

SPECIAL PRECAUTIONS

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.

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 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/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by cryptosporidium and other microbiological contaminants are available from EPA's Ground Water and Drinking Water website at <https://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/forms/contact-us-about-ground-water-and-drinking-water>.

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 Auburn Water Department 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 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 at the Environmental Protection Agency's Ground Water and Drinking Water website at <https://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/basic-information-about-lead-drinking-water>.

Infants and children are typically more vulnerable to lead in drinking water than the general population. It is possible that lead levels at your home may be higher than at other homes in the community as a result of materials used in your home's plumbing. If you are concerned about elevated lead levels in your home's water, you may wish to have your water tested and flush your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using tap water. Additional information is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4761).

There is no safe level of lead in drinking water. Exposure to lead in drinking water can cause serious health effects in all age groups, especially pregnant people, infants (both formula-fed and breastfed), and young children. Some of the health effects to infants and children include decreases in IQ and attention span. Lead exposure can also result in new or worsened learning and behavior problems. The children of persons who are exposed to lead before or during pregnancy may be at increased risk of these harmful health effects. Adults have increased risk of heart disease, high blood pressure, kidney or nervous system problems. Contact your health care provider for more information about your risks.

Our system was required to complete a lead service line inventory in 2024. That inventory is available at the following webistes:
<https://pws-ptd.120wateraudit.com/AuburnWD-IN>
<https://lead-safe-community-site-cocigis.hub.arcgis.com>

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 the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by visiting the Environmental Protection Agency's Ground Water and Drinking Water website at <https://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/forms/contact-us-about-ground-water-and-drinking-water>.

Our system collected samples under the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Unregulated Contaminants Monitoring Rule (UCMR) for 29 PFAS compounds and lithium. This monitoring is being conducted so the EPA can receive occurrence data for these compounds to determine what additional compounds may need to be regulated in drinking water. We collected samples in May and November 2024 and detected the compounds shown in the table. These compounds are not regulated at this time. If you would like to view our results, contact our office at (260) 925-5711.

TIPS FOR PROTECTING OUR DRINKING WATER SUPPLY AND WATERSHED

- Limit use of fertilizers, pesticides and other hazardous products. Buy only what you need, reducing the amount to be later discarded. Follow label directions.
- Recycle used oil, automotive fluids, batteries and other chemical products. Do not dispose of these hazardous products in toilets, storm drains, wastewater systems, creeks, alleys or the ground. These actions pollute the water supply.
- The Northeast Indiana Solid Waste Management District accepts oils, paints, and other household hazardous waste. For more information visit <http://www.niswmd.org> or call 260-587-3063.

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Annual Drinking Water Quality Report



Auburn Water Department Auburn, Indiana

Auburn is pleased to present this year's Drinking Water Quality Report. This report is designed to keep you informed about your water utility and the quality of your drinking water over the past year. Our goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water.

SOURCE WATER ASSESSMENT AND WELLHEAD PROTECTION

A Source Water Assessment has been completed for our community. The source of Auburn's drinking water is groundwater produced from 10 production wells located in two different well fields (North and South) within our community. The wells withdraw water from a sand and gravel aquifer. A Source Water Assessment has indicated that the water system is *moderately susceptible to contamination*.

To help protect our water supply wells, the Auburn Water Department has implemented a Wellhead Protection Plan that focuses on public awareness, education, spill prevention, and reporting. Information on what you can do to help protect our drinking water supply is included in this report.

If you would like more information, please contact the Auburn Water Department at (260) 925-5711 or attend any of our regularly scheduled Board of Public Works and Safety Meetings, held in the Council Chambers (206 East Ninth Street). Meetings are held on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month at 9:00 a.m.

DEFINITIONS

Action Level (AL) - The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

Below the Detection Limit (BDL) - Substance not detected in the sample.

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) - The “Maximum Allowed” is 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. To understand the possible health effects described for many regulated substances, 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.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG) - The “Goal” is 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.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL) - The “Maximum Allowed” is the highest level of disinfectant allowed in drinking water.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG) - The “Goal” is the level of drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health.

Not Applicable (N/A) - No MCLG or MCL has been established for these unregulated substances.

Parts Per Billion (PPB) - One part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years or a single penny in \$10,000,000.

Parts Per Million (PPM) - One part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in \$10,000.

Picocuries Per Liter (pCi/L) - Picocuries per liter is a measure of the radioactivity in water.

- TABLE NOTES**
- (1) Level detected for lead and copper represent the 90th percentile value as calculated from a total of 30 samples.
 - (2) Two of the 30 samples collected for lead exceeded the Action Level. This is not a water quality violation. The 90th percentile value for lead is below the MCL.
 - (3) Maximum levels detected for TTHMs and HAA5s represents the locational running annual average of samples taken at 1304 Wesley Road.
 - (4) Maximum level detected for chlorine represents the running annual average based on a minimum of ten samples per month.

AVERAGE WATER QUALITY DATA FOR 2024

The Auburn Water Department routinely monitors for substances in your drinking water according to all Federal and State laws. The following table provides the results from our most recent monitoring. The state allows us to monitor for some contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. Therefore, some of our data while representative, is more than one year old. Regulatory compliance with some MCLs are based on running annual average of monthly samples.

Name of Substance	Date Sampled	Violation Yes/No	Maximum Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	Unit Measurement	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Substance in Drinking Water
<u>Inorganic Substances</u>								
Barium	06/21/2023	No	0.84	0.51 to 0.84	PPM	2	2	Erosion of natural deposits.
Copper	2023	No	0.20 ⁽¹⁾	0.01 to 0.753	PPM	1.3	AL = 1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits.
Fluoride (natural)	06/21/2023	No	1.02	0.997 to 1.02	PPM	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits.
Lead	2023	No	4.0 ⁽¹⁾	BDL to 32 ⁽²⁾	PPB	0	AL = 15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits.
Nitrate	2024	No	0.27	0.23 to 0.27	PPM	10	10	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from fertilizer use; septic tank leachate.
Sodium	2023	No	18	17 to 18	PPM	N/A	N/A	Erosion of natural deposits; urban runoff.
<u>Disinfection Substances</u>								
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs)	2023-2024	No	21 ⁽³⁾	18.5 to 20.6	PPB	N/A	80	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
Haloacetic acids (HAA5s)	2023-2024	No	7 ⁽³⁾	6.8 to 6.9	PPB	N/A	60	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
Chlorine Residual	2024	No	1 ⁽⁴⁾	0.3 to 0.7	PPM	MRDLG=4	MRDL=4	Water additive used to control microbes.
<u>Radioactive Substances</u>								
Combined Radium-226 and –228	04/19/2023	No	1.98	BDL to 1.98	pCi/L	0	5	Erosion of natural deposits.
Radium-226	04/19/2023	No	1.17	BDL to 1.17	pCi/L	0	5	Erosion of natural deposits.
Radium-228	04/19/2023	No	0.810	BDL to 0.81	pCi/L	0	5	Erosion of natural deposits.
<u>UCMRs</u>								
Lithium	2024	N/A	12.6	11.6 to 12.6	PPB	N/A	N/A	

- 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 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, stormwater runoff, and residential uses.
 - Organic chemicals, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems.
 - Radioactive materials, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.