



Lincoln-Pipestone Rural Water System 2020 Drinking Water Report

Making Safe Drinking Water

Your drinking water comes from the following groundwater and surface water sources: Lincoln-Pipestone Rural Water System purchases water from Brookings-Deuel Rural Water System, Dawson, Lewis and Clark Regional Water System, and your system has twenty-five wells ranging from 32 to 453 feet deep, that draw water from the Quaternary Undifferentiated, Quaternary Buried Unconfined, Quaternary Buried Artesian and Quaternary Water Table aquifers.

Lincoln-Pipestone Rural Water System works hard to provide you with safe and reliable drinking water that meets federal and state water quality requirements. The purpose of this report is to provide you with information on your drinking water and how to protect our precious water resources.

Contact Jodi A Greer, Enterprise Technician, at 507-368-4248 or lpwewtech@itctel.com if you have questions about Lincoln-Pipestone Rural Water System's drinking water. You can also ask for information about how you can take part in decisions that may affect water quality.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency sets safe drinking water standards. These standards limit the amounts of specific contaminants allowed in drinking water. This ensures that tap water is safe to drink for most people. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration regulates the amount of certain contaminants in bottled water. Bottled water must provide the same public health protection as public tap water.

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's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

Lincoln-Pipestone Rural Water System Monitoring Results

This report contains our monitoring results from January 1 to December 31, 2020.

We work with the Minnesota Department of Health to test drinking water for more than 100 contaminants. It is not unusual to detect contaminants in small amounts. No water supply is ever completely free of contaminants. Drinking water standards protect Minnesotans from substances that may be harmful to their health.

Learn more by visiting the Minnesota Department of Health's webpage [Basics of Monitoring and testing of Drinking Water in Minnesota](https://www.health.state.mn.us/communities/environment/water/factsheet/sampling.html) (<https://www.health.state.mn.us/communities/environment/water/factsheet/sampling.html>).

How to Read the Water Quality Data Tables

The tables below show the contaminants we found last year or the most recent time we sampled for that contaminant. They also show the levels of those contaminants and the Environmental Protection Agency's limits. Substances that we tested for but did not find are not included in the tables.

We sample for some contaminants less than once a year because their levels in water are not expected to change from year to year. If we found any of these contaminants the last time, we sampled for them, we included them in the tables below with the detection date.

We may have done additional monitoring for contaminants that are not included in the Safe Drinking Water Act. To request a copy of these results, call the Minnesota Department of Health at 651-201-4700 or 1-800-818-9318 between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Some contaminants are monitored regularly throughout the year and rolling (or moving) annual averages are used to manage compliance. Because of this averaging, there are times where the Range of Detected Test Results for the calendar year is lower than the Highest Average or Highest Single Test Result, because it occurred in the previous calendar year.

Definitions

- **AL (Action Level):** The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
- **EPA:** Environmental Protection Agency
- **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.
- **N/A (Not applicable):** Does not apply.
- **pCi/l (picocuries per liter):** A measure of radioactivity.
- **ppb (parts per billion):** One part per billion in water is like one drop in one billion drops of water, or about one drop in a swimming pool. ppb is the same as micrograms per liter ($\mu\text{g}/\text{l}$).
- **ppm (parts per million):** One part per million is like one drop in one million drops of water, or about one cup in a swimming pool. ppm is the same as milligrams per liter (mg/l).
- **PWSID:** Public water system identification.

Monitoring Results – Regulated Substances

LEAD AND COPPER – Tested at customer taps.

Contaminant (Date, if sampled in previous year)	EPA's Ideal Goal (MCLG)	EPA's Action Level	90% of Results Were Less Than	Number of Homes with High Levels	Violation	Typical Sources
Lead (09/25/19)	0 ppb	90% of homes less than 15 ppb	4.4 ppb	2 out of 30	NO	Corrosion of household plumbing.
Copper (09/25/19)	0 ppm	90% of homes less than 1.3 ppm	1.18 ppm	1 out of 30	NO	Corrosion of household plumbing.

INORGANIC & ORGANIC CONTAMINANTS – Tested in drinking water.

Contaminant (Date, if sampled in previous year)	EPA's Ideal Goal (MCLG)	EPA's Limit (MCL)	Highest Average or Highest Single Test Result	Range of Detected Test Results	Violation	Typical Sources
Nitrate	10 ppm	10.4 ppm	6.2 ppm	0.46 - 6.20 ppm	NO	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.
Arsenic	0 ppb	10.4 ppb	1.37 ppb	N/A	NO	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronics production wastes.
Gross Alpha (2019)	0 pCi/l	15.4 pCi/l	4.1 pCi/l	N/A	NO	Erosion of natural deposits.
Combined Radium (2019)	0 pCi/l	5.4 pCi/l	1.1 pCi/l	N/A	NO	Erosion of natural deposits.

