

# **Consumer Confidence Report 2017**

## **Montello Waterworks**

We are pleased to present to you this year's Annual Quality Water Report. This report is designed to inform you about the quality water and services 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.

### **Water System Information**

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact Michael Kohnke at (608) 297-2416. 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 Public Works meetings. They are held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of every month at the Montello Municipal Building starting at 7:00pm.

### **Health Information**

“All sources of drinking water, including bottled water, are subject to potential contamination by constituents that are naturally occurring or is man made. Those constituents can be microbes, organic or inorganic chemicals, or radioactive materials.”

The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. For more information about contaminants and potential health effects, you may call the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 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 advise about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

### **Sources of Water**

Our groundwater is pumped into the distribution system and water tower from two deep wells of 150' and 200'. Chlorine is added at the source and tested daily to ensure that proper residuals are met. Water samples are taken twice a month from different locations and tested for bacteria. The source water at the wells is also tested every three months. Of the 24 distribution samples taken in 2017, no samples were reported unsafe from the State Lab of Hygiene.

## Disinfection Byproducts

Contaminant	Site	MCL	MCLG	Level Found	Range	Sample Date (if prior to 2017)	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
TTHM (ppb)	11	80	0	1.8	1.8		No	By product of drinking water chlorination
HAAS (ppb)	11	60	60	1	1		No	By product of drinking water chlorination

## Inorganic Contaminants

Contaminant	Site	MCL	MCLG	Level Found	Range	Sample Date (if prior to 2017)	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
Barium (ppm)		2	2	.020	.017-.020		NO	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Chromium (ppb)		100	100	2	2-2		NO	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; Erosion of natural deposits
Copper (ppm)		AL=1.3	1.3	.1200	0 of 10 results were above the action level		NO	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching of wood preservatives
Lead (ppb)		AL=15	0	3.60	0 of 10 results were above the action level		NO	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride		4	4	0.1	0.1-0.1		NO	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Nickel (ppb)		100		0.6500	0.6000-0.6500		NO	Nickel occurs naturally in soils, ground water and surface waters and is often used in electroplating, stainless steel and alloy products.
Nitrate (N03-N) (ppm)		10	10	3.50	2.70-3.50		NO	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic Tanks, sewage; erosion of natural products

Sodium (ppm)		N/A	N/A	18.00	15.00-18.00		NO	N/A
--------------	--	-----	-----	-------	-------------	--	----	-----

\* Systems exceeding a lead and/or copper action level must take actions to reduce lead and/or copper in the drinking water. The lead and copper values represent the 90<sup>th</sup> percentile of all compliance samples collected. If you want information on the number of sites or the action taken to reduce these levels, please contact your water supply operator.

## Radioactive Contaminants

Contaminant	Site	MCL	MCLG	Level Found	Range	Sample Date (if prior to 2016)	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
Radium, (226 + 228) (pCi/l)		5	0	1.5	1.4-1.5	8/12/2014	No	Erosion of natural deposits

## Additional Health Information

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. Montello Waterworks 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 [www.epa.gov/safewater/lead](http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead).

Term	Definition
AL	Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
Level 1 Assessment	A Level 1 assessment is a study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine, if possible, why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system.
Level 2 Assessment	A Level 2 assessment is a very detailed study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine, if possible, why an E. coli MCL violation has occurred or why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system, or both, on multiple occasions.
MCL	Maximum Contaminant Level: The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCL's 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 risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.
MFL	Million fibers per liter
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.
mrem/year	Millirems per year (a measure of radiation absorbed by the body)

NTU	Nephelometric Turbidity Units
pCi/l	picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)
ppm	parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/l)
ppb	parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (ug/l)
ppt	parts per trillion, or nanograms per liter
ppq	parts per quadrillion, or picograms per liter
TCR	Total Coliform Rule
TT	Treatment Technique: A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water

We are pleased to report that our water is safe and meets federal and state requirements. This report shows our water quality and what it means.

The Montello Water Dept. routinely monitors for constituents in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. This table, along with the definition of terms, shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1, 2017 to December 31, 2017.

As you can see from the table, there were no violations to report in 2017. We have learned through our monitoring and testing that some elevated levels of lead do occur. Although the table shows no violations for lead, there have been times in past tests where at least 1 out of the 13 sites tested for lead did show levels above the action level of 15 ppm. Follow up tests did, however, reveal lower levels.

Infants and young children are typically more vulnerable to lead in drinking water than the general population. It is possible that lead levels at your home may be higher than at other homes in the community as a result of materials used in your home's plumbing. If you are concerned about elevated lead levels in your home's water, you may wish to have your water tested and flush your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using tap water. Additional information is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

MCL's are set at very stringent levels. To understand the possible health effects described for many regulated constituents, a person would have to drink 2 liters of water every day at the MCL level for a lifetime to have a one-in-a-million chance of having the described health effects. Lead in drinking water is rarely the sole cause of lead poisoning, but it can add to a person's total lead exposure. All potential sources of lead in the household should be identified and removed, replaced or reduced.

In our continuing efforts to maintain a safe and dependable water supply it may be necessary to make improvements in your water system. The costs of these improvements may be reflected in the rate structure. Rate adjustments may be necessary in order to address these improvements.

Please call our office if you have any questions.

We at the Montello Water Department work round the clock to provide top quality water to every tap. We ask that all our customers help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community, our way of life and our children's future.

Thank You,

Montello Water Department

Copies of this report are available at Montello City Hall, located @ 20 Underwood Ave., on the city's website at [www.cityofmontello.com](http://www.cityofmontello.com), or mailed upon request.