

# Milnor, North Dakota

## ***ANNUAL DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDING 2023***

We are pleased to present to you this year's ***Annual Drinking Water Quality Report*** as required by the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). This Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) is designed to inform you about the safe clean water we deliver to you every day. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water. Our water source is Southeast Water Users District. Their water sources are wells drawn from three different Aquifers in the Southeastern part of North Dakota.

***We have a wellhead protection plan available through our office that provides more information, such as, potential sources of contamination. Based on that information, our source water has been determined to be moderately susceptible to potential contaminants. Southeast Water Users has reviewed the wellhead protection area and determined that no sources would threaten your water supply.***

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 (EPA) Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

The sources of drinking water (both tap 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 includes:

***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 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 which 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. 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 and Prevention (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

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. The City of Milnor is responsible for providing high quality drinking water but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. **Use water from the cold tap for drinking and cooking. 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 drinking 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 (1-800-426-4791) or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

While your drinking water meets EPA's standard for arsenic, it does contain low levels of arsenic. EPA's standard balances the current understanding of arsenic's possible health effects against the costs of removing arsenic from drinking water. EPA continues to research the health effects of low levels of arsenic, which is a mineral known to cause cancer in humans at high concentrations and is linked to other health effects such as skin damage and circulatory problems.

If you have questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact Ryan Smith at 1-701-427-5261 or 1-701-427-5272. Our office hours are 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Wednesdays and if you leave a message at the numbers listed above, you will be contacted. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled monthly meetings. They are held on the second Monday of every month at 5:00 p.m. in the Milnor Community Center in Milnor. If you are aware of non-English speaking individuals who need help with the appropriate language translation, please contact the City at one of the numbers listed above.

Southeast Water Users and the City of Milnor routinely monitor for contaminants in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. The following tables show the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1, 2019 to December 31, 2023. Although many more contaminants were tested, only those substances listed in the following table were found in your water.

## Water Quality Data Table

The table below lists all of the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the calendar year of this report. 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.

Contaminants	MCLG or MRDLG	MCL, TT, or MRDL	Your Water	Range		Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
				Low	High			
<b>Disinfectants &amp; Disinfectant By-Products</b>								
(There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial								
Chlorine (as Cl <sub>2</sub> ) (ppm)	4	4	1	.62	1.32	2023	Yes	Water additive used to control microbes
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (ppb)	NA	60	11	NA	NA	2023	Yes	By-product of drinking water
TTHMs [Total Trihalomethanes] (ppb)	NA	80	22	NA	NA	2023	Yes	By-product of drinking water disinfection
<b>Inorganic Contaminants</b>								
Arsenic (ppb)	0	10	8.94	NA	NA	2016	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronics production
Barium (ppm)	2	2	.247	NA	NA	2018	No	Discharge of drilling wastes, Discharge from metal refineries, Erosion of natural deposits
Chromium (ppb)	100	100	1.58	NA	NA	2018	No	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; erosion of deposits.
Flouride (ppm)	4	4	.733	NA	NA	2018	No	Erosion of natural deposits, Water additive which promotes strong teeth, Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
<b>Radioactive Contaminants</b>								
Alpha emitters (pCi/L)	15	15	0.5	NA		2017	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium (combined 226/228) (pCi/L)	0	5	0.96	NA		2017	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Uranium (ug/L)	0	30	2.49	NA		2017	No	Erosion of natural deposits
<b>Unregulated Contaminants</b>								
Alkalinity, Total (ppm)	NA	NA	228	NA		2018	No	NA
Bicarbonate As HCO <sub>3</sub> (ppm)	NA	NA	279	NA		2018	No	NA
Calcium (ppm)	NA	NA	75.4	NA		2018	No	NA
Chloride (ppm)	NA	NA	5.19	NA		2018	No	NA
Conductivity @ 25 C UMHOS/CM (umho/cm)	NA	NA	478	NA		2018	No	NA
Hardness, Total (AS CaCO <sub>3</sub> ) (ppm)	NA	NA	247	NA		2018	No	NA

Magnesium (ppm)	NA	NA	14.2	NA	2018	No	NA
Nickel (ppm)	NA	NA	.00467	NA	2018	No	NA
<b>Contaminants</b>	<b>MCLG</b>	<b>AL</b>	<b>Your Water</b>	<b>Sample Date</b>	<b># Samples Exceeding AL</b>	<b>Exceeds AL</b>	<b>Typical Source</b>
<b>Unregulated Contaminants</b>							
PH (pH)	NA	NA	7.69	NA	2018	No	NA
Potassium (ppm)	NA	NA	2.4	NA	2018	No	NA
Sodium Adsorption Ratio (obsvns)	NA	NA	.08	NA	2018	No	NA
Sulfate (ppm)	NA	NA	25.8	25.7-25.8	2018	No	NA
TDS (ppm)	NA	NA	265	NA	2018	No	NA
Zinc	NA	NA	.112	NA	2018	No	NA
<b>Inorganic Contaminants</b>							
Copper - action level at consumer taps (ppm)	0	1.3	0.691	2021	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural
Lead - action level at consumer taps (ppb)	0	15	1.19	2021	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural

<b>Unit Descriptions</b>	
<b>Term</b>	<b>Definition</b>
ug/L	ug/L : Number of micrograms of substance in one liter of water
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
NR	NR: Monitoring not required, but recommended.

<b>Important Drinking Water Definitions</b>	
<b>Term</b>	<b>Definition</b>
MCLG	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	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
TT	TT: Treatment Technique: A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
AL	AL: Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
Variations and Exemptions	Variations and Exemptions: State or EPA permission not to meet an MCL or a treatment technique under certain conditions.

MRDLG	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	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.
MNR	MNR: Monitored Not Regulated
MPL	MPL: State Assigned Maximum Permissible Level

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. We have learned through our monitoring and testing that some contaminants have been detected. The EPA has determined that your water is safe at these levels.

MCL's are set at very stringent levels. To understand the possible health effects described for many regulated contaminants, a person would have to drink 2 liters of water every day at the MCL level for a lifetime to have a one-in-a-million chance of having the described health effect. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

The City of Milnor would appreciate it if large volume water customers post copies of this Quality Water Report in conspicuous locations or distribute them to tenants, residents, patients, students and/or employees, so individuals who consume the water but do not receive a water bill can learn about our water system.

The City of Milnor and staff work around the clock to provide top quality water to every tap. We ask that all our customers help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community and our way of life.

For more information please contact:

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