2025 Annual Water Quality Report

Town of Mills

PWS WY5600036

Spanish (Espanol)

Este informe contiene informacion muy importante sobre la calidad de su agua beber. Traduscalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

Is my water safe?

We are pleased to present this year's Annual Water Quality Report (Consumer Confidence Report) as required by the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). This report is designed to provide details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to standards set by regulatory agencies. This report is a snapshot of last year's water quality. We are committed to providing you with information because informed customers are our best allies.

Do I need to take special precautions?

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 healthcare providers. EPA/Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidelines on appropriate measures to reduce the risk of infection from Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

Where does my water come from?

Our water source is the North Platte River and 7 wells under direct influence of the Platte River.

Source water assessment and its availability

Our source water assessment is available on the Town of Mills website http://millwy.gov, Town Hall, and at the Water Treatment Plant.

Why are there contaminants in my drinking 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 (EPA) Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791). The sources of drinking water (both tap and bottled) 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: microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, that 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 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; 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 stormwater runoff, and septic systems; and 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, EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits on contaminants in bottled water that must provide the same level of public health protection.

How can I get involved?

If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled council meetings. They are held on the second and fourth Tuesday of every month at 7:00 pm at Mills Town Hall.

Description of Water Treatment Process

Your water is treated by filtration and disinfection. Filtration removes particles suspended in the source water. Particles typically include clays and silts, natural organic matter, iron and manganese, and microorganisms. Your water is also treated by disinfection. Disinfection

involves the addition of chlorine or other disinfectants to kill bacteria and other microorganisms (viruses, cysts, etc.) that may be in the water. Disinfection is considered to be one of the major public health advances of the 20th century.

Water Conservation Tips

Did you know that the average U.S. household uses approximately 400 gallons of water per day or 100 gallons per person per day? Luckily, there are many low-cost and no-cost ways to conserve water. Small changes can make a big difference - try one today and soon it will become second nature.

- Take short showers - a 5-minute shower uses 4 to 5 gallons of water compared to up to 50 gallons for a bath.
- Shut off water while brushing your teeth, washing your hair, and shaving, and save up to 500 gallons a month.
- Use a water-efficient showerhead. They're inexpensive, easy to install, and can save you up to 750 gallons a month.
- Run your clothes washer and dishwasher only when they are full. You can save up to 1,000 gallons a month.
- Water plants only when necessary.
- Fix leaky toilets and faucets. Faucet washers are inexpensive and take only a few minutes to replace. To check your toilet for a leak, place a few drops of food coloring in the tank and wait. If it seeps into the toilet bowl without flushing, you have a leak. Fixing it or replacing it with a new, more efficient model can save up to 1,000 gallons a month.
- Adjust sprinklers so only your lawn is watered. Apply water only as fast as the soil can absorb it, and do so during the cooler parts of the day to reduce evaporation.
- Teach your kids about water conservation to ensure a future generation that uses water wisely. Make it a family effort to reduce next month's water bill!
- Visit www.epa.gov/watersense for more information.

Cross Connection Control Survey

The purpose of this survey is to determine whether a cross-connection may exist at your home or business. A cross connection is an unprotected or improper connection to a public water distribution system that may cause contamination or pollution to enter the system. We are responsible for enforcing cross-connection control regulations and insuring that no contaminants can, under any flow conditions, enter the distribution system. If you have any of the devices listed below please contact us so that we can discuss the issue, and if needed, survey your connection and assist you in isolating it if that is necessary.

- Boiler/ Radiant heater (water heaters not included)
- Underground lawn sprinkler system
- Pool or hot tub (whirlpool tubs not included)
- Additional source(s) of water on the property
- Decorative pond
- Watering trough

Source Water Protection Tips

Protection of drinking water is everyone's responsibility. You can help protect your community's drinking water source in several ways:

- Eliminate excess use of lawn and garden fertilizers and pesticides - they contain hazardous chemicals that can reach your drinking water source.
- Pick up after your pets.
- If you have your own septic system, properly maintain your system to reduce leaching to water sources or consider connecting to a public water system.
- Dispose of chemicals properly; take used motor oil to a recycling center.
- Volunteer in your community. Find a watershed or wellhead protection organization in your community and volunteer to help. If there are no active groups, consider starting one. Use EPA's Adopt Your Watershed to locate groups in your community, or visit the Watershed Information Network's How to Start a Watershed Team.
- Organize a storm drain stenciling project with your local government or water supplier. Stencil a message next to the street drain reminding people "Dump No Waste - Drains to River" or "Protect Your Water." Produce and distribute a flyer for households to remind residents that storm drains dump directly into their local water body.

