

ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT

Reporting Year 2025



Presented By
City of Wayland

PWS ID#: 06940

Our Commitment

We are pleased to present to you this year's annual water quality report. This report is a snapshot of last year's water quality covering all testing performed between January 1 and December 31, 2025. Included are details about your source of water, what it contains, and how it compares to standards set by regulatory agencies. 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 and providing you with this information because informed customers are our best allies.

Where Does My Water Come From?

Our water sources are groundwater wells. Our wells draw from the Marshall and Glacial Aquifers. At each of our three well houses, we add chlorine as a disinfectant, fluoride, and a phosphate compound for corrosion control.

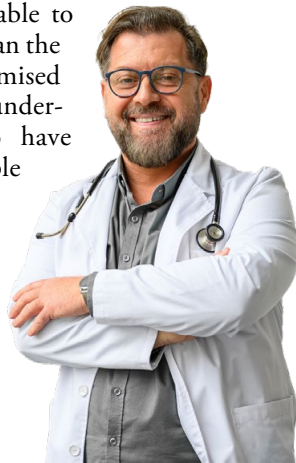
Source Water Assessment

The Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) performed an assessment of our source water in 2025 to determine the susceptibility of our source water to potential contamination. The susceptibility is on a scale from very low to very high based on geological sensitivity, water chemistry, well construction, and contaminant sources. It is important to understand that a higher susceptibility rating does not imply poor water quality, only the system's potential to become contaminated within the assessment area.

EGLE rated the susceptibility of Wells 3, 5, and 6 as moderate. To obtain a copy of the assessment report, please contact David Paul at (269) 792-0686.

Important Health Information

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 health-care providers. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. 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 at (800) 426-4791 or on U.S. EPA's website epa.gov/safewater.



Why We Test So Often

Drinking water is one of the most closely monitored resources in the United States. Water systems regularly test for bacteria, disinfectants, metals, organic chemicals, radioactive substances, and many other contaminants. Some tests are performed daily, while others are conducted weekly, monthly, quarterly, or annually, depending on regulatory requirements and system size. Microbiological testing for bacteria, such as coliforms, ensures that disinfection is working properly. Turbidity monitoring confirms effective filtration. Chemical testing verifies that treatment processes remain optimized. All certified laboratories must meet strict quality assurance requirements to ensure accurate results. When results approach regulatory limits, corrective actions are taken immediately.

Hard vs. Soft Water

Hard water contains higher levels of naturally occurring minerals, primarily calcium and magnesium. These minerals are not harmful to human health and can even contribute beneficial nutrients. However, hard water can cause scale buildup in pipes, appliances, and fixtures. Soft water has lower mineral content and allows soap to lather more easily. It also helps extend the life of water heaters, washing machines, and plumbing fixtures. Hardness levels vary widely depending on local geology and groundwater conditions. Some households choose to install water softeners to reduce scaling and improve appliance efficiency. It is important to note that water hardness is a quality issue, not a safety concern. Both hard and soft water supplied by public water systems meet all health-based drinking water standards.

Community Participation

You are invited to participate in our city council meetings and voice your concerns about your drinking water. We meet the first and third Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall. A schedule of city council meetings is posted on our website at cityofwayland.org.

QUESTIONS? For more information about this report, or for any questions relating to your drinking water, please call David Paul, Utilities Director, at (269) 792-0686.

What's a Cross-Connection?

Cross-connections that contaminate drinking water distribution lines are a major concern. A cross-connection is formed at any point where a drinking water line connects to equipment (boilers), systems containing chemicals (air-conditioning systems, fire sprinkler systems, irrigation systems), or water sources of questionable quality. Cross-connection contamination can occur when the pressure in the equipment or system is greater than the pressure inside the drinking water line (backpressure). Contamination can also occur when the pressure in the drinking water line drops due to fairly routine occurrences (main breaks, heavy water demand), causing contaminants to be sucked out from the equipment and into the drinking water line (backsiphonage).



Outside water taps and garden hoses tend to be the most common sources of cross-connection contamination at home. The garden hose creates a hazard when submerged in a swimming pool or attached to a chemical sprayer for weed killing. Garden hoses that are left lying on the ground may be contaminated by fertilizers, cesspools, or garden chemicals. Improperly installed valves in your toilet could also be a source of cross-connection contamination.

Community water supplies are continuously jeopardized by cross-connections unless appropriate valves, known as backflow prevention devices, are installed and maintained. We have surveyed industrial, commercial, and institutional facilities in the service area to make sure that potential cross-connections are identified and eliminated or protected by a backflow preventer. We also inspect and test backflow preventers to make sure that they provide maximum protection.

For more information on backflow prevention, contact the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

Microplastics in Drinking Water

Microplastics are tiny plastic particles smaller than a grain of rice that are now being detected in oceans, rivers, soils, and even the air. Scientists have also identified microplastics in drinking water supplies worldwide. These particles come from the breakdown of larger plastic products, synthetic clothing fibers, tire wear, and many everyday consumer items. Because plastics degrade slowly, microplastics are becoming increasingly widespread in the environment.

