CONNECTING YOU TO QUALITY DRINKING WATER

2025 WATER QUALITY REPORT
PUBLIC WATER SYSTEM ID NUMBER: MO 5010754
CITY UTILITIES OF SPRINGFIELD, MO

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This report contains important information about Springfield's drinking water.

For more information regarding this assessment or for additional water quality data, call the City Utilities Manager-Water Quality Lab at (417) 831-8822.

ATTENTION

Landlords and Apartment Owners:

Please share a copy of this report with your tenants about the quality of their drinking water.

Water is important for all life. While City Utilities provides water, natural gas, electricity, transit and broadband services to the City of Springfield—water is the only commodity that our customers ingest. Providing safe drinking water is not an option, but is a necessity to keep our community healthy.

City Utilities' commitment to you, our neighbor, is that our team will continue to work hard every day to ensure you not only have safe drinking water, but great tasting water too.

PARTNERSHIP FOR SAFE WATER

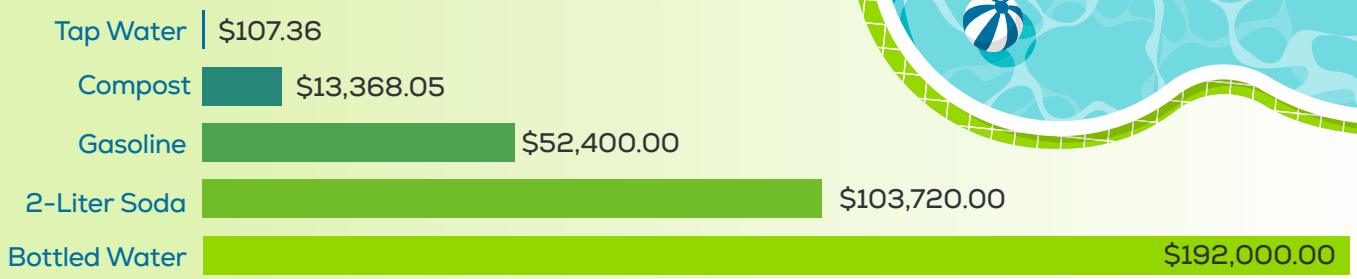
26 YEARS

For the 26th year in a row, City Utilities of Springfield's Blackman and Fulbright Water Treatment Plants have received the Directors Award from the Partnership for Safe Water, a program of the American Water Works Association (AWWA). This award is given in recognition of the efforts to achieve excellence in water quality far beyond what is required by federal regulations. Less than one percent of the treatment plants in the United States have received this recognition.

TAP WATER VS. EVERYTHING ELSE:
THE CLEAR WINNER ON COST

Ever wondered what it would cost to fill a typical 20,000-gallon backyard swimming pool with something other than water? Even when compared to common products, nothing comes close to the value and low cost that tap water provides.

COST TO FILL A SWIMMING POOL WITH EVERYDAY ITEMS



CORROSION CONTROL IN YOUR WATER SYSTEM

Under the Lead and Copper Rule, City Utilities is mandated to monitor and optimize specific water quality parameters to prevent the corrosion of metal piping and fittings throughout the distribution system. To ensure the water remains stable and does not strip metal from the pipes, the utility strictly tracks pH and total alkalinity, as regulated by the Missouri Department of Natural Resources (DNR).

The pH level, which measures how acidic or basic the water is on a scale of 0 to 14, is monitored constantly; while a pH of 7 is neutral, City Utilities typically maintains a slightly basic range between 7.2 and 8.2. Complementing this is the measurement of total alkalinity, which is the water's ability to neutralize acid. This parameter is measured daily and generally ranges from 92 to 211 mg/L. Because City Utilities operates two treatment plants with distinct source waters, the DNR establishes unique optimal parameters for each facility to guarantee consistent water safety and infrastructure protection.

