

Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for 2023

City of Aurora

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. We want to keep you informed about the excellent water and services we have delivered to you over the past year. Our goal is and always has been, to provide to you a safe and dependable supply of drinking water.

We are pleased to report that our drinking water is safe and meets federal and state requirements. Our source water assessment has been completed and is available upon request at City Hall. We have three wells that pump together from an aquifer, the water is treated with chlorine and a greensand filter then stored in a water tank before entering the distribution system. These steps are used to further ensure a safe clean drinking water supply.

Why are there contaminants in my drinking water?

All drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. As water travels over the land or underground, it can pick up substances or contaminants such as microbes, inorganic and organic chemicals, and radioactive substances. These may come from a variety of sources such as natural deposits, agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, residential uses, gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems. 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 calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791 or call Oregon Health Authority Drinking Water Program: (971) 673-0405.

The City of Aurora routinely monitors for constituents in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. The table below shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1st to December 31st, 2023. In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. It's important to remember that the presence of these constituents is not necessarily a health risk.

How can I get involved?

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact city hall. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. Please call Mark Gunter, City of Aurora Public Works Superintendent (971) 930-3597 for more information. **Aurora City Council Meetings are held at 7:00pm the second Tuesday of each month at City Hall, 21420 Main Street NE, Aurora, OR 97002.**

Test Results Table For 2023

TEST RESULTS						
Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Unit of Measure	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Microbiological Contaminants						
Total Coliform Bacteria	N	ND		0	Presence of coliform in monthly samples	Naturally present in the environment
Fecal coliform/ E.coli	N	ND		0	Presence or absence	Human and animal fecal waste
Disinfection Byproducts						
HAA5	N	0.0112	ppm	0	0.06	Comes from chlorine disinfection
TTHM	N	0.008	ppm	0	0.08	Comes from chlorine disinfection
Inorganic Contaminants						
Arsenic (2023 test)	N	0.007	ppm	n/a	0.01	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
Cyanide (2020 test)	N	0.0122	PPM	0.2	0.2	Industrial practices
Copper (2023 test)	N	0.468	ppm	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Lead (2023 test)	N	0.0035	ppm	0	AL=0.0155	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural

Nitrate (as Nitrogen) (2023 test)	N	ND	ppm	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion
Sodium (2020 test)	N	36.6	ppm	n/a	n/a	Erosion of natural deposits
11 others tested for	N	ND	ppb			Occur naturally and others are used in goods and services
Synthetic Organic Contaminants including Pesticides and Herbicides						
32 tested for (2019 test)	N	ND	ppb			Runoff from herbicide and pesticides used on crops and discharge from chemical co.
Volatile Organic Contaminants						
22 tested for (2019 test)	N	ND	ppb			Discharge from factories; leaching from gas storage tanks and landfills

Terms and Abbreviations:

Non-Detects (ND) - laboratory analysis indicates that the constituent is not present; **Parts per million (ppm)** or Milligrams per liter (mg/l); **Parts per billion (ppb)** or Micrograms per liter (µg/L);

Picocuries per liter (pCi/L) - picocuries per liter is a measure of the radioactivity in water; **Action Level** - the concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow; **Treatment**

Technique (TT) - A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water; **Maximum Contaminant**

Level (MCL) - 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; **Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG)** - 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.

We constantly monitor for various constituents in the water supply to meet all regulatory requirements. For this testing period **Two** violations were found for late reporting of Arsenic and late for turning in last year’s CCR, for this I apologize it has been corrected for by turning in the required information (we are below all Maximum Contaminant Levels), our water comes from a safe and reliable source. Our water meets or exceeds all standards for drinking water.

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. Or if you are restricted to a low sodium diet or have sodium sensitivity. 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 microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

Additional information for lead and arsenic

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 Aurora 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 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>.

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. The City continues to work diligently to maintain arsenic levels well below the EPA standard.

We at the City of Aurora 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, our way of life and our children’s future. Please call if you have questions.