



Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

Big Sky County Water And Sewer Dist 363 MT0002385

Annual Water Quality Report for the period of January 1 to December 31, 2023

This report is intended to provide you with important information about your drinking water and the efforts made by the water system to provide safe drinking water.

The District is pleased to provide you with the water year 2023 Consumer Confidence Annual Water Quality Report. We want to keep you informed about the quality of water the District has delivered to you over the past year. Our goal is, and always has been, to provide you a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. The following report covers the Mountain Village, the Meadow Village including Sweet Grass Hills, South Fork, West Fork, Hidden Village and Town Center and also Aspen Groves and Lone Moose subdivisions. This report does not cover the Yellowstone Club, Moonlight Basin properties or Spanish Peaks Resort. Those are separate water systems.

The District routinely monitors for constituents in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. We are pleased to report that our drinking water is very safe and meets or exceeds all federal and state requirements. The following tables show any detects (more than, 0.0 ppm) in our monitoring for the period of January 1st to December 31st, 2023 that have been found. Although we have learned through our monitoring and testing that some constituents have been detected, the EPA has determined that your water IS SAFE at these levels. For constituents that are not monitored yearly, we have reviewed our records back to the last time the constituent was monitored.

Big Sky's remote and pristine setting eliminates many of the manmade potential water quality problems that plague more densely populated areas. However, all sources of drinking water are subject to potential contamination by constituents that are naturally occurring and/or man-made. Those constituents can be microbes, organic or inorganic chemicals, or radioactive materials. 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. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791. EPA also has a web site where you can search through a database of drinking water information across the country. The web site address is:
http://www.epa.gov/enviro/html/sdwis/sdwis_query.html.

In the tables below you may find terms and abbreviations you are not familiar with. To help you better understand these terms, we have provided the following definitions:
Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/l) - one part per million corresponds to one minute in two years.

Action Level - The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded triggers treatment or other requirements in which a water system must follow.

Treatment Technique (TT) - A treatment technique is a required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal - The "Goal" (MCLG) 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.

Maximum Contaminant Level - The "Maximum Allowed" (MCL) is 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.

WATER SOURCES & CONTAMINANTS AND ANY VIOLATIONS

Our drinking water source is from 12 active groundwater wells. This water system includes the Mountain and Meadow areas, Cascade, Sweetgrass Hills, Hidden Village, Aspen Groves, Town Center, Southfork and West Fork subdivisions.

Public Participation Opportunities: Visit <https://bigskywatersewer.com> for upcoming board meetings.

Sources of Drinking 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.

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 EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

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

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations that limit the number of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

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 healthcare providers. EPA/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 (800-426-4791).

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. We are responsible for providing high-quality drinking water, but we 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 are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

Source Water Information for Big Sky County Water And Sewer Dist 363
 which is classified as a *Ground Water* system

The source water assessment report for your water system provides additional information on your source water's susceptibility to contamination. To access this report please go to:

<https://deq.mt.gov/water/Programs/dw-sourcewater>

On the webpage look under "4. Make Results of the Delineation and Assessment Available to the Public" and then click on the grey box called "Review Source Water Assessment Reports".

Big Sky County Water And Sewer Dist 363 utilizes the listed water sources below:

Water Source Name	Water Source Type
WELL MTNV 1 GWIC 108809	Well
WELL MTNV 5 CASCADE 5 GWIC 248989	Well
WELL MTNV 4 GWIC 103496	Well
WELL MTNV 6 CASCADE 6 GWIC 244347	Well
WELL MTNV 2 GWIC 108810	Well
WELL MTNV 3 GWIC 108811	Well
WELL MEADOW VILLAGE MDV 3 GWIC 166989	Well
WELL MEADOW VILLAGE 4 MDV 4 GWIC 236777	Well
WELL MEADOW VILLAGE 5 MDW 5 GWIC 236778	Well
WELL LONE MOOSE 1 GWIC 170083	Well
WELL LONE MOOSE 2 GWIC 187212	Well
WELL MEADOW VILLAGE MDV 1 GWIC 103505	Well

WELL MEADOW VILLAGE MDV 2 GWIC 103507	Well
WELL MTNV 7 GWIC 205931	Well

Water Quality Test Results Definitions

Definitions: The following tables contain scientific terms and measures, some of which may require explanation.