	Fulbright Water Treatment Plant Optimal Water Quality Parameter Limits	Blackman Water Treatment Plant Optimal Water Quality Parameter Limits
pH range	7.1 - 7.9	7.5 - 8.3
Total Alkalinity (ppm)	138.4 - 217.7	84.4 - 174.6

WATERSHED STEWARDSHIP

ENSURING GREAT TASTE AND ODOR-FREE DRINKING WATER

City Utilities (CU) understands the importance of delivering safe drinking water to its customers. While water quality is a top priority, ensuring that the water maintains a pleasant taste and smell is equally crucial. Algae, a natural component of lake ecosystems, plays a significant role in the occurrence of taste and odor compounds such as Geosmin and 2-Methylisoborneol (MIB). McDaniel Lake, a vital water source for CU, experiences natural stratification during the summer, forming distinct layers of water. As cooler weather arrives in the fall, these layers mix, bringing accumulated taste and odor compounds from the sediment to the surface. Although Geosmin and MIB are harmless to public health, they can adversely affect the aesthetic quality of the water. Recognizing this, CU diligently monitors these compounds in our certified laboratory. Highly trained operators at the water treatment plants use various strategies to remove these compounds. By employing advanced testing and treatment methods, CU ensures that the drinking water not only meets regulatory standards but also exceeds customer expectations in terms of taste and odor.

INNOVATIVE ALGAE CONTROL PROJECTS UNDERWAY AT MCDANIEL & FELLOWS LAKE

City Utilities is advancing its commitment to water quality through a collaborative floating wetlands initiative aimed at curbing algae growth in local lakes. This partnership, which is led by the Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC), unites CU with Missouri State University, the Watershed Committee of the Ozarks and several other local environmental stakeholders. This sustainable initiative uses native vegetation to naturally filter excess nutrients and prevent algal blooms, serving as a regional model for eco-friendly lake management. The project aims to build a more resilient aquatic ecosystem that ensures a cleaner, healthier water supply for the entire community.

Since 2024, the project has made significant progress in McDaniel and Fellows Lake. At McDaniel Lake, five floating wetlands and extensive shoreline plantings now provide over 256 square feet of native vegetation, with 80 more native plants scheduled for shoreline installation in 2026. Fellows Lake is on track to exceed 450 square feet of aquatic plant coverage by the end of 2026. This growth includes the addition of two new islands in the upper-north arm of the lake, as well as the creative repurposing of an older section of the marina dock to support multiple plant baskets, all designed to restore historical vegetation and enhance the lake's natural filtration capabilities.

