



Federal Heights

2025 DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT For Calendar Year 2024

Public Water System Identification # CO-0101055

Esta es información importante. Si no la pueden leer, necesitan que alguien se la traduzca

We are pleased to present to you this year's water quality report. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. Please contact the Public Works Department at 303-412-3539 to learn more about what you can do to help protect your drinking water resources, with any questions about this report, to learn more about our water system or for public participation opportunities that may affect water quality. We want you, our valued customers, to be informed about your water utility, the services we provide, and the quality water we deliver to you every day.

In 2024, 100% of our supplied water was treated surface water purchased from the City of Westminster. Their source of water is from Standley Lake, which is located west of the city. In prior years, 1% to 3% of our water was provided by an 800-foot-deep well, located within the city limits of Federal Heights, drawing groundwater from the Arapahoe aquifer. Due to our distribution system design and varying flows, residents may have received water from an individual source, or a blending of these sources.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) prescribes regulations limiting the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that must provide the same protection for public health.

The sources of drinking water (both tap 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. It can also 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 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** – 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 byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production and also may come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff and septic systems.
- **Radioactive Contaminants** – Can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

Health Information About Water Quality

All 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. Some individuals 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 of infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. For more information about contaminants and potential health effects, or to receive a copy of the U.S. EPA and U.S. CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by cryptosporidium and microbiological contaminants, call the EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791 or visit <http://water.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water>

Lead in Drinking Water:

Lead can cause serious health effects in people of all ages, especially pregnant people, infants (both formula-fed and breast-fed) and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and parts used in service lines and home plumbing. WE are 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 the filter is used properly.

Use only cold water for drinking, cooking, and making baby formula. Boiling water 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, 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 a longer period. If you are concerned about lead in your water and wish to have your water tested, contact Federal Heights Public Works at 303-412-3539. 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

New state and federal laws require us to inventory all water service lines in our service area to classify the material. A service line is the underground pipe that carries water from the water main, likely in the street, into your home or building. If you would like to view a copy of our service line inventory or have questions about the material of your service line, contact Federal Heights Public Works at 303-412-3539.

Source Water Assessment Protection (SWAP) Information:

The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) has provided us with a "Source Water Assessment Report" for our water supply. For general information or to obtain a copy of the report please visit <https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/cdphe/swap-assessment-phase>. The report is located under "Find your public water system's report". Search the table using **101055**; (Federal Heights City of). You can also contact the Public Works Department at 303-412-3539 with any questions.

Potential sources of contamination in our source water area come from:

- **Commercial/Industrial Areas** such as: Food processing plants; Gas stations and fueling areas; Commercial & Industrial transportation; Machine or maintenance & repair shops; Aboveground, Underground and Leaking storage tank sites.
- **Residential/Municipal Areas** such as: High and Low Intensity residential areas; Parks & Recreational areas; Historic landfills; Transportation corridors and utility stations
- **Agricultural/Rural Areas** such as: Row Crops and Urban Recreational Grasses
- **Other Type Areas** such as: Septic Systems & Roads & other facilities

The Source Water Assessment Report provides a screening-level evaluation of potential contamination that **could** occur. It **does not** mean that the contamination **has or will** occur. We can use this information to evaluate the need to improve our current water treatment capabilities and prepare for future contamination threats. This can help us ensure that quality finished water is delivered to your homes. In addition, the source water assessment results provide a starting point for developing a source water protection plan. We have and continue to utilize related information to increase the protection of our water supply and distribution systems.

Violations, Significant Deficiencies, and Formal Enforcement Actions

Federal Heights – Backflow Prevention and Cross-Connection Control Program (BPCCC) Violation – On January 3rd, 2025, a Violation notification was received noting that Federal Heights had failed to properly track four backflow prevention devices installed on hydrant meters. These hydrant meters are used for temporary water use at construction sites and similar purposes, and the backflow devices were not included in the City’s BPCCC program, were not annually tested by a certified entity, and were determined to be an inadequate device type. The devices of concern were routinely checked, and no concerns were found, but annual certified testing was not completed. Should a device fail, it could allow non-potable water back into the City’s water distribution system.

The devices of concern were replaced with the proper type of backflow assembly, tested by a certified company, and will be tested annually. This concern was resolved on March 5th, 2025, and there is no indication that this monitoring and reporting error impacted public health, so customers do not need to seek medical assistance, alternative water supplies, or take further action. If there are any concerns or questions related to this notice please contact the Public Works Director, Don Stahurski, at 303-412-3539 or at our City Hall offices located at 2380 W. 90th Avenue. Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.

Westminster – Non-health-based Violation – The City of Westminster takes our responsibility to provide our community with safe, clean, and affordable drinking water seriously. We are required by state and federal law to monitor our drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis and follow rigorous testing protocols and requirements. We are updating our community of a data collection issue that did not meet the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment’s (CDPHE) requirements.

