

Quality

On Tap!

Our Commitment Our Profession

City of Gothenburg

Annual Water Quality Report For January 1 to December 31, 2024

This report is intended to provide you with important information about your drinking water and the efforts made by the City of Gothenburg water system to provide safe drinking water.

Para Clientes Que Hablan Espanol: Este informe contiene informaci6n muy importante sobre el agua que usted bebe. Traduzcalo 6 hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

For more information regarding this report, or to request a hard copy, contact:

NOLAN GOLTER
308-537-0465

If you would like to observe the decision-making processes that affect drinking water quality, please attend the regularly scheduled meeting of the Village Board/City Council. If you would like to participate in the process, please contact the Village/City Clerk to arrange to be placed on the agenda of the meeting of the Village Board/City Council.

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).

Source Water Assessment Availability:

The Nebraska Department of Environment and Energy (NDEE) has completed the Source Water Assessment. Included in the assessment are a Wellhead Protection Areamap, potential contaminant source inventory, and source water protection information. To view the Source Water Assessment or for more information please contact the person named above on this report or the NDEE at 402-471-3376 or go to <http://dee.ne.gov>.

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. FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

Sources of Drinking Water:

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and groundwater 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.

The source of water used by City of Gothenburg is ground water.

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 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.

Drinking Water Health Notes:

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised 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. EPNDCDC 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).

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. City of Gothenburg is responsible for providing high quality drinking water and removing lead pipes but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components in your home. You share the responsibility for protecting yourself and your family from the lead in your home plumbing. You can take responsibility by identifying and removing lead materials within your home plumbing and taking steps to reduce your family's risk. Before drinking tap water, flush your pipes for several minutes by running your tap, taking a shower, doing laundry or a load of dishes. You can also use a filter certified by an American National Standards Institute accredited certifier to reduce lead in drinking water. If you are concerned about lead in your water and wish to have your water tested, contact: NOLAN GOLTER, 308-537-0465. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

The City of Gothenburg is required to test for the following contaminants: Coliform Bacteria, Antimony, Arsenic, Asbestos, Barium, Beryllium, Cadmium, Chromium, Copper, Cyanide, Fluoride, Lead, Mercury, Nickel, Nitrate, Nitrite, Selenium, Sodium, Thallium, Alachlor, Atrazine, Benzo(a)pyrene, Carbofuran, Chlordane, Oalapon, Oi(2-ethylhexyl)adipate, Dibromochloropropane, Dinoseb, Oi(2-ethylhexyl)-phthalate, Diquat, 2,4-D, Endothall, Endrin, Ethylene dibromide,

Glyphosate, Heptachlor, Heptachlor epoxide, Hexachlorobenzene, Hexachlorocyclopentadiene, lindane, Methoxychlor, Oxamyl (Vydate), Pentachlorophenol, Picloram, Polychlorinated biphenyls, Simazine, Toxaphene, Dioxin, Silvex, Benzene, Carbon Tetrachloride, o-Dichlorobenzene, Para-Dichlorobenzene, 1,2-Dichloroethane, 1,1-Dichloroethylene, Cis-1,2,-Dichloroethylene, Trans-1,2-Dichloroethylene, Dichloromethane, 1,2-Dichloropropane, Ethylbenzene, Monochlorobenzene, 1,2,4-Trichlorobenzene, 1,1,1-Trichloroethane, 1,1,2-Trichloroethane, Trichloroethylene, Vinyl Chloride, Styrene, Tetrachloroethylene, Toluene, Xylenes (total), Gross Alpha (minus Uranium & Radium 226), Radium 226 plus Radium 228, Sulfate, Chloroform, Bromodichloromethane, Chlorodibromomethane, Bromoform, Chlorobenzene, m-Dichlorobenzene, 1,1-Dichloropropene, 1,1-Dichloroethane, 1,1,2,2-Tetrachloroethane, 1,2-Dichloropropane, Chloromethane, Bromomethane, 1,2,3-Trichloropropane, 1,1,1,2-Tetrachloroethane, Chloroethane, 2,2-Dichloropropane, o-Chlorotoluene, p-Chlorotoluene, Bromobenzene, 1,3-Dichloropropene, Aldrin, Butachlor, Carbyl, Oicamba, Dieldrin, 3-Hydroxycarbofuran, Methomyl, Metolachlor, Metribuzin, Propachlor.

