

# Harris 2021 Drinking Water Report

## Making Safe Drinking Water

Your drinking water comes from a groundwater source: a 309-foot-deep well that draws water from the Mt. Simon aquifer.

Harris 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 Shannon Geier, City Clerk, at (651) 674-7546 or [clerk@harrismn.com](mailto:clerk@harrismn.com) if you have questions about Harris'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.

## Harris Monitoring Results

This report contains our monitoring results from January 1 to December 31, 2021.

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 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.
- **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 ( $\text{mg}/\text{l}$ ).
- **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 (08/21/20)	0 ppb	90% of homes less than 15 ppb	1.9 ppb	0 out of 5	NO	Corrosion of household plumbing.
Copper (08/21/20)	0 ppm	90% of homes less than 1.3 ppm	1.15 ppm	1 out of 5	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	0.1 ppm	N/A	NO	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.
Barium (07/23/19)	2 ppm	2 ppm	0.05 ppm	N/A	NO	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposit.

**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) (2020)	N/A	80 ppb	1.8 ppb	N/A	NO	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
Total Chlorine	4.0 ppm	4.0 ppm	0.3 ppm	0.04 - 0.54 ppm	NO	Water additive used to control microbes.

**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	0.7 ppm	0.49 - 0.74 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.

**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 Harris 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 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. Harris 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)  
 [\(https://eldo.web.health.state.mn.us/public/accreditedlabs/labsearch.seam\)](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)  
 [\(https://www.health.state.mn.us/communities/environment/water/factsheet/poulead.html\)](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)  
 [\(https://www.health.state.mn.us/communities/environment/water/contaminants/lead.html\)](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 [Common Sources](https://www.health.state.mn.us/communities/environment/lead/fs/common.html)  
 [\(https://www.health.state.mn.us/communities/environment/lead/fs/common.html\)](https://www.health.state.mn.us/communities/environment/lead/fs/common.html).



# 2021 Certification Form

Harris 1130005

**i** The CCR Certification has been saved. MDH will review the information you submitted.

If you want a printed copy of your **Completed Certification Form**, please **print this page now**. This will be your only chance to print the Completed Certification Form. After you exit the Certification Form you will not be able to go back and print this page.

## Attachment Uploads

PLEASE NOTE: Although MDH sent a CCR to your system, we need a "final" copy of the CCR that your system distributed for our records.

Attach one or more files. 10mb max. Types allowed are: doc, docx, pdf, jpeg, and png. (required)

Choose

Filename	Actions
CCR_Report_PWS_1130005_2021.docx	view

## Certification

The CCR template provided to you by MDH meets EPA requirements. If you changed the CCR, you must ensure it meets EPA requirements.

The information in the attached CCR is accurate and meets U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) requirements in the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR 141.153 and 141.154).

Date CCR was distributed to our customers (required): \*

05-05-2022

All options below require that you inform consumers how they can get a paper copy of the CCR if one is not provided.

You must also make efforts to reach consumers who do not receive water bills (such as apartment tenants, nursing home residents, etc.). This can be done by publicizing the availability of the CCR in the media, posting in public places, delivering multiple copies of the CCR for distribution by single-biller customers, delivering CCR to community organizations, posting on the internet, and/or including within the CCR a request for recipients to share information with non-billed customers.

The attached CCR has been distributed to customers served by our water system in the following manner (check ALL that apply; you must check at least one):

- Delivered the CCR door-to-door to each customer served by our water system.
- Posted a notice that the CCR will not be mailed to them or published, but is available upon request. The notice was posted in a location where residents will most likely see it (e.g. post office, city hall, community bulletin board, etc.). This option is only available to systems with populations less than 500. If using this option, you must return a copy of the notice you posted along with a copy of the CCR you intend to distribute to customers.
- Published the entire CCR in one or more local community newspapers with a comment that the CCR is not being directly mailed to all customers but that a copy is available upon request. If using this option, you must return a copy or newspaper clipping of the CCR to MDH.

List newspaper(s) and date(s) of publication:

- Sent a paper copy and/or paper notification of CCR availability to all customers.
- Mailed notification (postcard, newsletter, etc.) that the CCR is available via direct URL. You MUST provide a direct link to your system's CCR and give the option for the customer to request a paper copy. You can also provide other links to the CCR beyond the required direct link.

Direct URL:

- Emailed a direct URL to the CCR for bill-paying customers; emailed the CCR as a file attachment (PDF) or directly inserted CCR into the body of the email message.

Direct URL:

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## Certified By

Certifier Name (required): \*



Shannon Geier

**Certifier Title (required): \***

City Clerk

**Certifier Phone (required): \***

6516747546

**Certifier Email (required): \***

clerk@harrismn.com

Save & Certify Now