

Winamac Water Department

2023 Annual Water Quality Report

June 1, 2024

Dear Winamac Water Customer,

We are pleased to present a summary of the water quality provided you during the past year. This report details where the water comes from, what it contains, and the risks the water testing and treatment are designed to prevent. The Winamac Water Department is committed to providing you with the safest and most reliable water supply. Informed consumers are our best allies in maintaining safe drinking water.

Winamac's drinking water meets all federal and state drinking water standards.

We encourage public interest and participation in our community's decisions affecting drinking water. The Town Council has regular meetings on the second Monday of each month at the Winamac Municipal Utilities Complex at 623 W. 11th Street at 6:00 pm. EST. The public is invited to attend. Questions or concerns about your drinking water should be directed to Water Superintendent, Jeremy Beckner, at (574) 946-3451.

Source Water

The Town of Winamac supplies ground water from three wells. Each of these wells is over 400' deep.

EPA's required language for this report:

The sources of drinking water (both tap water 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 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 storm water 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, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses.
- Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are byproducts 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, Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) prescribes regulations that 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 that must provide the same protection for public health.

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 (1-800-426-4791).

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 (1-800-426-4791).

Important Definitions And Abbreviations:

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.**

AL- Action Level. The point at which corrective action must be taken.

ND- Not Detected

pCi/l- Picocuries Per Liter A measure of radioactivity for radionuclides.

ppm- Part Per Million. Unit of measure equal to 1 second in 12 days.

ppb- Part Per Billion. Unit of measure equal to 1 second in 32 years.

Water Quality Analyses Results

Most regulated and unregulated substances monitored by the EPA are not detected in Winamac's drinking water. Indiana Department of Environmental Management allows us to monitor for some substances less than once per year because the concentrations are not likely to change. The following chart shows the minimum and maximum amount of all substances that were detected in the most recent tests. Note that the substances that were detected were well below the MCLs.

Special note on 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. Our system 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>.

Regulated Substances	Amount Detected	Violation	MCL	MCLG	Major Sources In Drinking Water
Fluoride 2023	0.63	NO	4.0 ppm	4.0 ppm	Water additive that promotes strong teeth.
Chlorine 2023	2 ppm	NO	4 ppm	4 ppm	Water additive to control microbes.
Nitrate (as N) 09/14/2017	0.42 ppm	NO	10	10 ppm	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks; sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.
Nitrate + Nitrite (as N) 09/12/2023	0.057	NO	10 ppm	10	
Arsenic 2023	0.00178	NO	10 ppm	0	Discharge from petroleum refineries; fire retardant; ceramics; electronics; solder.
Lead 2023	0	NO	AL= 15.0 ppb	0 ppb	Corrosion of household plumbing. Erosion of natural deposits.
Copper 2023	90% of homes tested had less than 0.117 ppm	NO	AL= 1.3 ppm	1.3 ppm	Corrosion of household plumbing. Erosion of natural deposits
Barium 2023	0.0865	NO	2.0 ppm	2.0 ppm	Erosion of natural deposits.
URANIUM 2010	<0.0005 mg/L	NO	30 ug/L or 0.030 mg/L	0	Erosion of natural deposits.
Radium-226/228 2023	2.46 Pci/l	NO	Gross Alpha+Radium-228 5pCi/L	0	Erosion of natural deposits.
GROSS ALPHA 2022	0.59 pCi/L	NO	15 pCi/L	0	Erosion of natural deposits of certain minerals that are radioactive and may emit a form of radiation known as alpha radiation.
GROSS BETA 2022	3.46 Pci/l	NO	4 mrem/year or 50 pCi/L	0	Decay of natural and man-made deposits.
Radium-226 2022	1.76 Pci/L	No	5	0	
Radium-228 2022	0.7 Pci/L	NO	5	0	
Chromium	<0.001 ppm	NO	0.1 ppm	100 ppm	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; Erosion of natural deposits.
Mercury	<0.0001 ppm	NO	0.002 ppm	2 ppm	Erosion of natural deposits; discharge from refineries and factories; runoff from landfills; runoff from crop land.
Unregulated Substances	Amount Detected	Violation	MCL	MCLG	Major sources in drinking water
Nickel 2023	0.006	NO	Unregulated		Erosion of natural deposits.
Sodium 2020	25.9 ppm	NO	Unregulated		
Sulfate 11/22/05	18.0 ppm	NO	Unregulated		
Disinfection byproducts & Precursors	Amount Detected	Violation	MCL	MCLG	Major sources in drinking water
Total Trihalomethanes (tthm)	24 ppm	NO	80 ppm		By-product of drinking water chlorination.
Total Haloacetic Acids (haa5)	9 ppm	NO	60 ppm		By-product of drinking water chlorination.
Selenium	1.4 ppb	NO	50 ppb		Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits.
Dibromochloromethane	.00816ppm	NO	0.1	0	