From December 29, 2024, to January 15, 2025, Westminster water operations staff did not complete CDPHE’s data collection requirements for monitoring and testing for free chlorine, and cannot confirm the quality of your drinking water during that time. While the total chlorine levels did not exceed CDPHE’s safety limits, water operations staff did not record the free chlorine values independently of the total chlorine levels for the two-week period. This data collection error has been rectified. Water operations staff did continuously monitor and record total chlorine data, which includes free chlorine, during this two-week period, and it never exceeded CDPHE’s safety limits. There is no indication that this monitoring and reporting error impacted public health, so customers do not need to seek alternative water supplies or take further actions. If a situation arises where the water is no longer safe to drink, you will be notified within 24 hours.

This error was resolved on January 15, 2025, with proper monitoring and reporting of free chlorine. Semper Water Treatment Facility’s daily record keeping was also updated to include required data entry for free chlorine every four hours. You may contact the City’s utilities water treatment staff at 303-658-2500 or Water@westminsterco.gov for additional information regarding this public notice.

Detected Contaminants Table

The following tables show all detections found for all source waters in the period of January 1st, 2024, to December 31st, 2024, unless otherwise noted. The Federal Heights column includes testing dates for all detected contaminants. The “Range” column in the table will show a single value for those contaminants that were sampled only once. Only detected contaminants sampled within the last 5 years appear in this report. The State of Colorado requires monitoring for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year, or the system is not considered vulnerable to this type of contamination. Therefore, some of our data, though representative, may be more than one year old. Suppliers may be required to test for different contaminants due to the source of the water. (Surface water for Westminster and groundwater for Federal Heights)

DETECTED CONTAMINANTS							
Contaminant	Unit	MCL & MRDL	MCLG & MRDLG	Maximum Contaminant Level Detected		Range	Violation
				Federal Heights	Westminster		
INORGANIC CONTAMINANTS							
Barium	ppm	2	2	0.04 (9/19/22)	0.057 (2024)	0.04- 0.057	No
Chromium	ppb	100	100	Not Detected (9/19/22)	0.9 (2024)	0 – 0.90	No
Copper (30 samples in 2024)	ppm	90% <1.3	1.3	0.4 (8/2/24) 90th Percentile= 0.179	0.22 (2024) 90th Percentile =0.16	0.026 – 0.4	No
Fluoride	ppm	4	4	1.0 (9/19/22)	0.57 (2024)	0.56 – 1.0	No
Lead (30 samples in 2024)	ppb	90% <15	0	6.6 (8/1/24) 90th Percentile = 1.7	4.0 (2024) 90th Percentile = 1.3	0 – 6.6	No
Nickel	ppb	N/A	N/A	Not Detected (9/19/22)	1.2 (2024)	0 – 1.2	No
Nitrate	ppm	10	10	0.02 (7/26/23)	0.23 (2024)	0.02 – 0.23	No
Nitrite	ppm	1	1	0.01 (7/26/23)	N/A	0.01 – 0.20	No
MICROBIOLOGICAL CONTAMINANTS							
Total Coliform Bacteria	ct/ml	<5% positive	0	Not Detected (99 samples in 2024)	Not Detected	0	No
Turbidity	NTU	TT	N/A	0.75 (7/1/24) RAA = 0.19	0.065 (2024)	0.014–0.75	No
RADIOACTIVE CONTAMINANTS							
Alpha Emitters	pCi/L	15	0	Not Detected (9/4/19)	0.68 (2021)	0 – 0.68	No
Beta Emitters	pCi/L	50	0	Not Detected (9/4/19)	4.9 (2021)	0 – 4.9	No
Radium -226	pCi/L	5	0	0.3 (9/4/19)	N/A	0.3 – 0.3	No
Radium -228	pCi/L	5	0	2.2 (9/4/19)	N/A	2.2 – 2.2	No
Combined Radium -226/-228	pCi/L	5	0	2.5 (9/4/19)	0.44 (2021)	0.14 – 2.5	No
Uranium	ppb	30	0	0.64 (9/4/19)	0.90 (2021)	0.32 – 0.90	No
ORGANIC CONTAMINANTS							
2,4-D	ppb	70	70	Not Detected	0.21 (2024)	0 – 0.21	No
Chloramines/Chlorine (0.2 mg/l min & 4.0 mg/l max)	ppm	MRDL=4 RAA < 4	MRDLG =4	2.13 (12/2/24) RAA = 1.86	2.0 (2024)	0.94 – 2.6	No
Total Haloacetic Acids (16 samples in 2024)	ppb	60 RAA <60	N/A	21.7 (3/19/24) RAA = 13.12	14.1 (2024) RAA = 11.3	6.5 – 21.7	No
Total Trihalomethanes (16 samples in 2024)	ppb	80 RAA <80	N/A	40.7 (9/12/24) RAA = 31.38	45.3 (2024) RAA = 34.9	21.2 – 45.3	No
DETECTED CONTAMINANTS POSSIBLE SOURCE AND GENERAL TESTING INFORMATION							
Barium – Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits.							
Chromium – Discharge from steel and pulp mills; Erosion of natural deposits							
Copper – Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits, leaching from wood preservatives – 90% of all samples taken must be within the MCL							
Fluoride – Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from fertilizer & aluminum factories							
Lead – Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits – 90% of all samples taken must be within the MCL							
Nickel – Corrosion of plumbing materials							
Nitrate – Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits							
Nitrite – Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits							
Total Coliform Bacteria – Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially harmful bacteria may be present. Standards are not violated if not detected in repeat samples at first detect site(s)							
Turbidity – Soil runoff – Differing source waters can require differing MCL requirements dependent on the type of treatment used.							
Alpha Emitters – Erosion of natural deposits							
Beta Emitters – Decay of natural and man-made deposits							
Radium -226 & Radium -228 & Combined Radium – Erosion of Natural Deposits							
Uranium - Erosion of natural deposits							
2,4-D (2,4-dichlorophenoxyacetic acid) – Runoff from herbicide used on row crops							
Chloramines/Chlorine – Water additive used to control microbes – Measured in the distribution system – TT Requirement – At least 95% of samples per period (month or quarter) must be at least 0.2 ppm OR if sample size is less than 40 no more than one sample is below 0.2ppm							
Total Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) – By-products of drinking water disinfection							
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) – By-products of drinking water disinfection							

