

Drinking Water Quality Report For 2023

CITY OF WASHBURN, ND

This report is generated in response to a regulation implemented by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The regulation mandates that each community water system in the United States prepares, on an annual basis, a report that provides its customers with information regarding the quality of the water distributed to its consumers.

This report covers the calendar year 2023. Our water source is surface water from the Missouri River.

The City of Washburn monitors for contaminants in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws.

Our public water system, in cooperation with the North Dakota Department of Environmental Quality, has completed the delineation and contamination/land use inventory elements of the North Dakota Source Water Protection Program. Based on the information from these elements, the North Dakota Department of Environmental Quality has determined that our source water is **MODERATELY SUSCEPTIBLE** to potential contaminants.

Historically, Washburn has effectively treated the source water to meet drinking water standards. A **Source Water Assessment Program** report is available for review by contacting Water Systems Superintendent Adam Thomas, 462-8558, during regular business hours.

EPA requires monitoring of over 80 drinking water contaminants. Since our system is allowed to monitor for regulated contaminants less than once a year, the table shows the results from the most recent testing done in accordance with the regulations.

The City of Washburn is pleased to report that your drinking water meets or exceeds Federal and State requirements.

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.

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

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. The City of Washburn 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 (800-426-4791) or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

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 microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (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:

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, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil 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.

The City of Washburn had no violations of the Safe Drinking Water Act in 2023.

If you would like additional copies of this report, they are available at the City Directors office during normal business hours. Multiple water users, such as apartment complexes and trailer courts, are encouraged to share this information with their tenants.

If you have any questions, concerns, or would like additional information, you can contact the Washburn City Director at 462-8558 between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. Those wishing to participate in discussions concerning the quality of our water can be scheduled to appear at City Commission meetings by contacting the City Director at the above number. Regular Commission meetings are at 6:30 p.m. once per month. Contact the City Director for meeting dates.

Non-English speaking customers should contact the City for a translated copy of this report. Customers with vision impairment can request a large print copy of this report.