

City of St. Cloud > Public Utilities Department > 400 Second Street South > St. Cloud MN 56301
publicutilities@ci.stcloud.mn.us > ci.stcloud.mn.us > (320) 255-7225 > PWSID 1730027

The **2019 Water Quality Report** summarizes the City of St. Cloud's drinking water monitoring results during the 2019 calendar year. The purpose of this report is to advance consumers' understanding of drinking water and heighten awareness of the need to protect water resources.

This report contains important information about your drinking water. Have someone translate it for you, or speak with someone who understands it.

Soomaaliga

Warbixintan waxay wadataa macluumaad muhiim ad ee la xiriira biyaha aad cabtid. Cid ha Kuu tarjunto ama la hadl cid fahmaysa.

En español

Información importante. Si no la entiende, haga que alguien se la traduzca ahora.

WATER SOURCE

The City of St. Cloud uses the Mississippi River as the source for drinking water. The drinking water provided to customers continues to meet and exceed drinking water quality expectations set by the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH). The MDH has determined that our source water is potentially susceptible to contamination. In response, the City of St. Cloud developed a Source Water Protection Plan to help prevent contamination of the Mississippi River. To obtain the source water assessment from MDH, please call 1-800-818-9318 (press 5) during regular business hours. The source water assessment can be viewed online at www.health.state.mn.us/divs/eh/water/swp/swa.

Please contact the Public Utilities Department or MDH if you have questions regarding drinking water or if you would like information about opportunities for public participation in decisions that may affect the quality of the water.

LABORATORY ANALYSIS RESULTS

No contaminants were detected at levels that violated federal drinking water standards. Some contaminants were detected in trace amounts that were below regulatory or legal limits. The tables that follow show the contaminants that were tested for and detected in 2019.

To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration 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 indicate that the 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 at 800-426-4791.

The sources for 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. Substances that may be present in river (source) water include:

- *Microbial contaminants*, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from wildlife, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and/or wastewater treatment facilities.
- *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 residential use, agriculture and/or urban stormwater runoff.
- *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.

DEFINITIONS

- MCLG – Maximum Contaminant Level Goal - concentrations less than this have no known or expected risk to health.
- MCL – Maximum Contaminant Level - the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water.
- TT – Treatment Technique - a required treatment process to reduce the contaminant level.
- NTU – Nephelometric Turbidity Unit - measurement of light intensity as a beam of light passes through a water sample.
- AL – Action Level - the concentration that triggers treatment or other requirement.
- MRDL – Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level
- MRDLG – Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal
- NA – Not Applicable
- ppm – parts per million
- ppb – parts per billion
- PWSID – Public Water System Identification

INORGANIC & ORGANIC PARAMETERS – TESTED IN DRINKING WATER						
Parameter	EPA Limit (MCL)	EPA Goal (MCLG)	Highest Average or Highest Single Test Result	Range of Detected Test Results	Meets Requirements	Typical Sources
Nitrate ppm	10.4	10	0.23	N/A	YES	Runoff from fertilizer; sewage; erosion of natural deposits.
Fluoride ppm	4.0	4.0	0.64	0.58 - 0.66	YES	Water additive to promote strong teeth.
Fluoride is nature's cavity fighter. Since studies show that optimal fluoride levels in drinking water benefit public health, municipal community water systems are required to add fluoride to the drinking water; fluoride concentration between 0.5 to 1.5 ppm is optimum.						
DISINFECTION RELATED PARAMETERS – TESTED IN DRINKING WATER						
Total Trihalo-methanes (THMs) ppb	80	N/A	28	12.90 – 33.70	YES	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
Haloacetic Acids (HAA) ppb	60	N/A	26.7	17.10 – 29.40	YES	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
Total Chlorine ppm	4.0	4.0	2.93	2.55 – 3.31	YES	Water additive used to control microbes.
DISINFECTION BYPRODUCT INDICATOR – TESTED IN SOURCE WATER AND DRINKING WATER						
Parameter	Removal Required	Range of % Removal	Average % Removal Achieved	Meets Requirements	Typical Sources	
Total Organic Carbon	Variable >30%	50.7 – 62.8	56.7	YES	N/A	
TREATMENT INDICATOR – TESTED DURING TREATMENT						
Parameter	Removal Requirements	% of Results in Compliance	Highest Test Result	Meets Requirements	Typical Source	
Turbidity	Treatment Technique	100%	1.05	YES	Soil Runoff	

WHAT'S IN YOUR TAP?

