

# The Water We Drink



## 2014 Consumer Confidence Report

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**Reedsburg Utility Commission (RUC)** wants you, our valued customer, to be confident the drinking water RUC serves is safe. This annual water quality report provides important information about where your water comes from and the test results used to ensure your tap water is safe and healthy to drink.

### Why You Should Read This

Written in easy-to-understand language, this year's drinking water report....

- Examines how RUC ensure your drinking water is safe, high quality, and reliable
- Provides science-based data and facts about the sources, quality, and safety of your drinking water
- Explains why your tap water is the best deal around



### Our Continuing Commitment

RUC and its trained, certified water quality professionals are committed to...

- Providing high quality, safe drinking water at the lowest price possible
- Monitoring and testing the water we serve to optimize quality and ensure it's always safe
- Working around the clock to provide top quality water to every tap

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## Our Mission

The Reedsburg Utility Commission shall provide safe, reliable, competitively priced, hometown services that help make this community a desirable place to live and do business.



## The Water We Drink

# 2014 Consumer Confidence

Dear Reedsburg Utility Commission Water Customer,

It is my pleasure to present Reedsburg Utility Commission's annual water quality report. This report is designed to inform you about the quality water and services we deliver to you every day. Our water source is five ground water wells. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. I'm please to report that our drinking water is safe and meets Federal and State requirements.

Reedsburg Water Utility routinely monitors for constituents in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. The tables enclosed in this report shares the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1st through December 31st, 2014. All drinking water, included bottled drinking water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some constituents. It's important to remember that the presence of these constituents does not necessarily pose a health risk.

We at the Reedsburg Water Utility work around the clock to provide top quality water to every tap. We ask that all our customers help protect our water sources, which are the heart of the community, our way of life, and our children's future.

We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. If you want to learn more, please attend one of our regularly scheduled meetings. They are held on the 3rd Monday of each month at 4PM at 501 Utility Court, Reedsburg, WI.

I strongly encourage you to read this report. Additional copies are available online at [www.ReedsburgUtility.com](http://www.ReedsburgUtility.com) or at our office. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 524-4381.

Sincerely,

Jon Craker  
Water Supervisor  
Reedsburg Utility Commission



This report contains important and useful information about the sources, quality, and safety of your drinking water and describes how Reedsburg Water Utility meets all drinking water standards set by State and Federal governments.

## About Regulations

To ensure tap water is safe to drink, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Food & Drug Administration (FDA) established regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by the water utility. Regulations also establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that provide the same protection of human health.

## Education 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 materials, 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, may become from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock and wildlife.

**INORGANIC CONTAMINANTS** such as salts and metals, can be naturally-occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining or farming.

**ORGANIC CHEMICAL CONTAMINANTS** including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals may be by-products of industrial processes or petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, agricultural application and septic systems.

**PESTICIDES AND HERBICIDES** may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses.

**RADIOACTIVE CONTAMINANTS** can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

## Our Local Water

The Reedsburg Water Utility is made up of and maintains:

- Five well sites throughout the city
- Two pressure zones
- About 64 miles of water mains
- 593 hydrants
- 3,353 services

### Well # 8

Located by Reedsburg Area High School



## Sources of Water

Source ID	Source	Depth (in feet)	Status
3	Groundwater	490	Active
4	Groundwater	400	Active
6	Groundwater	310	Active
7	Groundwater	515	Active
8	Groundwater	500	Active



## 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 at (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 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 and other microbial contaminants are available from the EPA's safe drinking water hotline.

Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 10ppm is a health risk for infants of less than 6 months of age. High nitrate levels in drinking water can cause blue baby syndrome. Nitrate levels may rise quickly for short periods of time because rainfall or agricultural activity. If you are caring for an infant you should ask for advice from your health care provider.

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## Number of Contaminants Required to be Tested

This table displays the number of contaminants that were required to be tested in the last year. The CCR may contain up to five years worth of water quality results. If a water system tests annually, or more frequently, the results from the most recent year are shown on the CCR. If testing is done less frequently, the results shown on the CCR are from the past five years.

Contaminant Group	# of Contaminants
Inorganic Contaminants	16
Microbiological Contaminants	0
Radioactive Contaminants	4
Synthetic Organic Contaminants (including Pesticides & Herbicides)	30
Disinfection Byproducts	11
Volatile Organic Contaminants	21



## 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 last year, it will appear in the following tables without a sample date. If the contaminant was not monitored last year, but was detected within the last 5 years, it will appear in the tables below along with the sample date.

