2024 ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT

Lovers Lane Water Tower currently under construction

In this report, you will find:

- Information about the source of your drinking water
- The treatment process that ensures you of the highest-quality water
- Results of water-quality testing and compliance with water-quality laws
- Additional educational information

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) requires drinking water utilities to provide an Annual Water Quality Report (otherwise known as a 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.

TREATED WATER QUALITY

Listed on the following pages are contaminants detected in Franklin's drinking water during 2024. All detects are less than what federal and state regulations allow. Not listed are the results of nearly 3,000 tests conducted for approximately 150 contaminants that were not found during water testing.

The State Department of Natural Resources allows the Franklin Water Utility to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. Therefore, some of this data, though representative, is more than one year old.

The information enclosed is based on the testing conducted in the year 2024. Testing occurs every year; results for the year 2025 will be available in the next annual report. The Franklin Water Utility is committed to providing its 8,800 customers with the highest-quality drinking water that meets and exceeds standards more stringent than federal and state requirements. Please read this brochure for additional information.

HEALTH INFORMATION

Drinking water, including bottled water, may be reasonably expected to contain 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 calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (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 system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their healthcare 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).

Exposure to lead in drinking water can cause serious health effects in all age groups. Infants and children can have decreases in IQ and attention span. Lead exposure can lead to new learning and behavior problems or exacerbate existing learning and behavior problems. The children of women who are exposed to lead before or during pregnancy can have increased risk of these adverse health effects. Adults can have increased risks of heart disease, high blood pressure, kidney or nervous system problems.

LEAD AND COPPER

Franklin has no lead piping or lead water-service laterals in our system.

Copper is an essential nutrient, but some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over a relatively short amount of time could experience gastrointestinal distress. Some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over many years could suffer liver or kidney damage. People with Wilsons Disease should consult their personal doctor.

Lead can cause serious health effects in people of all ages, especially pregnant people, 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. Franklin 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 the 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. If you have a lead or galvanized 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 Franklin Water Utility at (414) 421-2581. 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. Lead and copper results are from August 2, 2023.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON SERVICE LINE MATERIALS

Franklin Water Utility was 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. You can access the service line inventory here https://www.franklinwi.gov/Departments/Water-Utility.htm.

DEFINITIONS

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

HA and HAL = **HA: Health Advisory.** An estimate of acceptable drinking levels for a chemical substance based on health effects information. **HAL: Health Advisory Level** is a concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, poses a health risk and may require a system to post a public notice. Health Advisories are determined by US EPA.

LRAA = Local Running Annual Average: Highest sample result averaged over a running annual period and not a calendar year.

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 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 a 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.

nd = No detect

NTU = Nephelometric Turbidity Units

pCi/L = picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)

ppb = parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (ug/l)

ppm = parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/l)

ppt = parts per trillion, or nanograms per liter

PHGS = Public Health Groundwater Standards are found in NR 140 Groundwater Quality. The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, poses a health risk and may require a system to post a public notice.

RPHGS = Recommended Public Health Groundwater Standards: Groundwater standards proposed by the Wisconsin Department of Health Services (WDHS). The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, poses a health risk and may require a system to post a public notice.

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.

TCR = Total Coliform Rule

Trihalomethanes: Chloroform, bromochloromethane, dibromochloromethane and bromoform.