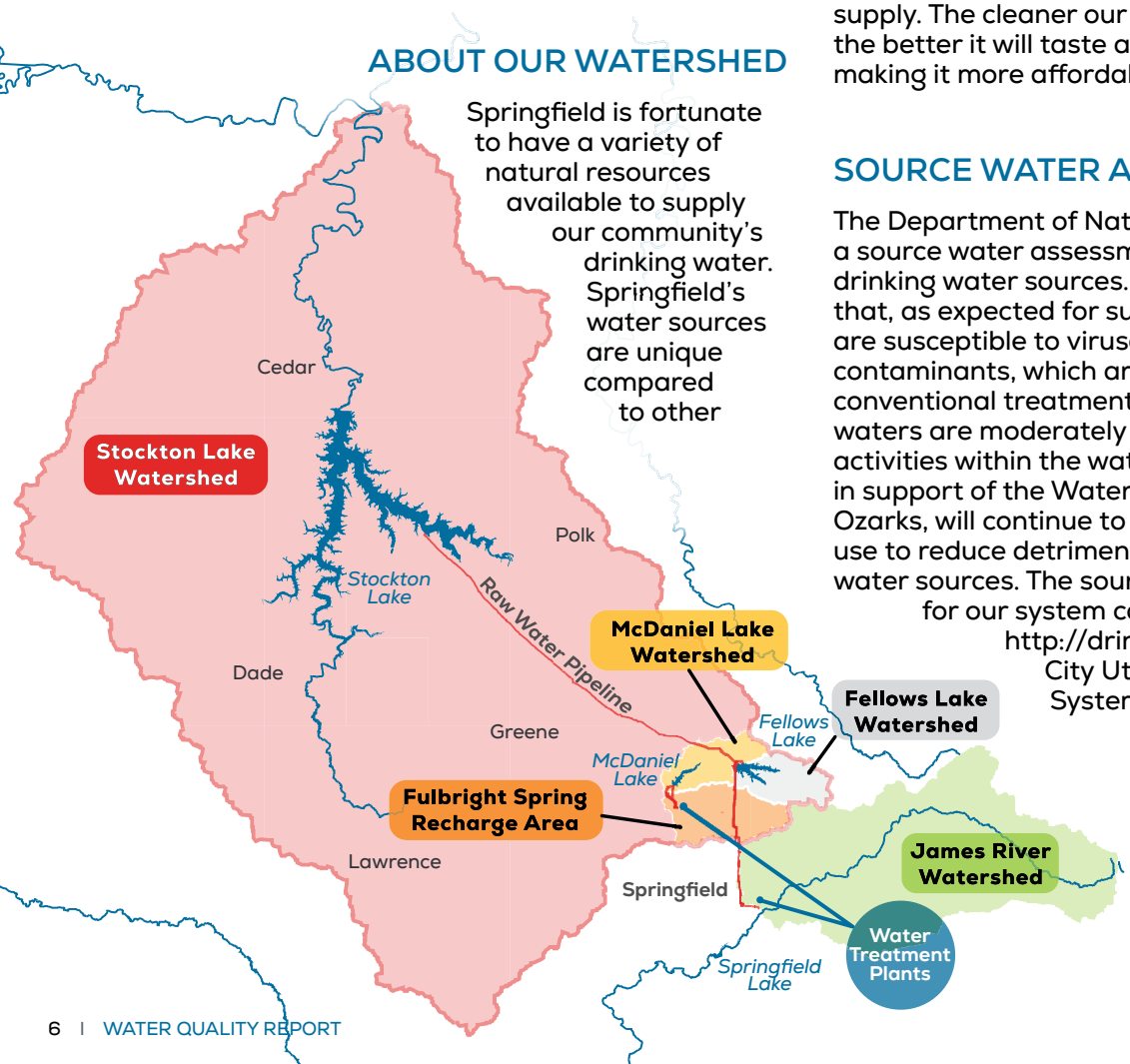
WHERE YOUR WATER COMES FROM

City Utilities' drinking water comes from a variety of lakes, rivers, wells and a spring. Approximately 74 percent of Springfield's drinking water comes from surface waters, such as lakes and rivers. The remaining comes from groundwater sources.

City Utilities' Fulbright and Blackman Water Treatment Plants use a combination of sources for water treatment, including both surface and groundwater. Fulbright is located on the northern edge of Springfield and is served by Fulbright Spring (the original source for the city), a deep well and McDaniel Lake. The Blackman Plant is in the southeastern corner of the city and receives water from Fellows Lake and James River. Both Fellows and McDaniel Lakes can be supplemented with water from Stockton Lake. Another deep well can be found in the distribution system and is used as an additional source when needed.

ABOUT OUR WATERSHED

Springfield is fortunate to have a variety of natural resources available to supply our community's drinking water. Springfield's water sources are unique compared to other communities in southwest Missouri. While other towns and rural residents rely on groundwater wells, water customers of City Utilities have an abundance of surface water sources.



The wells in Springfield come from underground aquifers which are replenished by precipitation soaking into the ground. Healthy soils increase the quality and quantity of water that recharges the aquifers. Forested riparian areas are one of the best ways to prevent flood damage, erosion and nutrient pollution to our drinking water. The "riparian area" is the land along streams and rivers. Prescribed or rotational grazing practices help improve soil health and water quality, while over-grazed pastures do the opposite. Nutrients from fertilizer, animal or human waste and sediment from erosion can cause issues, including algae blooms, in our drinking water reservoirs which can negatively impact our water supply. The cleaner our sources of drinking water, the better it will taste and smell, the less it will cost, making it more affordable for the consumers.