How to Read the Water Quality Data Table:

The EPA and State Drinking Water Program establish the safe drinking water regulations that limit the amount of contaminants allowed in drinking water. The table shows the concentrations of detected substances in comparison to the regulatory limits. Substances not detected are not included in the table. The state requires monitoring of certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. Therefore, some of this data may be older than one 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.

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

MRDL (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level) - The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water.

N/A - Not applicable.

Units in the Table:

ND - Not detectable.

ppm (parts per million) - One ppm corresponds to 1 gallon of concentrate in 1 million gallons of water.

mg/L (milligrams per liter) - Equivalent to ppm.

ppb (parts per billion) - One ppb corresponds to 1 gallon of concentrate in 1 billion gallons of water.

ug/L (micrograms per liter) - Equivalent to ppb.

pCi/L (Picocuries per liter) - Radioactivity concentration unit.

RAA (Running Annual Average) - An ongoing annual average calculation of data from the most recent four quarters.

LRAA (Locational Running Annual Average) - An ongoing annual average calculation of data from the most recent four quarters at each sampling location.

90th Percentile - Represents the highest value found out of 90% of the samples taken in a representative group. If the 90th percentile is greater than the action level, it will trigger a treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.

TT (Treatment Technique) - A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

This notice will not be mailed to individual households

A copy is available at the City Office:

409 9th Street Gothenburg, NE, 69138 Thank you.

TEST RESULTS

| | | | | | | | | |
|------------------------------------|---|-----------------------------|----------------|-------|---|---------------|---|-----------------------------|
| Microbiological COLIFORM 11 CR) | Highest Number of Positive Samples In the month of August, 4 sample(s) were positive | | | | MCL Treatment Technique Trimmer | MCLG 0 | Likely Source of Contamination Naturally present in the environment | Violations Permitted Yes |
| E. COLI | In the month of August, 1 sample(s) were positive | | | | MCL: A Routine Sample and a Repeat Sample are Total Coliform Positive, and One is also E. Coli Positive | 0 | Human and animal fecal waste | Yes |
| Lead and Copper | Monitoring Period | 90 th Percentile | Range | Unit | AL | Sites Over AL | Likely Source of Contamination | |
| COPPER, FREE | 2020 - 2022 | 0.126 | 0.0111 - 0.573 | ppm | 1.3 | 0 | Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives; Corrosion of household plumbing. | |
| LEAD | 2020 - 2022 | 2.92 | 0- 6.7 | ppb | 15 | 0 | Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives; Corrosion of household plumbing. | |
| Regulated Contaminants | Collection Date | Highest Value | Range | Unit | MCL | MCLG | Likely Source of Contamination | |
| ARSENIC | 8/28/2024 | 8.1 | 7.7-8.1 | ppb | 10 | 0 | Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; runoff from glass and electronics production wastes. | |
| BARIUM | 1/13/2020 | 0.111 | 0.102-0.111 | ppm | 2 | 2 | Discharge from drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits. | |
| FLUORIDE | 1/13/2020 | 0.446 | 0.4 - 0.446 | ppm | 4 | 4 | Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; Fertilizer discharge. | |
| NITRATE-NITRITE | 3/13/2024 | 0.353 | 0 - 0.353 | ppm | 10 | 10 | Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits | |
| Radioactive Contaminants | Collection Date | Highest Value | Range | Unit | MCL | MCLG | Likely Source of Contamination | |
| COMBINED RADIUM -226 &-2281 | 10/3/2023 | 1.08 | 1.08 | nCi/L | 5 | 0 | Erosion of natural deposits | |
| ALPHA, INCL. RADON & URANIUM-228 | 11/13/2024 | 4.51 | 4.51 | oCi/L | 15 | 0 | Erosion of natural deposits | |
| UNRELATED WATER QUALITY DATA | Collection Date | Highest Value | Range | Unit | MCL | MCLG | Likely Source of Contamination | |
| METOLACHLOR | 5/13/2024 | 0.101 | 0-0.101 | DDb | | | | |
| SULFATE | 11/5/2024 | 52 | 47- 52 | ma1L | | | 250 | |

