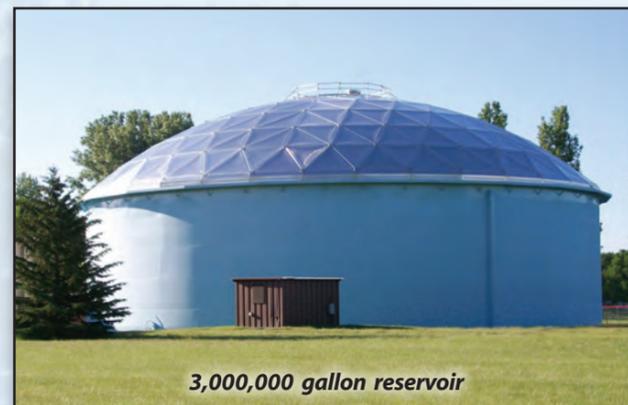


**4.0 million gallons of water per day** are pumped to Willmar's customers. The peak daily demand for water in 2015 was 5.9 million gallons. Willmar Municipal Utilities' production capacity is 7.9 million gallons of water per day.



3,000,000 gallon reservoir

Visit our website at: [www.wmu.willmar.mn.us](http://www.wmu.willmar.mn.us) and find links to other websites with valuable information about water and it's impact on our lives.

**The Willmar Municipal Utilities** is staffed by a team of professionals who average over 20 years of industry experience. Together they maintain 16 wells, two water treatment plants, three pumping stations, four storage facilities and over 120 miles of distribution piping.

Willmar Municipal Utilities has been recognized state-wide as an industry leader in providing low cost, high quality water.

### Source of Water

The City of Willmar provides drinking water to its residents from groundwater sources: 16 wells ranging from 133 to 347 feet deep, that draw water from the Quaternary Buried Artesian.

The water provided to customers may meet drinking water standards but the Minnesota Department of Health has also made a determination as to how vulnerable the source of water may be to future contamination incidents. If you wish to obtain the entire source water assessment regarding your drinking water, please call 651-201-4700 or 1-800-818-9318 (and press 5) during normal business hours. Also, you can view it on-line at [www.health.state.mn.us/divs/eh/water/swp/swa](http://www.health.state.mn.us/divs/eh/water/swp/swa).

Call (320) 235-4422 if you have questions about the City of Willmar drinking water or would like information about opportunities for public participation in decisions that may affect the quality of the water.

**Play your part, be water smart!**

**Wise Water Use**

- Get an Energy Star labeled washing machine. Wash only full loads.
- Use a low flow showerhead.
- Use a shut-off nozzle on your hose.
- Put faucet aerators on sink faucets.
- Mulch around plants to hold water in the soil.
- Water your yard and outdoor plants early or late in the day to reduce evaporation.
- Install new toilets that use less than 1.6 gallons per flush.
- Turn off the water while soaping hands and brushing teeth.
- Turn off sink faucet while scrubbing dishes and pots.
- Use plants that require less water.
- Use a broom, not a hose, to clean driveways and walkways.
- Take shorter showers - five minutes or less is best.

**Save it, or do without it!**

Willmar Municipal Utilities  
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Willmar, MN 56201

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City of Willmar  
**2015 DRINKING WATER REPORT**

# CITY OF WILLMAR 2015 DRINKING WATER REPORT

The City of Willmar is issuing the results of monitoring done on its drinking water for the period from January 1 to December 31, 2015. The purpose of this report is to advance consumers' understanding of drinking water and heighten awareness of the need to protect precious water resources.



## Key to abbreviations:

### 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 – 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.

**MRDL:** Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level.

**MRDLG:** Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal.

**AL – Action Level:** The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirement which a water system must follow.

**90th Percentile Level** – This is the value obtained after disregarding 10 percent of the samples taken that had the highest levels. (For example, in a situation in which 10 samples were taken, the 90th percentile level is determined by disregarding the highest result, which represents 10 percent of the samples.) Note: In situations in which only 5 samples are taken, the average of the two with the highest levels is taken to determine the 90th percentile level.