TT = Treatment Technique: A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

REGULATED CONTAMINANTS

SUBSTANCE	MCLG (Ideal Goals)	MCL (Highest Level Allowed)	LEVEL DETECTED	VIOLATION	SOURCE OF CONTAMINANT
Atrazine Sample Date 7/11/23	3 ppb	3 ppb	0 ppb	NO	Runoff from herbicide.
Barium	2 ppm	2 ppm	0.021 ppm	NO	Natural deposits.
Coliform (TCR)	0	Presence of coliform bacteria in <=5% of monthly samples	0	NO	Naturally present in the environment.
Copper Sample Date 8/2/2023	1.3 ppm	AL = 1.3 ppm	0.091 ppm (90^{th} percentile value) 0 of 30 results exceeded AL Range: 0.0120 – 0.1700	NO	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.
Fluoride	4 ppm	4 ppm	0.6 ppm	NO	Natural deposits. Water additive that promotes strong teeth.
HAA5 (Site FWU-0009)	60 ppb	60 ppb	21 ppb average Range: 16 – 26 ppb	NO	By-product of drinking water chlorination.
HAA5 (Site FWU-0020)	60 ppb	60 ppb	13 ppb average Range: 9 – 13 ppb	NO	By-product of drinking water chlorination.
HAA5 (Site FWU-0063)	60 ppb	60 ppb	17 ppb average Range: 9 – 20 ppb	NO	By-product of drinking water chlorination.
HAA5 (Site FWU-0065)	60 ppb	60 ppb	20 ppb average Range: 11 – 23 ppb	NO	By-product of drinking water chlorination.
Lead Sample Date 8/2/2023	0 ppb	AL = 15 ppb	3.00 ppb (90^{th} percentile value) 0 of 30 results exceeded AL Range: 0.00 – 4.50	NO	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits.
Mercury	2 ppb	2 ppb	0.1 ppb	NO	Natural deposits, cropland, factory and landfill discharge.
Nitrate (NO_3-N)	10 ppm	10 ppm	0.32 ppm	NO	Natural deposits, fertilizer, animal, waste, sewage.
Radium, (226 + 228) Sample Date 4/6/2020	0 pCi/L	5 pCi/L	0.9 pCi/L	NO	Natural deposits.
Radium, combined Sample Date 4/6/2020	0 pCi/L	30 pCi/L	0.3 pCi/L	NO	Natural deposits.
Sodium	N/A	Unregulated	14.00 ppm	NO	Natural deposits.
Sulfate	250 ppm (SMCL)	Unregulated	22.00 ppm	NO	Natural deposits.
Trihalomethanes, Total (Site FWU-0009)	0 ppb	80 ppb	58.5 ppb LRAA Range: 35.3 – 64.9 ppb	NO	By-product of drinking water chlorination.
Trihalomethanes, Total (Site FWU-0020)	0 ppb	80 ppb	34.7 ppb LRAA Range: 19.5 – 48.9 ppb	NO	By-product of drinking water chlorination.
Trihalomethanes, Total (Site FWU-0063)	0 ppb	80 ppb	41.5 ppb LRAA Range: 21.6 – 52.0 ppb	NO	By-product of drinking water chlorination.
Trihalomethanes, Total (Site FWU-0065)	0 ppb	80 ppb	45.1 ppb LRAA Range: 22.7 – 57.2 ppb	NO	By-product of drinking water chlorination.
Turbidity	N/A	TT = 1 NTU TT < 0.3 NTU 95% of the time	0.048 NTU average Range: 0.03 – 0.08 NTU 100% of samples below MCL	NO	Natural sediment.

UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS

Unregulated contaminants are those for which the federal Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has not established drinking water standards. The purpose of unregulated contaminant monitoring is to assist the EPA in determining the occurrence of unregulated contaminants in drinking water and whether future regulation is warranted. The EPA requires us to participate in this monitoring.

SUBSTANCE	LEVEL DETECTED
Metolachlor (dual) Sample Date 4/10/23	0.00 ug/L average Range: 0.00 – 0.01 ug/L

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 1950. The following table lists PFAS contaminants which were detected in your water and 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 RPHGS 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 (WDHS).

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 at https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/water/gws.htm.

SUBSTANCE	RPHGS or HAL	LEVEL DETECTED	SAMPLE DATE (If Prior to 2024)	SOURCE OF CONTAMINANT
PFOS	20 ppt	0.35 Range: 0.00 – 0.35	1/10/2023	Used in industry and consumer products.
PFOA	20 ppt	1.50 Range: 1.00 – 1.50	1/10/2023	Used in industry and consumer products.
PFOA AND PFOS TOTAL	20 ppt	1.85 Range: 1.00 – 1.85	1/10/2023	Used in industry and consumer products.

WATER CONSERVATION

Factors such as drinking water treatment, facility improvements, wastewater treatment, and the energy used for treating, pumping, and heating water are factored into the price that we charge for water. Although tap water is a bargain at $5.04 per 1,000 gallons when compared to most other products we consume, the total cost of water usage can add up quickly.

We must also remember that water is a limited resource; we will never have any more water on earth than what we have right now. So, while water use is necessary for us to survive and to produce and process most of the products we use on a daily basis, it also pays for us to protect it as a natural resource for use by future generations.

Most water is used in the bathroom. The largest water user in any household is the toilet with 2 to7 gallons per flush. Flushes account for approximately 27% of the water used in a typical home. Showers, with a flow rate of 2 gallons per minute, account for around 17% of the water used, while other bathroom uses such as baths and faucets account for around 10%. The second highest water user is the washing machine. At around 41 gallons per load, clothes washing accounts for about 22% of the water used in a typical household.

CUSTOMER QUESTIONS WELCOME

Numerous opportunities exist to learn more about the Franklin Water Utility and water quality. If you have questions about drinking water quality, this report, or Water Commission meetings, please call the Water Department at **(414) 421-2581.** Water Commission meetings are held on the third Tuesday of each month at 5:15 p.m. at the Franklin City Hall located at 9229 W. Loomis Road.

Information regarding drinking water production can be obtained by visiting the Oak Creek Water & Sewer website at www.oakcreekwi.gov/government/departments/water-sewer-utility or by visiting the City of Franklin website at www.franklinwi.gov.