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

Avg: Regulatory compliance with some MCLs is based on running an annual average of monthly samples.

Level 1 Assessment: A Level 1 assessment is a study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system.

Level 2 Assessment: A Level 2 assessment is a very detailed study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why an E. coli MCL violation has occurred and/or why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system on multiple occasions.

Maximum Contaminant Level or MCL: The highest level of contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal or MCLG: 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.

Maximum residual disinfectant level or MRDL: The highest level of disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that the addition of a disinfectant is necessary for the control of microbial contaminants.

Maximum residual disinfectant level goal or MRDLG: 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.

N/A: Not applicable.

ND: Not detectable at testing limit.

Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU) – Measure of the clarity or cloudiness of water. Turbidity more than 5 NTU is just noticeable to the typical person.

Picocuries per liter (pCi/L) – Measure of the radioactivity in water.

ppb: micrograms per liter or parts per billion - or one ounce in 7,350,000 gallons of water.

ppm: milligrams per liter or parts per million - or one ounce in 7,350 gallons of water.

Secondary Maximum Contaminant Level (SMCL): SMCLs are established as guidelines to assist public water systems in managing their drinking water for aesthetic considerations, such as taste, color, and odor. These contaminants are not considered to present a risk to human health at the SMCL.

Treatment Technique or TT: A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

The State of Montana DEQ requires 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, 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.

Lead and Copper								
Lead and Copper	Date Sampled	MCLG	Action Level (AL)	90th Percentile	# Sites Over AL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination

Copper	09-28-2022	1.3	1.3	0.188	0	ppm	N	Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives; Corrosion of household plumbing systems.
Lead	09-28-2022	0	15	2	0	ppb	N	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits.

Coliform Bacteria

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal	Total Coliform Maximum Contaminant Level	Highest No of Positive	Fecal Coliform or E Coli Maximum Contaminant Level	Total No of Positive E Coli or Fecal Coliform Samples	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
0	1 positive monthly sample.	1		0	N	Naturally present in the environment.

Regulated Contaminants

Contaminant Group: Inorganic Contaminants

Regulated Contaminants	Collection Year	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Barium	2022	0.16	ND - .16	2	2	ppm	N	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits.
Fluoride	2022	1	.1 - 1	4	4	ppm	N	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
Selenium	2022	2	ND - 2	50	50	ppb	N	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from mines.
Nitrate [measured as Nitrogen]	2023	6	ND - 7.06	10	10	ppm	N	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.

Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 10 ppm is a health risk for infants of less than six 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 of rainfall or agricultural activity. If you are caring for an infant you should ask advice from your health care provider.

Contaminant Group: Radioactive Contaminants

Regulated Contaminants	Collection Year	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Uranium	2022	0.90	ND - .9	0	30	ppb	N	Erosion of natural deposits.

Secondary Contaminants

Secondary Contaminant	Collection Year	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels	SMCL	Units	Likely Source of Contamination and or Reason for Monitoring
MANGANESE	2023	9	0 - 9	50	ppb	Natural sources as well as discharges from industrial uses

Water may naturally have manganese and, when concentrations are greater than 50 ppb, the water may be discolored and taste bad. Over a lifetime, the EPA recommends that people drink water with manganese levels less than 300 ppb and over the short term, EPA recommends that people limit their consumption of water with levels over 1000 ppb, primarily due to concerns about possible neurological effects. Children younger than one year old should not be given water with manganese concentrations over 300 ppb, nor should formula for infants be made with that water for more than a total of 10 days throughout the year.

MCL's are set at very stringent levels. To understand the possible health effects described for many regulated constituents, a person would have to drink 2 liters of water every day at the MCL level for a lifetime to have a one-in-a-million chance of having the described health effect. 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 microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

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This report will not be mailed to you however if you have any questions about this report, or concerning your water, please contact Jake Porter the Districts Certified Operator at (406)-995-2660. You can also visit the District's web site at <http://www.bigskywatersewer.com> for more information. We ask that all our customers help us protect and conserve our water sources. If you would like to learn more, the Big Sky County Water & Sewer District No.363 typically meets on the 3rd Tuesday of each month.