

*The 2025
Drinking Water Quality Report for
WALSH RURAL WATER DISTRICT*

We're pleased to present to you this year's Drinking Water Quality Report. This report is designed to inform you about the safe clean water we deliver to you every day. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water.

We are receiving our water from the City of Park River, which uses ground water from the Fordville Aquifer as its supply source. For information regarding your supply source, contact our office. We have a standby emergency supply from the City of Grafton.

Our public water system, in cooperation with the North Dakota Department of Health, has completed the delineation and contaminant/land use inventory elements of the North Dakota Source Water Protection Program. Based on the information from these elements, the North Dakota Department of Health has determined that our source water is moderately susceptible to potential contaminants. A Source Water Assessment Report is available for viewing. For more information contact Brian Reilly at (701) 352-3915.

The water we provide is treated with fluoride addition as a part of the water treatment process to enhance dental health. For information regarding the level of fluoride in the finished water provided to our consumers, please contact our office at 701-352-3915.

This report has required definitions of terms, language requirements, tables of water quality data, and other pertinent information you will hopefully find interesting and educational. If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact Brian Reilly, our manager, at (701) 352-3915. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled meetings. They are held at the Walsh Rural Water District office on the third Thursday of each month at 8:30 A.M. If you are aware of non-English speaking individuals who need help with the appropriate language translation, please call Mr. Reilly at the number listed above.

Walsh Rural Water District would appreciate it if large volume water customers post copies of this Drinking Water Quality Report in conspicuous locations or distribute them to tenants, residents, patients, students, and/or employees, so individuals who consume the water, but do not receive a water bill can learn about our water quality. Additional copies may be obtained at our office.

Walsh Rural Water District routinely monitors for contaminants in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. This table shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1st to December 31st, 2025. As authorized and approved by EPA, the state has reduced monitoring requirements for certain contaminants to less often than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year. Some of our dates, though representative, are more than one year old.

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 effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water hotline (800-426-4791).

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:

Microbial Contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operation, and wildlife.

Inorganic Contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban stormwater 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 stormwater runoff, and residential uses. (Pesticide: Generally, any substance or mixture of substances intended for preventing, destroying, repelling, or mitigating any pest. Herbicide: Any chemical(s) used to control undesirable vegetation.)

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.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) prescribes regulations which 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 which must provide the same protection for public health.

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/Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (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.

Unregulated Contaminants are those for which EPA has not established drinking water standards. The purpose of unregulated contaminant monitoring is to assist EPA in determining the occurrence of unregulated contaminants in drinking water and whether future regulation is warranted.

There is no safe level of lead in drinking water. Exposure to lead in drinking water can cause serious health effects in all groups, especially pregnant people, infants (both formula-fed and breastfed), and young children. Some of the health effects to infants and children include decreases in IQ and attention span. Lead exposure can also result in new or worsened learning and behavior problems. The children of persons who are exposed to lead before or during pregnancy may be at increased risk of these harmful health effects. Adults have increased risks of heart disease, high blood pressure, kidney or nervous system problems. Contact your healthcare for more information about your risks.

Lead can cause serious health effects in people of all ages, especially pregnant people, infants (both formula-fed and breastfed), and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and parts used in service lines and home plumbing. Walsh Rural Water District is responsible for providing high quality drinking water and removing lead pipes but cannot control the variety of materials used in the plumbing in your home.

Because lead levels may vary over time, lead exposure is possible even when your tap sampling results do not detect lead at one point in time. You can help protect yourself and your family by identifying and removing lead materials within your home plumbing and taking steps to reduce your family's risk. Using a filter, certified by and American National Standard Institute accredited certifier to reduce lead, is effective in reducing lead exposures. Follow the instructions provided with the filter to ensure the filter is used properly.

Use only cold water for drinking, cooking, and making baby formula. Boiling water does not remove lead from water. Before using tap water for drinking, cooking, or making baby formula, flush your pipes for several minutes. You can do this by running the tap, taking a shower, doing laundry or load of dishes. If you have a lead service line or galvanized requiring replacement service line, you need to flush your pipes for a longer period. If you are concerned about lead in

your water and wish to have your water tested, contact Walsh Rural Water District at 701-352-3915. 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>.

USEPA has recently published the Lead and Copper Rule Revision. The purpose of this revision is to strengthen public health protections by removing lead service lines within public water systems. One requirement of this revision was to inventory all drinking water service lines within our public water system and notify consumers which type of line serves each property. You may have recently received a letter from our system with this information.

The inventory is a listing of all service lines and the material composition of each line. The types of lines being documented are lead lines, Galvanized Requiring Replacement (GRR) and lines made of Unknown Material. Classification of a service line as being comprised of Unknown Service Line material indicates that our system cannot currently confirm the material of both the public and private portions of the line with written records. Non-lead lines were also documented; however, we were not required to notify consumers with documented nonlead lines. The classification of the type of service line serving a residence was based on historical data regarding the property and in some cases verification of the type of material on the privately owned side of the line by visual inspection or replacement records of the owner.

The current Service Line Inventory for our system has been completed and is available for viewing at our office. Please contact Walsh Rural Water District at 701-352-3915 should you have any questions.

In this table you will find many terms and abbreviations you might not be familiar with. To help you better understand these terms we've provided the following definitions:

Non-Detects (ND) – laboratory analysis indicates that the contaminant is not present.

Non-Applicable (N/A) – does not apply.

Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/l) – one part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in \$10,000.

Parts per billion (ppb) or Micrograms per liter (g/l) – on part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years or a single penny in \$10,000,000.

Parts per trillion (ppt) or Nanograms per liter (nanograms/l) –one part per trillion corresponds to one minute in 2,000,000 years or a single penny in \$10,000,000,000.

Parts per quadrillion (ppq) or Picograms per liter (picograms/l) – one part per quadrillion corresponds to one minute in 2,000,000,000 years or one penny in \$10,000,000,000,000.

Picocuries per liter (pCi/L) – picocuries per liter is a measure of the radioactivity in water.

Millirems per year (mrem/yr) – measure of radiation absorbed by the body.

Million Fibers per Liter (MFL) – million fibers per liter is a measure of the presence of asbestos fibers that are longer than 10 micrometers.

Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU) – nephelometric turbidity unit is a measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.

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

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

Maximum Contaminant Level – The “Maximum Allowed” (MCL) is 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 – The “Goal” (MCLG) is 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.

Variances and Exemptions: State or EPA permission not to meet an MCL or a treatment technique under certain conditions.

Maximum Residual Disinfection 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 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.

Monitored Not Regulated – (MNR) Monitored Not Regulated.

Maximum Permissible Level – (MPL) State Assigned Maximum Permissible Level.

Highest Compliance Level – The Highest level of that contaminant used to determine compliance with a National Primacy Drinking Water Regulation.

Range of Detections – The lowest to the highest result value recorded during the required monitoring timeframe for systems with multiple entry points.

Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. The City of Grafton monitors it because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of their filtration system.

EPA requires monitoring for over 80 drinking water contaminants. As you can see by the tables, our system had no violations. We have learned through our monitoring and testing that some contaminants have been detected. We're proud that your drinking water meets or exceeds all current Federal or State requirements. The EPA has determined that your water IS SAFE.

Thank you for allowing us to provide your family with clean, quality water this year. Walsh Rural Water District works round the clock to provide top quality water to every tap. We ask that all our consumers help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community, our way of life, and our children's future.

WATER REPORT CON'T WITH GRAPHS ON PAGE 10

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