SOURCE WATER ASSESSMENT

The Department of Natural Resources completed a source water assessment for City Utilities' drinking water sources. The assessment showed that, as expected for surface waters, the sources are susceptible to viruses and microbiological contaminants, which are inactivated by conventional treatment. In addition, all surface waters are moderately susceptible to land-use activities within the watershed. City Utilities, in support of the Watershed Committee of the Ozarks, will continue to encourage low-impact land use to reduce detrimental effects to our drinking water sources. The source water assessment for our system can be found online at http://drinkingwater.missouri.edu. City Utilities' Public Water System number is 5010754.

CITY UTILITIES TAKES STEPS TO PROTECT DRINKING WATER FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS

As part of our ongoing commitment to water quality and environmental responsibility, City Utilities is actively addressing potential health concerns associated with per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), also known as "Forever Chemicals," and responding to regulations by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). At the same time, we're taking steps to ensure the safety of our drinking water in light of upcoming changes to the Lead and Copper Rule regulation.

PFAS "FOREVER CHEMICALS"

PFAS is a group of man-made compounds found in everyday items like fire-fighting foams, popcorn bags, cleaning products, non-stick cookware, stain repellent carpeting and many more. While the full impact of health effects to humans is still unknown, concerns have prompted the EPA to pass rules limiting some PFAS levels in drinking water to no more than 4 parts per trillion (ppt). To put this in perspective, 1 ppt is equivalent to one drop of water in 20 Olympic-size swimming pools.

In an effort to be proactive, CU began testing its water supply for PFAS in November 2022 using a certified third-party laboratory. Since testing began, a range of 3.1 to 16.0 ppt PFOS, which is a chemical in the PFAS family, has been detected in the James River. CU has implemented an operational policy to blend water from the James River with Fellows Lake to stay below the Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) Running Annual Average (RAA) of 4 ppt PFOS in the finished water, which becomes enforceable in 2029. In 2025, a range of 3.4 to 9.3 ppt PFOS was detected in the James River. Additionally, tap samples were analyzed for PFAS quarterly by CU's contract laboratory and as part of the EPA's fifth Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR5). This finished water data is shown on the table on page 9.

PFAS: per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances
PFOS: perfluorooctanesulfonic acid

LEAD AND COPPER RULE

The Lead and Copper Rule Revision (LCRR) proposed by the EPA went into effect October 2024. The rule requires water utilities like City Utilities to provide a water service line inventory available to the public showing both the utility-owned and customer-owned portions of the service line. City Utilities has identified all service lines on the utility-owned side to be non-lead.

Thanks to the help of our customers, City Utilities has identified over 46,000 customer-owned service lines as non-lead. There are still 37,000 customer-owned service lines that need to be identified. The public map of service line materials can be found at www.cityutilities.net/lcr.

The EPA is requiring public water systems to replace all lead lines within 10 years, with limited exceptions. In some cases, galvanized service lines will also need to be replaced. If you have any questions about your service line material, contact City Utilities by calling (417) 831-8787 or going to our website at www.cityutilities.net/lcr.

WATER AT A GLANCE
ABOUT LEAD AND COPPER

City Utilities fully complies with the lead and copper provisions of the Safe Drinking Water Act. In 2025, City Utilities gathered samples from a number of residences in accordance with state and federal regulations. EPA regulations require that at least 90 percent of the samples are below the action level for both lead (15 ppb) and copper (1.3 ppm). One round of lead and copper sampling was completed in 2025. The sampling round had 90th percentile values below the action levels for lead and copper.

SPECIAL LEAD AND COPPER NOTICE

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. SPRINGFIELD PWS is responsible for providing high quality drinking water and removing water system owned and controlled 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 in the portion of the service line you own, 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. 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.

