

# **2014 ANNUAL DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT**

The drinking water quality information in the report below covers the period of January 2014 to December 2014.

## **2014 Consumer Confidence Report Data SOMERS WATER UTILITY**

### **Water System Information**

If you would like to know more about the information contained in this report, please contact William Morris at (262) 859-2822.

### **Opportunity for input on decisions affecting your water quality**

The Somers Water Utility Water Commission meets on the fourth Tuesday of each month following the Town Board meeting at 7pm at Somers Municipal Building, 7511 12<sup>th</sup> St., Somers, Wisconsin.

### **Health Information**

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).

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 systems 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/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Environmental Protection Agency's safe drinking water hotline (800-426-4791).

### **Sources of Water**

The Somers Water Utility has one source of water, the Kenosha Water Utility.

### **Educational Information**

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 include:

- Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which 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.
- 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 EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which shall provide the same protection for public health.

## Definitions

### Term Definition

AL	<b>Action Level:</b> The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
MCL	<b>Maximum Contaminant Level:</b> 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	<b>Maximum Contaminant Level Goal:</b> 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.
N/A	<b>Not Applicable</b>
ND	<b>Not Detected</b>
ppm	<b>parts per million</b> , or milligrams per liter (mg/l)
ppb	<b>parts per billion</b> , or micrograms per liter (µg/l)
TCR	<b>Total Coliform Rule</b>
TT	<b>Treatment Technique:</b> A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

## Detected Contaminants

Your water was tested for many contaminants last year. We are allowed to monitor for some contaminants less frequently than once a year. The following tables list only those contaminants which were detected in your water. If a contaminant was detected within the last 5 years, it will appear in the tables below along with the sample date.

## Microbiological Contaminants

Contaminant	MCL	MCLG	Count of Positives	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
COLIFORM (TCR)	presence of coliform bacteria in $\geq 5\%$ of monthly samples	0	1%	No	Naturally present in the environment

## Disinfection Byproducts

Contaminant (units)	Site	MCL	MCLG	Level Found	Range	Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
HAA5 (ppb)	17	60	60	12	7 - 17	2014	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
TTHM (ppb)	17	80	0	22.3	13.7 - 29.0	2014	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
HAA5 (ppb)	29	60	60	12	8 - 18	2014	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
TTHM (ppb)	29	80	0	33.8	24.1 - 45.7	2014	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
HAA5 (ppb)	5	60	60	11	7 - 14	2014	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
TTHM (ppb)	5	80	0	21.8	12.2 - 35.0	2014	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
HAA5 (ppb)	7	60	60	11	7 - 14	2014	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
TTHM (ppb)	7	80	0	22.1	13.3 - 34.5	2014	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination

## Inorganic Contaminants

Contaminant (units)	MCL	MCLG	Level Found	Range	Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
ARSENIC (ppb)	10	N/A	1	1	2014	No	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
BARIUM (ppm)	2	2	0.022	0.022	2014	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
CYANIDE (ppb)	200	200	9	9	2014	No	Discharge from steel/metal factories; discharge from plastic and fertilizer factories
FLUORIDE (ppm)	4	4	0.7	0.7	2014	No	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
NICKEL (ppb)	100		0.8600	0.8600	2014	No	Nickel occurs naturally in soils, ground water and surface waters and is often used in electroplating, stainless steel and alloy products.
NITRATE (NO3-N) (ppm)	10	10	0.54	0.54	2014	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
SODIUM (ppm)	N/A	N/A	15.00	15.00	2014	No	N/A

## Lead and Copper

Contaminant (units)	Action Level	MCLG	90th Percentile Level Found	# of Results	Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
COPPER (ppm)	AL=1.3	1.3	0.1000	0 of 30 results were above the action level.	2014	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
LEAD (ppb)	AL=15	0	6.20	1 of 30 results were above the action level.	2014	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits

## Radioactive Contaminants

Contaminant (units)	MCL	MCLG	Level Found	Range	Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
RADIUM, (226 + 228) (pCi/l)	5	0	1.5	1.5	2014	No	Erosion of natural deposits

## Turbidity Monitoring

Turbidity is the amount of cloudiness in the water. Turbidity can be caused by silt, sand and mud, bacteria and other germs or chemical precipitates. It is important to measure the turbidity of water supplies, because water treatment can be affected by turbidity. The level of turbidity may indicate the effectiveness of the treatment process.

Contaminant (units)	MCL	MCLG	Level Found	Range	Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
TURBIDITY (NTU)	0.30	N/A	0.049	0.023-0.049	2014	No	Runoff from soil

## Unregulated Contaminants

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

Contaminant (units)	Level Found	Range	Sample Date
SULFATE (ppm)	28.00	28.00	2014
CHROMIUM 6 (ppb)	0.247	0.190 - 0.247	2014
CHROMIUM Total (ppb)	1.220	0.241 - 1.220	2014
MOLYBDENUM (ppb)	1.1873	ND – 1.1873	2014
STRONTIUM (ppb)	127.365	117.625 – 127.365	2014
VANADIUM (ppb)	0.318	0.2407 – 0.318	2014

## Health effects for any contaminants with MCL violations/Action Level Exceedances

### Contaminant Health Effects

LEAD	Infants and children who drink water containing lead in excess of the action level could experience delays in their physical or mental development. Children could show slight deficits in attention span and learning abilities. Adults who drink this water over many years could develop kidney problems or high blood pressure.
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## **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. The Somers Water Utility 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 thirty seconds to two 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).

## **Information on Monitoring for Cryptosporidium and Radon**

Our water system did not monitor our water for cryptosporidium or radon during 2014. We were not required by state or federal drinking water regulations to do so.