**pCi/l – PicoCuries per liter**, (a measure of radioactivity).

**ppb – Parts per billion**, which can also be expressed as micrograms per liter (ug/l).

**ppm – Parts per million**, which can also be expressed as milligrams per liter (mg/l).

**nd – No Detection.**

**N/A – Not Applicable.**

## En Español

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

## Somali

Warbixintani waxay ka kooban tahay macluumaad muhiim ah. Tarjumo ama waydii qof fahmahaya.

## Results of Monitoring

No contaminants were detected at levels that violated federal drinking water standards. However, some contaminants were detected in trace amounts that were below legal limits. The table that follows shows the contaminants that were detected in trace amounts last year. (Some contaminants are sampled less frequently than once per year; as a result, not all contaminants were sampled for in 2015. If any of these contaminants were detected the last time they were sampled for, they are included in the table along with the date that the detection occurred.)

### REGULATED AT THE TREATMENT PLANT

Contaminant (units)	MCLG	MCL	Level Found		Typical Source of Contaminant
			Range (2015)	Average/ Result*	
Fluoride (ppm)	4.0	4.0	.54-1.2	.83	State of Minnesota requires all municipal water systems to add fluoride to the drinking water to promote strong teeth; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.



North Pump Station

\* This is the value used to determine compliance with federal standards. It sometimes is the highest value detected and sometimes an average of all the detected values. If it is an average, it may contain sampling results from the previous year.



Northeast Treatment Plant



Filter #1 at the Northeast Treatment Plant



Southwest Treatment Plant

**CUSTOMER INPUT WELCOME** If you are interested in learning more about the water system and water quality, or participating in the decision-making process, there are opportunities available. Questions about water quality can be answered by calling our Water Department office at 320-235-4422. Inquiries about public participation and policy decisions can be made by calling the Director of Operations at 320-235-4422. The Willmar Municipal Utilities Commission meets at 11:45 a.m. on the second and fourth Mondays of each month at the Willmar Municipal Utilities Office, 700 Litchfield Avenue SW. Commission meetings are open to the public. Our web site address is [www.wmu.willmar.mn.us](http://www.wmu.willmar.mn.us).

## Compliance with National Primary Drinking Water Regulations

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 can be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order 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.

**PLEASE NOTE:** 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 advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at – 800-426-4791.

### REGULATED IN THE DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM

Contaminant (units)	MCLG	MCL	Level Found		Typical Source of Contaminant
			Range (2015)	Average/ Result*	
Arsenic (ppb)	0	10	1.17-1.2	1.2	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronics production wastes.
Barium (pm)	2	2	.277-.328	.33	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits.
Combined Radium (pCi/l)	0	5.4	nd-1.6	1.6	Erosion of natural deposits.
TTHM (Total trihalomethanes) (ppb)	0	80.0	N/A	1.6	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
(Haloacetic Acids) HAAs (ppb)	0	60.0	N/A	5.5	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
Nitrate (as Nitrogen) (ppm)	10.4	10.4	nd-1	.1	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.

Contaminant (units)	MRDLG	MRDL	Level Found		Typical Source of Contaminant
			****	*****	
Chlorine (ppm)	4	4	.8-1	.9	Water additive used to control microbes.

\*\*\*\*Highest and Lowest Monthly Results.

\*\*\*\*\*Highest Quarterly Average.

### REGULATED AT THE CUSTOMER'S TAP

Contaminant (units)	MCLG	MCL	90% Level	# sites over AL	Typical Source of Contaminant
Copper (ppm) (06/17/2013)	1.3	1.3	1.09	1 out of 30	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits.
Lead (ppb) (06/17/2013)	0	15	3.4	1 out of 30	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits.

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. City of Willmar 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 <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

Monitoring may have been done for additional contaminants that do not have MCLs established for them and are not required to be monitored under the Safe Drinking Water Act. Results may be available by calling 651-201-4700 or 1-800-818-9318 during normal business hours.



200,000 gallon tank – Ridgewater tower