Violations and Exceedances
MCL, LRAA
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)
January 01 2025- March 31 2025

Our water system violated drinking water requirements over the past year. Even though these were not emergencies, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened and what we are did to correct this situation. In July and October of 2024 we found amounts of Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) that were over the MCL. We were able to flush the system and bring these levels down to an acceptable amount. We are continuing to further monitor and remove TTHM contaminants.

Some people who drink water containing trihalomethanes in excess of the MCL over many years

may experience problems with their liver, kidneys, or central nervous systems, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

Significant Deficiencies

• Ozone and Clearwell Lid Gaskets: Two deficiencies related to lid gaskets needing replacement on the ozone and clearwell chambers. These were completed on March 30, 2026.

• Ozone and Clearwell Lid Height: Two deficiencies required raising the ozone and clearwell lids to a minimum of four inches. The lids have been ordered but have not yet been installed.

• Tank 1 Vent: The vent on Tank 1 needed to be raised to terminate no lower than 24 inches. This was completed on April 4, 2026.

• Combined Effluent Turbidity Location: The turbidity sampling location needed to be moved for more consistent and accurate readings. This was completed on March 30, 2026.

• Cross-Connections and Backflow Protection: Unprotected cross-connections and inadequate backflow protection were identified. Six blind flanges were installed to eliminate cross-connections in three areas, and a 2-inch backflow preventer was installed to prevent contamination. This deficiency remains open due to the need to replace a 6-inch backflow preventer. The unit is on site and awaiting scheduling for installation.

Additional Information for Lead

The system inventory does not include lead service lines.

The City of Mills used a combination of historical, as-built, and field inspection data to determine the type of service line material. The details and information pertaining to the lead service line inventory can be accessed at the City of Mills Public Works Department.

Lead can cause serious health effects in people of all ages, especially pregnant women, infants, and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. MILLS, CITY OF, 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. Because lead levels can vary over time, lead exposure is possible even when your tap sampling results do not detect lead at a given point in time. 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. Use only cold water for drinking, cooking, and making baby formula. Boiling water does

not remove lead from water. If you have a lead service line or galvanized requiring replacement service line, you may need to flush your pipes for a longer period. 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 MILLS, CITY OF (Public Watersystem Id: WY5600036) by calling 307-234-6679 or emailing ccoates@millswy.gov. 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.

Water Quality Data Table

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The table below lists all of the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the calendar year of this report. Although many more contaminants were tested, only those substances listed below were found in your water. All sources of drinking water contain some naturally occurring contaminants. At low levels, these substances are generally not harmful in our drinking water. Removing all contaminants would be extremely expensive, and in most cases, would not provide increased protection of public health. A few naturally occurring minerals may actually improve the taste of drinking water and have nutritional value at low levels. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table is from testing done in the calendar year of the report. The EPA or the State requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not vary significantly from year to year, or the system is not considered vulnerable to this type of contamination. As such, some of our data, though representative, may be more than one year old. In this table you will find terms and abbreviations that might not be familiar to you. To help you better understand these terms, we have provided the definitions below the table.

Contaminants	MCLG or MRDLG	MCL, TT, or MRDL	Detect In Your Water	Range		Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
				Low	High			
Disinfectants & Disinfection By-Products								
(There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants)								
Chlorine (as Cl2) (ppm)	4	4	0.74	0.48	0.74	2024	No	Water additive used to control microbes
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (ppb)	NA	60	26	15	29	2025	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination

Contaminants	MCLG or MRDLG	MCL, TT, or MRDL	Detect In Your Water	Range		Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
				Low	High			
TTHMs [Total Trihalomethanes] (ppb)	NA	80	79	55	79	2025	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Inorganic Contaminants								
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	0.4	0.4	0.4	2023	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Nitrate [measured as Nitrogen] (ppm)	10	10	1.39	1.39	1.39	2025	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Selenium (ppb)	50	50	23	23	23	2023	No	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from mines
Microbiological Contaminants								
Turbidity (NTU)	NA	0.3	100	NA	NA	2025	No	Soil runoff
100% of the samples were below the TT value of .3. A value less than 95% constitutes a TT violation. The highest single measurement was .257. Any measurement in excess of 1 is a violation unless otherwise approved by the state.								

Contaminants	MCLG	AL	90th Percentile	Range		# Samples Exceeding AL	Sample Date	Exceeds AL	Typical Source
				Low	High				
Inorganic Contaminants									
Copper - action level at consumer taps (ppm)	1.3	1.3	0.26	0	0.03	0	2025	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Lead - action level at consumer taps (ppb)	0	15	0	0	2	0	2025	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits

Undetected Contaminants

The following contaminants were monitored for, but not detected, in your water.

