@portwashingtonwi.gov – Dan Fisher, Water Utility Superintendent