# Inorganic Contaminants

Contaminant	MCL	MCL G	Level Found	Range	Last Year Sampled	Violation	Typical Source
ARSENIC (ppb)	10	n/a	0	ND	2014	no	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards, runoff from glass & electronics production waste
BARIUM (ppm)	2	2	.015	.01-.02	2014	no	Discharge of drilling wastes, discharge from metal refineries, erosion of natural deposits
CHROMIUM (ppb)	100	100	1.95	1.3-2.6	2014	no	Discharge of steel and pulp mills; erosion of natural deposits
COPPER (ppb)	AL=1300	1300	373	36-884	2014	no	Corrosions of household plumbing systems, erosions of natural deposits, leaching from wood preservatives.
FLUORIDE (ppm)	4	4	.74	.55-.90	2014	no	Erosion of natural deposits, water additive which promotes strong teeth, discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
LEAD (ppb)	AL=15	0	.13	ND-1.09	2014	no	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits
NICKEL (ppb)	100		0	ND	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	3.34	2.0-4.3	2014	no	Runoff from fertilizer use, leaching from septic tanks, sewage, erosion from natural deposits
SELENIUM	50	50	.25	.2-.3	2014	No	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from mines
SODIUM (ppm)	n/a	n/a	5.2	3.2-9.2	2014	no	n/a

“Reedsburg Water Utility is committed to provide an adequate supply of high quality water at a reasonable cost to the residents and businesses of Reedsburg. We are dedicated to supplying friendly, convenient and dependable service.”

## Radioactive Contaminants

Contaminant	MCL	MCLG	Level Found	Range	Last Year Sampled	Violation	Typical Source
GROSS, ALPHA, EXCL R & U (pCi/l)	15	0	3.2	1.5-4.6	2014	no	Erosion of natural deposits
Combined Radium (pCi/l)	5	0	3.4	3.4	2014	no	Erosion of natural deposits

## Disinfection Byproducts

Contaminant	MCL	MCLG	Level Found	Range	Last Year Sampled	Violation	Typical Source
HAA5 (ppb)	60	60	2.63	0-2.63	2014	no	By-products of drinking water disinfection
TTHM (ppb)	80	n/a	5.9	0-3.22	2014	no	By-products of drinking water disinfection

## Additional Chemical Analyses

Chemical	Level	Range
ALKALINITY Total (ppm)	144 avg.	100-200 Ideal
HARDNESS Total (ppm)	160 avg.	100-200 Ideal
pH Value (lab)	7.2 avg.	7-8.5 Ideal

On average, over 1,300 water quality samples were taken from our system throughout this past year. All samples were submitted and all results were safe.

## Lead in Drinking Water

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. Reedsburg Utility Commission 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, test methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at [www.epa.gov](http://www.epa.gov).



# DEFINITION OF TERMS

<b>AL</b>	<b>Action Level</b> The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment of other requirements which a water system must follow.	<b>n/d</b>	<b>Not Detected</b>
<b>MCL</b>	<b>Maximum Contaminant Level</b> The highest level on a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.	<b>NTU</b>	<b>Nephelometric Turbidity Units</b>
<b>MCLG</b>	<b>Maximum Contaminant Level Goal</b> The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs all for a margin of safety.	<b>pCi/l</b>	<b>Picocuries per liter</b> A measure of radioactivity.
<b>MFL</b>	<b>Millions fibers per liter</b>	<b>ppm</b>	<b>Parts Per Million</b> Milligrams per liter (mg/l).
<b>mrem/yr</b>	<b>Millirems per year</b> A measure of radiation absorbed by the body.	<b>ppb</b>	<b>Parts Per Billion</b> Micrograms per liter (ug/l)
<b>n/a</b>	<b>not applicable</b>	<b>ppt</b>	<b>Parts Per Trillion</b> Nanograms per liter
		<b>ppq</b>	<b>Parts Per Quadrillion</b> Pictograms per liter
		<b>TCR</b>	<b>Total Coliform Rule</b>
		<b>TT</b>	<b>Treatment Technique</b> A required process intended to reduce the level of contaminant in drinking water.