Contaminants	MCLG or MRDLG	MCL, TT, or MRDL	Your Water	Violation	Typical Source
11-chloroeicosafluoro-3-oxaundecane-1-sulfonic acid (11Cl-PF3OUdS) (ppb)	NA		ND	No	
1H,1H, 2H, 2H-perfluorodecane sulfonic acid (8:2FTS) (mg/L)	NA		ND	No	
1H,1H, 2H, 2H-perfluorohexane sulfonic acid (4:2FTS) (mg/L)	NA		ND	No	
1H,1H, 2H, 2H-perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (6:2FTS) (mg/L)	NA		ND	No	
4,8-dioxa-3H-perfluorononanoic acid (ADONA) (ppb)	NA		ND	No	
9-chlorohexadecafluoro-3-oxanonane-1-sulfonic acid (9Cl-PF3ONS) (ppb)	NA		ND	No	
hexafluoropropylene oxide dimer acid (HFPO DA) (mg/L)	NA		ND	No	
nonafluoro-3,6-dioxaheptanoic acid (NFDHA) (mg/L)	NA		ND	No	
perfluoro(2-ethoxyethane)sulfonic acid (PFEESA) (mg/L)	NA		ND	No	
perfluoro-3-methoxypropanoic acid (PFMPA) (mg/L)	NA		ND	No	
perfluoro-4-methoxybutanoic acid (PFMBA) (mg/L)	NA		ND	No	
perfluorobutanesulfonic acid (PFBS) (mg/L)	NA		ND	No	
perfluorobutanoic acid (PFBA) (mg/L)	NA		ND	No	
perfluorodecanoic acid (PFDA) (mg/L)	NA		ND	No	
perfluorododecanoic acid (PFDoA) (mg/L)	NA		ND	No	
perfluoroheptanesulfonic acid (PFHpS) (mg/L)	NA		ND	No	
perfluoroheptanoic acid (PFHpA) (mg/L)	NA		ND	No	
perfluorohexanesulfonic acid (PFHxS) (mg/L)	NA		ND	No	
perfluorohexanoic acid (PFHxA) (mg/L)	NA		ND	No	
perfluorononanoic acid (PFNA) (mg/L)	NA		ND	No	
perfluorooctanesulfonic acid (PFOS) (mg/L)	NA		ND	No	
perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) (mg/L)	NA		ND	No	
perfluoropentanesulfonic acid (PFPeS) (mg/L)	NA		ND	No	
perfluoropentanoic acid (PFPeA) (mg/L)	NA		ND	No	
perfluoroundecanoic acid (PFUnA) (mg/L)	NA		ND	No	

Additional Monitoring

As part of an ongoing evaluation program, the EPA has required us to monitor some additional contaminants/chemicals. Information collected through the monitoring of these contaminants/chemicals will help to ensure that future decisions on drinking water standards are based on sound science.

Name	Reported Level	Range	
		Low	High
11-chloroeicosafluoro-3-oxaundecane-1-sulfonic acid (11Cl-PF3OUdS) (ppb)	NA	NA	NA
1H,1H, 2H, 2H-perfluorodecane sulfonic acid (8:2FTS) (mg/L)	NA	NA	NA
1H,1H, 2H, 2H-perfluorohexane sulfonic acid (4:2FTS) (mg/L)	NA	NA	NA
1H,1H, 2H, 2H-perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (6:2FTS) (mg/L)	NA	NA	NA
4,8-dioxa-3H-perfluorononanoic acid (ADONA) (ppb)	NA	NA	NA
9-chlorohexadecafluoro-3-oxanonane-1-sulfonic acid (9Cl-PF3ONS) (ppb)	NA	NA	NA
hexafluoropropylene oxide dimer acid (HFPO DA) (mg/L)	NA	NA	NA
lithium (mg/L)	0.817	0.817	0.817
nonafluoro-3,6-dioxaheptanoic acid (NFDHA) (mg/L)	NA	NA	NA
perfluoro(2-ethoxyethane)sulfonic acid (PFEESA) (mg/L)	NA	NA	NA
perfluoro-3-methoxypropanoic acid (PFMPA) (mg/L)	NA	NA	NA
perfluoro-4-methoxybutanoic acid (PFMBA) (mg/L)	NA	NA	NA
perfluorobutanesulfonic acid (PFBS) (mg/L)	NA	NA	NA
perfluorobutanoic acid (PFBA) (mg/L)	NA	NA	NA
perfluorodecanoic acid (PFDA) (mg/L)	NA	NA	NA
perfluorododecanoic acid (PFDoA) (mg/L)	NA	NA	NA
perfluoroheptanesulfonic acid (PFHpS) (mg/L)	NA	NA	NA
perfluoroheptanoic acid (PFHpA) (mg/L)	NA	NA	NA
perfluorohexanesulfonic acid (PFHxS) (mg/L)	NA	NA	NA
perfluorohexanoic acid (PFHxA) (mg/L)	NA	NA	NA
perfluorononanoic acid (PFNA) (mg/L)	NA	NA	NA
perfluorooctanesulfonic acid (PFOS) (mg/L)	NA	NA	NA
perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) (mg/L)	NA	NA	NA
perfluoropentanesulfonic acid (PFPeS) (mg/L)	NA	NA	NA
perfluoropentanoic acid (PFPeA) (mg/L)	NA	NA	NA
perfluoroundecanoic acid (PFUnA) (mg/L)	NA	NA	NA