Potential Health Effects and Corrective Actions (If Applicable)

Nitrate: Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 10 parts per million is a health risk for infants of less than six months of age. High nitrate levels in drinking water can cause blue baby syndrome. Nitrate levels may rise quickly for short periods of time because of rainfall or agricultural activity. If you are caring for an infant, you should ask advice from your health care provider.

CONTAMINANTS RELATED TO DISINFECTION – Tested in drinking water.

Substance (Date, if sampled in previous year)	EPA’s Ideal Goal (MCLG or MRDLG)	EPA’s Limit (MCL or MRDL)	Highest Average or Highest Single Test Result	Range of Detected Test Results	Violation	Typical Sources
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs)	N/A	80 ppb	32.1 ppb	0.00 - 25.60 ppb	NO	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
Total Haloacetic Acids (HAA)	N/A	60 ppb	23.2 ppb	0.00 - 18.10 ppb	NO	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
Total Chlorine	4.0 ppm	4.0 ppm	1.59 ppm	1.15 - 1.79 ppm	NO	Water additive used to control microbes.

Total HAA refers to HAA5

OTHER SUBSTANCES – Tested in drinking water.

Substance (Date, if sampled in previous year)	EPA’s Ideal Goal (MCLG)	EPA’s Limit (MCL)	Highest Average or Highest Single Test Result	Range of Detected Test Results	Violation	Typical Sources
Fluoride	4.0 ppm	4.0 ppm	0.77 ppm	0.64 - 0.78 ppm	NO	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive to promote strong teeth.

Potential Health Effects and Corrective Actions (If Applicable)

Fluoride: Fluoride is nature's cavity fighter, with small amounts present naturally in many drinking water sources. There is an overwhelming weight of credible, peer-reviewed, scientific evidence that fluoridation reduces tooth decay and cavities in children and adults, even when there is availability of fluoride from other sources, such as fluoride toothpaste and mouth rinses. Since studies show that optimal fluoride levels in drinking water benefit public health, municipal community water systems adjust the level of fluoride in the water to

an optimal concentration between 0.5 to 0.9 parts per million (ppm) to protect your teeth. Fluoride levels below 2.0 ppm are not expected to increase the risk of a cosmetic condition known as enamel fluorosis.

Monitoring Results – Unregulated Substances

In addition to testing drinking water for contaminants regulated under the Safe Drinking Water Act, we sometimes also monitor for contaminants that are not regulated. Unregulated contaminants do not have legal limits for drinking water.

Detection alone of a regulated or unregulated contaminant should not cause concern. The meaning of a detection should be determined considering current health effects information. We are often still learning about the health effects, so this information can change over time.

The following table shows the unregulated contaminants we detected last year, as well as human-health based guidance values for comparison, where available. The comparison values are based only on potential health impacts and do not consider our ability to measure contaminants at very low concentrations or the cost and technology of prevention and/or treatment. They may be set at levels that are costly, challenging, or impossible for water systems to meet (for example, large-scale treatment technology may not exist for a given contaminant).

A person drinking water with a contaminant at or below the comparison value would be at little or no risk for harmful health effects. If the level of a contaminant is above the comparison value, people of a certain age or with special health conditions - like a fetus, infants, children, elderly, and people with impaired immunity – may need to take extra precautions. Because these contaminants are unregulated, EPA and MDH require no particular action based on detection of an unregulated contaminant. We are notifying you of the unregulated contaminants we have detected as a public education opportunity.

- More information is available on MDH’s [A-Z List of Contaminants in Water](https://www.health.state.mn.us/communities/environment/water/contaminants/index.html) (<https://www.health.state.mn.us/communities/environment/water/contaminants/index.html>) and Fourth [Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule \(UCMR 4\)](https://www.health.state.mn.us/communities/environment/water/com/ucmr4.html) (<https://www.health.state.mn.us/communities/environment/water/com/ucmr4.html>).

UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS – Tested in drinking water.