Modern water treatment processes, including filtration and sedimentation, remove a large portion of microplastics from source water. Advanced treatments, such as granular-activated carbon and membrane filtration, can further reduce microplastic levels.

Consumers interested in minimizing microplastic exposure can use certified drinking water filters, reduce single-use plastic consumption, and support responsible plastic recycling and waste reduction efforts.

Substances That Could Be in Water

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 occur naturally in the soil or groundwater or may 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 occur naturally or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the U.S. 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 for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health.

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 mean that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by contacting the U.S. EPA by calling the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791 or visiting epa.gov/safewater.

Violation Information

The water samples pulled by the residents were analyzed by our primary lab, Prein & Newhof. We have communicated thoroughly with these residents as well as put them in touch with Michigan EGLE for education on how to lower copper levels inside the residence.

Copper is an essential nutrient, but some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over a relatively short amount of time could experience gastrointestinal distress. Some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over many years could suffer liver or kidney damage. People with Wilson's disease should consult their personal doctor.



Test Results

The table below lists all the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the 2025 calendar year. The presence of these contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table is from testing done from January 1 through December 31, 2025.

The state allows us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year. All the data is representative of the water quality, but some is more than a year old.



REGULATED SUBSTANCES

SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	MCL [MRDL]	MCLG [MRDLG]	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
Arsenic (ppb)	2021	10	0	4	ND–4	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
Barium (ppm)	2021	2	2	0.2	0.08–0.2	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Chlorine (ppm)	2025	[4]	[4]	0.38 ¹	0.17–0.63	No	Water additive used to control microbes
Haloacetic Acids [HAAs] (ppb)	2025	60	NA	6.16	NA	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Nitrate (ppm)	2025	10	10	2.90	ND–2.90	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Total Trihalomethanes [TTHMs] (ppb)	2025	80	NA	10.2	NA	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection

Tap water samples were collected for lead and copper analyses from sample sites throughout the community

SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	AL	MCLG	AMOUNT DETECTED (90TH %ILE)	RANGE LOW-HIGH	SITES ABOVE AL/TOTAL SITES	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
Copper (ppm)	2025	1.3	1.3	0.8	ND–2.4	2/20 ²	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Lead (ppb)	2025	12	0	2.0	ND–4.0	0/20	No	Lead service lines, corrosion of household plumbing including fittings and fixtures; Erosion of natural deposits

SECONDARY SUBSTANCES

SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	SMCL	MCLG	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
Chloride (ppm)	2025	250	NA	45.0	19.1–45.0	No	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm)	2025	2.0	NA	0.394	0.353–0.394	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive that promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Iron (ppb)	2025	300	NA	526	ND–526	No	Leaching from natural deposits; Industrial wastes
Sulfate (ppm)	2025	250	NA	39.4	22.0–39.4	No	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; Industrial wastes

Definitions

90th %ile: The levels reported for lead and copper represent the 90th percentile of the total number of sites tested. The 90th percentile is equal to or greater than 90% of our lead and copper detections.

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

Herbicide: Any chemical(s) used to control undesirable vegetation.

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.

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.

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.

NA: Not applicable.

ND (Not detected): Indicates that the substance was not found by laboratory analysis.

Pesticide: Generally, any substance or mixture of substances intended for preventing, destroying, repelling, or mitigating any pest.

ppb (parts per billion): One part substance per billion parts water (or micrograms per liter).

ppm (parts per million): One part substance per million parts water (or milligrams per liter).

SMCL (Secondary Maximum Contaminant Level): These standards are developed to protect aesthetic qualities of drinking water and are not health based.

UNREGULATED SUBSTANCES

SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	TYPICAL SOURCE
Sodium (ppm)	03/18/2025	18.7	8.61–18.7	NA
Total Hardness (ppm)	03/18/2025	393	378–393	NA

¹ Calculated using an RAA of disinfection residuals taken during routine distribution bacteria sampling.

² Copper is an essential nutrient, but some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over a relatively short amount of time could experience gastrointestinal distress. Some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over many years could suffer liver or kidney damage. People with Wilson's Disease should consult their personal doctor.

Lead in Home Plumbing

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 in home plumbing. The City of Wayland 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 an American National Standards Institute-accredited certifier to reduce lead is effective in reducing lead exposures. Follow the instructions provided with the filter to ensure it is used properly. Use only cold water for drinking, cooking, and making baby formula. Boiling 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 your tap, taking a shower, or doing laundry or a load of dishes. If you have a lead service line or galvanized requiring replacement service line, you may need to flush your pipes for at least five minutes to flush water from both your home plumbing and the lead service line. If you are concerned about lead in your water and wish to have it tested, contact David Paul, Utilities Director, at (269) 792-0686 for available resources. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at epa.gov/safewater/lead.



Service Line Inventory

Our water supply has 141 lead service lines, 546 non-lead service lines, and 569 service lines of unknown material type, for a total of 1,256 service lines. For access to the City's CDSMI, please contact David Paul at (269) 792-0686 or dpaul@cityofwayland.org.”