Unit Descriptions	
Term	**Definition**
ppm	ppm: parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/L)
ppb	ppb: parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (µg/L)
mg/L	mg/L: Number of milligrams of substance in one liter of water
NTU	NTU: Nephelometric Turbidity Units. Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filtration system.
NA	NA: not applicable
ND	ND: Not detected
NR	NR: Monitoring not required, but recommended.

Important Drinking Water Definitions	
Term	**Definition**
MCLG	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.
MCL	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.
TT	TT: Treatment Technique: A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
AL	AL: Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant that, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.
Variances and Exemptions	Variances and Exemptions: State or EPA permission not to meet an MCL or a treatment technique under certain conditions.
MRDLG	MRDLG: Maximum residual disinfection 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 using disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.
MRDL	MRDL: Maximum residual disinfectant level. The highest level of disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that the addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.
MNR	MNR: Monitored Not Regulated
MPL	MPL: State Assigned Maximum Permissible Level
90th Percentile	Compliance with the lead and copper action levels is based on the 90th percentile lead and copper levels. This means that the concentration of lead and copper must be less than or equal to the action level in at least 90% of the samples collected.

As part of an ongoing evaluation program, the EPA has required us to monitor for some contaminants in drinking water that are not currently regulated.

Under the Fifth Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR5), EPA is gathering information on the occurrence of 29 per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) and lithium in drinking water. UCMR5 is intended to improve understanding about the presence and quantity of these substances in public drinking water systems, and EPA often does not have full knowledge of the health effects for these unregulated contaminants. The UCMR5 data collected on PFAS and lithium from drinking water systems will help the EPA make determinations about future regulations and other actions to protect public health under the Safe Drinking Water Act. The process of developing regulatory standards is careful, deliberative, and data-based. Monitoring for contaminants that are not regulated

also helps federal, state, and other researchers prioritize studies for health effects information, identify data gaps, and determine the need for future studies to improve our understanding of the possible health risks associated with these contaminants in public drinking water. Information collected through the monitoring of these contaminants will help to ensure that future decisions on drinking water standards are based on sound science. For more information about UCMR5, visit https://www.epa.gov/dwucmr/fifth-unregulated-contaminant-monitoring-rule.

Lithium is a naturally occurring metal and may be found at higher concentrations in certain parts of the country, particularly in groundwater sources in arid locations in the Western U.S.

Lithium has been used in pharmaceuticals for a long time to treat certain medical conditions under the care of a physician. Despite the abundance of information on patients receiving lithium at therapeutic levels, there has historically been limited information available to evaluate health risks in people at the levels associated with typical drinking water consumption, which are thought to be much lower than patients prescribed lithium as a therapy. Getting a better understanding of how much environmental lithium the public may be exposed to is one of the reasons the EPA is choosing to monitor for the presence and levels of lithium in drinking water systems around the country.

At present, EPA cannot confidently estimate the risk for people with lithium exposures from drinking water between the UCMR5 reporting limit of 9 µg/L (micrograms per liter) and a much higher concentration equivalent to a therapeutic dose. Therapeutic doses of lithium generally range from 600 to 1,200 mg/day (milligrams per day), which would be the equivalent of drinking water containing ≥ 240,000 µg/L lithium. The science on the potential for lithium's effects on human health, and at what levels, including those which may be present in the environment, is still evolving.

For more information on lithium, visit https://www.epa.gov/dwucmr/fifth-unregulated-contaminant-monitoring-rule#lithium.

For more information please contact:

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