Contaminant	Comparison Value	Highest Average Result or Highest Single Test Result	Range of Detected Test Results
Group of 6 Haloacetic Acids (HAA6Br)	N/A	6.98 ppb	N/A
Group of 9 Haloacetic Acids (HAA9)	N/A	19.36 ppb	N/A

Some People Are More Vulnerable to Contaminants in Drinking Water

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. The developing fetus and therefore pregnant women may also be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water. These people or their caregivers 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 microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

Learn More about Your Drinking Water

Drinking Water Sources

Minnesota's primary drinking water sources are groundwater and surface water. Groundwater is the water found in aquifers beneath the surface of the land. Groundwater supplies 75 percent of Minnesota's drinking water. Surface water is the water in lakes, rivers, and streams above the surface of the land. Surface water supplies 25 percent of Minnesota's drinking water.

Contaminants can get in drinking water sources from the natural environment and from people's daily activities. There are five main types of contaminants in drinking water sources.

- **Microbial contaminants**, such as viruses, bacteria, and parasites. Sources include sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, pets, and wildlife.
- **Inorganic contaminants** include salts and metals from natural sources (e.g. rock and soil), oil and gas production, mining and farming operations, urban stormwater runoff, and wastewater discharges.
- **Pesticides and herbicides** are chemicals used to reduce or kill unwanted plants and pests. Sources include agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and commercial and residential properties.
- **Organic chemical contaminants** include synthetic and volatile organic compounds. Sources include industrial processes and petroleum production, gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems.
- **Radioactive contaminants** such as radium, thorium, and uranium isotopes come from natural sources (e.g. radon gas from soils and rock), mining operations, and oil and gas production.

The Minnesota Department of Health provides information about your drinking water source(s) in a source water assessment, including:

- How Lincoln-Pipestone Rural Water System is protecting your drinking water source(s);
- Nearby threats to your drinking water sources;
- How easily water and pollution can move from the surface of the land into drinking water sources, based on natural geology and the way wells are constructed.

Find your source water assessment at [Source Water Assessments](https://www.health.state.mn.us/communities/environment/water/swp/swa) (<https://www.health.state.mn.us/communities/environment/water/swp/swa>) or call 651-201-4700 or 1-800-818-9318 between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Lead in Drinking Water

You may be in contact with lead through paint, water, dust, soil, food, hobbies, or your job. Coming in contact with lead can cause serious health problems for everyone. There is no safe level of lead. Babies, children under six years, and pregnant women are at the highest risk.

Lead is rarely in a drinking water source, but it can get in your drinking water as it passes through lead service lines and your household plumbing system. Lincoln-Pipestone Rural Water System is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but it cannot control the plumbing materials used in private buildings.

Read below to learn how you can protect yourself from lead in drinking water.

1. **Let the water run** for 30-60 seconds before using it for drinking or cooking if the water has not been turned on in over six hours. If you have a lead service line, you may need to let the water run longer. A service line is the underground pipe that brings water from the main water pipe under the street to your home.
 - You can find out if you have a lead service line by contacting your public water system, or you can check by following the steps at: <https://www.mprnews.org/story/2016/06/24/npr-find-lead-pipes-in-your-home>
 - The only way to know if lead has been reduced by letting it run is to check with a test. If letting the water run does not reduce lead, consider other options to reduce your exposure.
2. **Use cold water** for drinking, making food, and making baby formula. Hot water releases more lead from pipes than cold water.
3. **Test your water.** In most cases, letting the water run and using cold water for drinking and cooking should keep lead levels low in your drinking water. If you are still concerned about lead, arrange with a laboratory to test your tap water. Testing your water is important if young children or pregnant women drink your tap water.
 - Contact a Minnesota Department of Health accredited laboratory to get a sample container and instructions on how to submit a sample:
[Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program \(https://eldo.web.health.state.mn.us/public/accreditedlabs/labsearch.seam\)](https://eldo.web.health.state.mn.us/public/accreditedlabs/labsearch.seam)
 The Minnesota Department of Health can help you understand your test results.
4. **Treat your water** if a test shows your water has high levels of lead after you let the water run.
 - Read about water treatment units:
[Point-of-Use Water Treatment Units for Lead Reduction \(https://www.health.state.mn.us/communities/environment/water/factsheet/poulead.html\)](https://www.health.state.mn.us/communities/environment/water/factsheet/poulead.html)

Learn more:

- Visit [Lead in Drinking Water \(https://www.health.state.mn.us/communities/environment/water/contaminants/lead.html\)](https://www.health.state.mn.us/communities/environment/water/contaminants/lead.html)
- Visit [Basic Information about Lead in Drinking Water \(http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead\)](http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead)
- Call the EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791. To learn about how to reduce your contact with lead from sources other than your drinking water, visit [Lead Poisoning Prevention: Common Sources \(https://www.health.state.mn.us/communities/environment/lead/sources.html\)](https://www.health.state.mn.us/communities/environment/lead/sources.html).