IMPORTANT DRINKING WATER DEFINITIONS

90TH PERCENTILE: For lead and copper testing. 10% of test results are above this level and 90% are below this level.

ACTION LEVEL (AL): The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers requirements which a water system must follow.

HAA5: Haloacetic acids (mono-, di-, and tri-chloroacetic acid, and mono- and di-bromoacetic acid) as a group.

LOCATIONAL RUNNING ANNUAL AVERAGE (LRAA): The average of samples collected at a particular location, calculated from the most recent four quarters.

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 health risk. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

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.

MAXIMUM RESIDUAL DISINFECTANT LEVEL GOAL (MRDLG): 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 disinfectant use to control microbial contamination.

NEPHELOMETRIC TURBIDITY UNITS (NTU): A unit of measurement for turbidity.

POPULATION: 210,898. This is the equivalent residential population served including non-bill paying customers.

RANGE OF RESULTS: Shows the lowest and highest levels found during a testing period. If only one sample was taken, then this number equals the highest test result or highest value.

RUNNING ANNUAL AVERAGE (RAA): The average of sample analytical results for samples taken during the previous four calendar quarters.

TOTAL TRIHALOMETHANES (TTHM): Total trihalomethanes (chloroform, bromodichloromethane, dibromochloromethane, and bromoform) as a group.

TREATMENT TECHNIQUE (TT): A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

TURBIDITY: A measure of the cloudiness or clarity of water. It is monitored because it is a good indicator of both water quality and the effectiveness of our filtration system.

UNIT DESCRIPTIONS & DEFINITIONS

Grains Per Gallon (GPG):
measure of hardness 1 GPG = 17.1 ppm

Parts Per Million (ppm):
or milligrams per liter (mg/L)

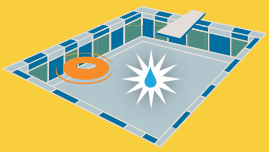
Parts Per Billion (ppb):
or micrograms per liter (µg/L)

Not Detected (ND):
not detectable at testing limits

Parts per Trillion (ppt):
or nanograms per Liter (ng/L)

MEASUREMENTS

Parts Per Million
1 drop in a 10-gallon fish tank



Parts Per Billion
1 drop in a 10,000-gallon swimming pool

EPA's Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR) Results

Detected Compound	Collection Date of Highest Value	Highest Value	Range of Sample Results	RAA	Unit
Lithium, Total	3/26/2024	10.7	0 - 10.7	N/A	ppb
Perfluorobutane Sulfonic Acid (PFBS)	3/26/2024	3.03	0 - 3.03	N/A	ppt
Perfluorooctane Sulfonic Acid (PFOS)	9/25/2024	4.3	0 - 4.3	1.075	ppt
Perfluoroctanoic Acid (PFOA)	9/25/2024	1.3	0 - 1.3	N/A	ppt
Perfluorohexane Sulfonic Acid (PFHxS)	9/25/2024	2.5	0 - 2.5	N/A	ppt

PFAS Routine Monitoring via Contracted Laboratory

Compound	Year Sampled	Blackman Treatment Plant		Fulbright Treatment Plant		RAA Future MCL 2029
		RAA (ppt)	Range Detected (ppt)	RAA (ppt)	Range Detected (ppt)	
Perfluorooctane Sulfonic Acid (PFOS)	2025	2.0	ND - 5.8	ND	ND	4.0
Perfluorobutanoic Acid (PFBA)	2025	1.1	ND - 2.6	0.5	ND - 2.0	N/A
Perfluorobutane Sulfonic Acid (PFBS)	2025	0.7	ND - 2.7	0.7	ND - 2.7	N/A
Perfluorohexane Sulfonic Acid (PFHxS)	2025	1	ND - 4.0	ND	ND	10

Some people who drink water containing PFOS in excess of the MCL over many years may have increased health risks such as cardiovascular, immune and liver effects, as well as increased incidence of certain types of cancers including liver cancer. In addition, there may be increased risks of developmental and immune effects for people who drink water containing PFOS in excess of the MCL following repeated exposure during pregnancy and/or childhood.