St. Cloud Public Utilities is committed to ensuring all customers have access to safe, clean drinking water. Keep your hands clean and your body hydrated with tap water that is treated with an advanced process to ensure safety and quality for our customers.

LEAD AND COPPER – TESTED AT RESIDENTIAL TAPS

Parameter	EPA Action Level	EPA Goal	90% of Homes Were Under	Homes with High Levels	Meets Requirements	Typical Source
Copper ppm	90% of homes less than 1.3	0	0.09	0 out of 30	YES	Piping; plumbing
Lead ppb	90% of homes less than 15	0	3.0	0 out of 30	YES	Piping; plumbing

If present in elevated levels, lead can cause serious health problems especially for pregnant women and children. The City provides high quality drinking water, but does not 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 the tap for two minutes before using for drinking or cooking. You can have your water tested for lead by contacting the Safe Drinking Water Hotline 800-426-4791 or <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS

Parameter	Comparison Value	Highest Average Result or Highest Single Test Result	Range of Detected Test Results
Manganese (ppb)	100	1	NA
Group of 6 Haloacetic Acids (HAA6Br) (ppb)	NA	1.60	1.45 – 1.74
Group of 9 Haloacetic Acids (HAA9) (ppb)	NA	14.59	12.48 – 21.18

In addition to testing drinking water for contaminants regulated under the Safe Drinking Water Act, additional, unregulated parameters are also monitored. There are no legal limits for unregulated contaminants. Detection alone of a regulated or unregulated contaminant is not cause for concern. The meaning of a detection should be determined considering current health effects information. The EPA and MDH are still investigating the potential health effects and this can change over time.

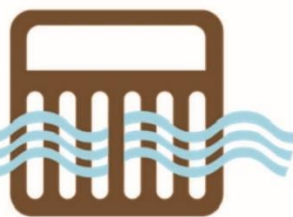
The comparison values are based only on potential health impacts and do not consider the ability to measure contaminants at very low concentrations or the cost and technology of prevention and/or treatment. They may be set at levels that are costly, challenging, or impossible for water systems to meet.

A person drinking water with a contaminant at or below the comparison value would be at little or no risk for harmful health effects. If the level of a contaminant is above the comparison value, people of a certain age or with special health conditions - like an unborn baby, infants, children, elderly, and people with impaired immunity - may need to take extra precautions. Because these contaminants are unregulated, EPA and MDH require no particular action based on detection of an unregulated contaminant. Notification of the detection of these unregulated contaminants is a public education opportunity only.

More information is available on MDH's [A-Z List of Contaminants in Water](https://www.health.state.mn.us/communities/environment/water/contaminants/index.html)

(<https://www.health.state.mn.us/communities/environment/water/contaminants/index.html>) and [Fourth Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule \(UCMR 4\)](https://www.health.state.mn.us/communities/environment/water/com/ucmr4.html) (<https://www.health.state.mn.us/communities/environment/water/com/ucmr4.html>).

**ADOPT
A STORM
DRAIN**



**PROTECT
SOURCE
WATER**

The Adopt-a-Drain program allows residents in the St. Cloud area to adopt storm drains and keep them clean! Adopt a Drain asks residents to adopt a storm drain in their neighborhood and keep it clear of leaves, trash, and other debris to reduce water pollution. Storm drains flow directly to local lakes, rivers, and wetlands, acting as a conduit for trash and organic pollutants.

Visit adopt-a-drain.org to adopt a drain and learn more!