During the 2024 calendar year, we had the below noted violation(s) of drinking water regulations

| | | | |
|----------------------------------|----------|--------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Violation Type | Category | Analysis | Compliance Period |
| MCL, E. COLI, POSITIVE COLIFORMS | MCL | E. COLI | 08/01/2024 - 08/31/2024 |
| LEAD REPORTING INITIAL | RPT | LEAD AND COPPER RULE REVISIONS | 10/17/2024-10/17/2024 |

The City of Gothenburg has taken the following actions to return to compliance with the Nebraska Safe Drinking Water Act:

Under the State of Nebraska (NDEE) and the EPA Drinking water rules, the City of Gothenburg had a violation of receiving one test sample back with the result of it having E.coli in the sample taken near the new watermain construction in town on 08/16/2024. This put the City in a Revised Total Coliform Rule – E.coli Maximum Containment Level Violation – Tier 1. Upon receiving that notice from the NDEE, a Public Notice was put out for a “Boil Water Notice” on 08/17/2024. Other water samples were taken in the affected area with results being the same, So chlorination thru out town was put into affect at each of the City’s drinking water wells and was run like this through the month of August – 2024. A residual of chlorine was continually put in the system through October – 2024. 10 special water samples from NDEE, 5 initial samples and 5 samples taken 24 hours later, were taken through out the Zone that the City normally takes water samples from where the incident occurred, with one initial and one 24 hours later to retest the positive sight. After all 10 samples came back in a row showing that there was 0 Total Coliform and 0 E.coli, the City was released from the “Boil Water Notice” by the NDEE. After that the City continued to chlorinate the system maintaining the required residual of chlorine in the system until 09/15/2024. Normal water testing through the town was continued and the chlorine residual was allowed to dissipate. This has put the City back into compliance with the Drinking Water Rules from the NDEE and EPA. On the Lead and Copper Rule by the NDEE the City was in violation of being late with the listing of all lead and copper lines in existence in the City by 10/16/2024. The finalized list of the Lead, galvanized, or unknown materials was completed 02/24/2025 and turned into NDEE the month of April – 2025. All is now in compliance and there are no further violations.

Additional Required Health Effects Language:

E. coli are bacteria whose presence indicates that the water may be contaminated with human or animal wastes. Microbes in these wastes can cause short-term effects, such as diarrhea, cramps, nausea, headaches, or other symptoms. They may pose a special health risk for infants, young children, some of the elderly, and people with severely compromised immune systems.

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.

Additional Required Health Effects Violation Notices:

We had an E. coli -positive repeat sample following a total coliform -positive routine sample.

During the past year, we were required to conduct Level 2 Assessment(s). We completed level 2 assessment(s). In addition, we were required to take two corrective action(s) and we completed the two actions.

We found E. coli bacteria, indicating the need to look for potential problems in water treatment or distribution. When this occurs, we are required to conduct assessment(s) to identify problems and to correct any problems that were found during these assessments(s). We were required to complete a Level 2 assessment because we found E. coli in our water system. In addition, we were required to take two corrective actions, and we completed two of these actions.

The City of Gothenburg Lead Service line inventory has been prepared and can be accessed here on the City Web Site: www.ci.gothenburg.ne.us