WHAT ARE THE SOURCES OF CONTAMINANTS?

As water travels over the land's surface or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can be polluted by animals or human activity. Contaminants that might be expected in untreated water include microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria; inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals; organic chemicals from pesticides, herbicides and industrial or petroleum use; and radioactive materials. 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: 800-426-4791.

CITY UTILITIES OF SPRINGFIELD
WATER QUALITY SUMMARY 2025

Detected Contaminants	Units	MCLG	MCL	Average Level	Range Detected	Compliance	Major Sources
Treatment Plants							
Dalapon	ppb	200	200	1.00	0 - 1	Yes	Runoff from herbicide used on rights-of-way
Fluoride	ppm	4	4	0.57	0.03 - 0.85	Yes	Added during treatment for dental health or dissolved from natural deposits
Total Chlorine	ppm	4 (MRDLG)	4 (MRDL)	1.53	1.02 - 2.30	Yes	Water additive used for disinfection
Barium	ppm	2	2	0.066	0.052 - 0.111	Yes	Discharge of drilling wastes or from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate	ppm	10	10	0.54	ND (< 0.01) - 1.68	Yes	Runoff from fertilizer; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Nitrite	ppm	1	1	ND (< 0.01)	ND (< 0.01)	Yes	Runoff from fertilizer; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Total Organic Carbon	ppm	N/A	TT:0	1.58	0.36 - 2.62	Yes	Naturally occurring
Turbidity	NTU	N/A	TT: at least 95% of samples < 0.3 NTU	Highest Single Measurement = 0.19 Percentage of samples < 0.3 NTU = 100% Fully Compliant - all 12 months		Yes	Soil runoff

SPECIAL HEALTH INFORMATION

Some people may be more vulnerable to certain types of contamination in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised individuals, people with cancer who are undergoing chemotherapy, people who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/ AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly persons, and infants can be particularly at risk for infections. These people should seek advice from their healthcare provider. Environmental Protection Agency and Centers for Disease Control guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the EPA hotline listed below:

Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline: 800-426-4791

Detected Contaminants	Units	MCLG	MCL	Highest LRAA	Range Detected	Compliance	Major Sources
Distribution System							
Total Trihalomethanes	ppb	N/A	80 (LRAA)	62.5	20.2 - 92.4	Yes	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Haloacetic Acids	ppb	N/A	60 (LRAA)	41	4.5 - 62.1	Yes	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Lead	ppb	0	AL = 15	2025* Testing Results: 90th Percentile Values: 5.3	Range Detected: < 1.0 - 14.8	Yes	Corrosion of household plumbing; erosion of natural deposits
Copper	ppm	1.3	AL = 1.3	0.095	< 0.02 - 0.1942	Yes	
Total Coliform Bacteria	% positive samples	0	Coliform bacteria in no more than 5% of samples	2025 testing - highest monthly % positive: 0.81% November		Yes	Naturally present in the environment, two Coliform and one *E. coli* in 1,480 tests during 2025

Additional Monitoring Data (General Water Quality Parameters)					
Analyte	Units	Average	Range	Comments	Major Sources
Hardness	GPG	8.1	4.3 - 12.0	Hardness refers to the mineral content of water. Calcium and magnesium are the main contributors to water hardness.	Erosion of Natural Deposits
	ppm	137.3	73.8 - 205.8		

Violations and Health Effects Information

Compliance Period	Analyte	Type	Status
12/30/2025	LEAD & COPPER RULE	LEAD CONSUMER NOTICE (LCR)	RESOLVED

* System-wide testing of representative homes for lead and copper (which may be imparted to the water from plumbing and fixtures) was conducted in one round of reduced monitoring during 2025.

City Utilities

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