Secondary Standards

Secondary standards are non-enforceable guidelines for contaminants that may cause cosmetic effects (such as skin or tooth discoloration) or aesthetic effects (such as taste, odor, or color) in drinking water.

SECONDARY CONTAMINANTS AND OTHER MONITORING					
Contaminant	Unit	Secondary Standard	Level Detected		Range
			Federal Heights	Westminster	
Alkalinity	ppm	N/A	Not Tested	53 – 65 (2024)	53 – 65
Ammonia (as N)	ppm	N/A	Not Tested	0.28 – 0.48	0.28 – 0.48
Conductivity	umhos/cm	N/A	Not Tested	365 - 477 (2024)	365 – 477
pH	#	6.5 – 8.5	8.67 (1/30/23) RAA = 8.58	8.2 – 8.9 (2024)	8.2 – 8.9
Sodium	ppm	10,000	154 (9/19/22)	31 - 32 (2024)	31 – 154
Total Dissolved Solids	ppm	500	427 (9/4/19)	219 – 284 (2024)	219 – 427
Total Hardness	ppm	N/A	Not Tested	112 – 149 (2024)	112 - 149

SECONDARY CONTAMINANTS/OTHER MONITORING – POSSIBLE SOURCES

Alkalinity – A measure of water’s capacity to neutralize acids and is also known as the buffering capacity.
Ammonia (as N) – Additive that is sometimes utilized to improve the water disinfection processes
Conductivity – A measure of the ability of a solution (water) to carry an electric current. Utilized in corrosion control processes
pH – A measure of the acidity or alkalinity of water. pH less than 7 is considered acidic and pH greater than seven is considered basic
Sodium – Erosion of natural deposits; a byproduct of water softeners
Total Dissolved Solids – Erosion of natural deposits
Total Hardness – Naturally dissolved Calcium and Magnesium from soil & lime – 100 ppm is equal to approximately 6 grains per gallon 75 to 150 mg/l or ppm is considered moderately hard water

Unregulated Contaminants:

EPA has implemented the Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR) to collect data for contaminants that are suspected to be present in drinking water and do not have health-based standards set under the Safe Drinking Water Act. EPA uses the results of the UCMR monitoring to learn about the occurrence of unregulated contaminants in drinking water and to decide whether or not these contaminants will be regulated in the future. We performed monitoring and reported the analytical results of the monitoring to EPA in accordance with its Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR).

Once EPA reviews the submitted results, the results are made available in the EPA’s National Contaminant Occurrence Database (NCOD) (<http://www.epa.gov/dwucmr/national-contaminant-occurrence-database-ncod>). Consumers can review UCMR results by accessing the NCOD. Contaminants that were detected during our UCMR4 sampling and the corresponding analytical results are provided below.