Lewis & Clark Regional Water System 2020 Water Quality Summary.

In 2020 we delivered over 6.69 billion gallons of water to 15 of our connected member systems.

Lewis & Clark water originates from wells that tap into an underground source adjacent to the Missouri River. This source is called the Missouri: Elk Point Aquifer. After treatment, the water quality is very good. Lewis & Clark does extensive testing for contaminants in our water and only the few items listed below on the Table of Detected Contaminants were found to be present in reportable quantities. The level of these contaminants is below what would be considered to be harmful.

(Table of Detected Contaminants here)

Additional Parameters of Interest:		
Parameter (units):	Average Level:	Acceptable Level:
Total Hardness (as CaCO ₃) (ppm)	160	
Alkalinity (ppm)	61	
Calcium (asCaCO ₃) (ppm)	95	
Iron (ppm)	.01	0.3
Manganese (ppm)	.01	0.05
pH (units)	8.5	7 – 9
Total Chlorine (ppm)	2.5	0.3-3.9

2020 WATER QUALITY REPORT FOR OSCEOLA RURAL WATER SYSTEM-NORTH

This report contains important information regarding the water quality in our water system. The source of our water is groundwater. Our water quality testing shows the following results:

CONTAMINANT	MCL-(MCLG)	Compliance		Date	Violation Yes/No	Source
		Type	Value & (Range)			
Total Trihalomethanes(ppb) [TTHM]	80 (NIA)	LRAA	21.00 (21 -21)	09/30/2020	No	By-products of drinking water chlorination
Total Haloacetic Acids (ppb) [HAAS]	60 (N/A)	LRAA	8.00 (8 - 8)	09/30/2020	No	By-products of drinking water disinfection
Lead (ppb)	AL=15 (0)	90th	2.60 (ND - 5)	2020	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Copper (ppm)	AL=1.3 (1.3)	90th	0.201 (0.017 - 0.274)	2020	No	Corrosion of household plumbing system; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives
950 - DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM						
Chlorine (ppm)	MRDL=4.0 (MRDLG=4.0)	RAA	1.4 (0.52 - 2.16)	06/30/2020	No	Water additive used to control microbes
01 - ALL ACTIVE WELLS /AFTER TREATMENT @ PLANT						
Gross Alpha, inc (pCi/L)	15 (0)	SGL	5.4	01/09/2018	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Combined Radium (pCi/L)	5 (0)	SGL	1.6	01/09/2018	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Sodium (ppm)	N/A (N/A)	SGL	7.85	04/10/2019	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Added to water during treatment process

Note: Contaminants with dates indicate results from the most recent testing done in accordance with regulations.

DEFINITIONS

- 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.
- ppb -- parts per billion.
- ppm -- parts per million.
- pCi/L - picocuries per liter
- N/A - Not applicable
- ND -- Not detected

- RAA - Running Annual Average
- Treatment Technique (TT)-A required process intended to reduce the level of contaminant in drinking water.
- Action Level (AL) - The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
- Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG) - The level of 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.
- Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL) - 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.
- SGL - Single Sample Result
- RTCR - Revised Total Coliform Rule
- NTU - Nephelometric Turbidity Units

GENERAL INFORMATION

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 posed a health risk. More information about contaminants or potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (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 health care providers. EPA/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 (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. OSCEOLA RURAL WATER SYSTEM-NORTH 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>.

SOURCE WATER ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

This water supply obtains its water from the sand and gravel of the Alluvial aquifer. The Alluvial aquifer was determined to be highly susceptible to contamination because the characteristics of the aquifer and overlying materials provide little protection from contamination at the land surface. The Alluvial wells will be highly susceptible to surface contaminants such as leaking underground storage tanks, contaminant spills, and excess fertilizer application. A detailed evaluation of your source water was completed by the Iowa Department of Natural Resources and is available from the Water Operator at 712-330-8051.

This water supply obtains its water from the sandstone of the Dakota aquifer. The Dakota aquifer was determined to have low susceptibility to contamination because the characteristics of the aquifer and overlying materials provide natural protection from contaminants at the land surface. The Dakota well will have low susceptibility to surface contaminants such as leaking underground storage tanks, contaminant spills, and excess fertilizer application. A detailed evaluation of your source water was completed by the Iowa Department of Natural Resources, and is available from the Water Operator at 712-330-8051

CONTACT INFORMATION

For questions regarding this information or how you can get involved in decisions regarding the water system, please contact OSCEOLA RURAL WATER SYSTEM-NORTH at 712-330-8051.