More information about the contaminants that were included in UCMR monitoring can be found at: <https://drinktap.org/Water-Info/Whats-in-My-Water/Unregulated-Contaminant-Monitoring-Rule-UCMR>

Learn more about the EPA UCMR at: <http://www.epa.gov/dwucmr/learn-about-unregulated-contaminant-monitoring-rule> or contact the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791 or <https://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water>

UCMR CONTAMINANTS MONITORING					
Contaminant	Unit	Average	Maximum Level & Date Detected		Range
			Level	Date	
Lithium – Test Station Site	ppb	19.2	21.3	7/26/23	17.5 – 21.3
Lithium – Well Site	ppb	32.2	34.2	7/26/23	30.2 – 34.2
Lithium - Westminster	ppb	19.5	21.3	2024	18.3 – 21.3

UCMR CONTAMINANTS INFORMATION

Lithium – A naturally occurring element that has numerous commercial uses including as a pharmaceutical drug, an industrial chemical catalyst, a sanitizing agent for swimming pools and hot tubs, and increasingly, as a component of lithium-ion batteries for electronics and electric vehicles

2020/2023 PFAS SAMPLING

Please Note: The below listed detections were also tested for, and **not detected**, in the noted UCMR sampling completed on 7/26/23, 10/2/23, 1/10/24 & 4/9/24.

Contaminant	MCL	MCLG	Federal Heights	Date Sampled	Information
PFOS	4.0 ppt	0	0.62 ppt	3/25/20	Federal Heights sampling data can be found here , by using the drop-down list and click on “Federal Heights City of”
			Not Detected	6/22/23	
PFOA	4.0 ppt	0	0.61 ppt	3/25/20	
			Not Detected	6/22/23	
PFBS	EPA’s health advisory of 70 parts per trillion (ppt), in total, represents an amount in drinking water likely to be without risk of health impacts over a lifetime.		0.56 ppt	3/25/20	
			0.67 ppt	6/22/23	
PFHpA			0.43 ppt	3/25/20	
			0.47 ppt	6/22/23	
PFHxA			0.83 ppt	3/25/20	
			Not Detected	6/22/23	
PFPeA			0.90ppt	6/22/23	

2020/2023 PFAS CONTAMINANTS INFORMATION

PFAS (Including PFOS, PFOA, PFBS, PFHpA, PFHxA & PFPeA) – Per- and polyfluoralkyl substances (PFAS) are a family of human-made chemicals that do not occur naturally in the environment. They have been used for decades as an ingredient to make products that resist heat, oil, stains, grease, and water. They are used in various products including firefighting foams, coating additives, and surface protection products for carpets and clothing. These chemicals can also be found in certain types of food packaging, dental floss, and cosmetic products. The main way people come into contact with PFAS is through food and personal care products. In fact, human contact with PFAS is widespread; nearly all people have measurable levels in their blood.

DEFINITIONS OF TERMS & ABBREVIATIONS USED IN THIS REPORT

AL – Action Level is the concentration of a contaminant, which if exceeded, triggers treatment and other regulatory requirements. For lead & copper, 90% of all samples taken must be within the MCL.
Average – Typical Value
CDC – (United States) Center for Disease Control
Compliance Value – Single or calculated value used to determine if regulatory contaminant level (e.g. MCL) is met. Examples of calculated values 90 th Percentile, Running Annual Average (RAA) and Locational Running Annual Average (LRAA)
ct/ml – Count per milliliter
EPA – (United States) Environmental Protection Agency
FDA – The Food and Drug Administration
Formal Enforcement Action – Escalated action taken by the State (due to the risk to public health, or number or severity of violations) to bring a non-compliant water system back into compliance.
Gross Alpha – Gross alpha particle activity compliance value. It includes Radium-226, but excludes Radon 222, and Uranium
Health-Based – A violation of either a MCL or TT (Treatment Technique)
MCL – Maximum Contaminant Level – The “Maximum” allowed is the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water.
MCLG – Maximum Contaminant Level Goal – The “Goal” is 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 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. MRDLG’s do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.
N/A – Not Applicable – Does not apply or not available
Non-Health-Based – A violation that is not a MCL or TT (Treatment Technique) violation
NTU – Nephelometric Turbidity Unit is a measurement of water clarity. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the typical person
pCi/L – Picocuries per liter is a measurement of the radioactivity in water.
ppb – Parts per billion or Micrograms per liter(ug/L)-One part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single cent in \$10,000,000
ppm – Parts per million or Milligrams per liter (mg/l) – One part per million corresponds to one minute in 2 years, or a single cent in \$10,000
ppt - Parts per Trillion – One part per trillion corresponds to about thirty seconds out of every million years or a single cent in 10 billion dollars.
RAA – Running Annual Average – An average of monitoring results for the corresponding 12 calendar months.
Range – Lowest Value to Highest Value
Sample Size – Number or Count of values (i.e. number of water samples collected)
TT – A Treatment Technique is a required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water. Differing source waters can differing MCL requirements and treatment processes dependent on the water source and the type of treatment used.
Variance and Exemptions – Department permission not to meet a MCL or Treatment Technique under certain conditions
Violation – Failure to meet a Colorado Primary Drinking Water Regulation
< – Less than; usually indicating lower than the testing ability of the laboratory equipment