ELLSWORTH CO RWD 1

Consumer Confidence Report – 2026

Covering Calendar Year – 2025

This brochure is a snapshot of the quality of the water that we provided last year. Included are the details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and state standards. We are committed to providing you with information because informed customers are our best allies. If you would like to observe the decision-making process that affect drinking water quality, please call TERRY RANKER at 785-472-4486.

Your water comes from Surface water.

Source Name	Source Water Type
INTAKE 999	Surface water
INTAKE 999 NONPWS	Surface water

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as those 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 Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

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 (800-426-4791).

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) included 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 sources water before we treat it include:

Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, livestock operations and wildlife.

Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban storm water 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 storm water run-off, agriculture, and residential users.

Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or the result of mining activity.

Organic contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and also come from gas stations, urban storm water run-off, and septic systems.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulation which limits the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. We treat our water according to EPA's regulations. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health.

Our water system is required to test a minimum of 4 sample(s) per month in accordance with the Revised Total Coliform Rule for microbiological contaminants. Coliform bacteria are usually harmless, but their presence in water can be an indication of disease-causing bacteria. When coliform bacteria are found, special follow-up tests are done to determine if harmful bacteria are present in the water supply. If this limit is exceeded, the water supplier must notify the public.

Water Quality Data

The following tables list all of the drinking water contaminants which were detected during the 2025 calendar year. The presence of these contaminants does not necessarily indicate the water poses a health risk. Unless noted, the data presented in this table is from the testing done January 1- December 31, 2025. The state 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. Some of the data, though representative of the water quality, is more than one year old. **The bottom line is that the water that is provided to you is safe.**

Terms & Abbreviations

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG): the "Goal" is the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to human health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL): the "Maximum Allowed" 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.

Secondary Maximum Contaminant Level (SMCL): recommended level for a contaminant that is not regulated and has no MCL.

Action Level (AL): the concentration of a contaminant that, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements.

Treatment Technique (TT): a required process intended to reduce levels of a contaminant in drinking water.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL): the highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

Non-Detects (ND): lab analysis indicates that the contaminant is not present.

Parts per Million (ppm): or milligrams per liter (mg/L)

Parts per Billion (ppb): or micrograms per liter (µg/L)

Picocuries per Liter (pCi/L): a measure of the radioactivity in water.

Millirems per Year (mrem/yr): measure of radiation absorbed by the body.

Monitoring Period Average (MPA): An average of sample results obtained during a defined time frame, common examples of monitoring periods are monthly, quarterly and yearly.

Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU): a measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person. Turbidity is not regulated for groundwater systems.

Running Annual Average (RAA): an average of sample results obtained over the most current 12 months and used to determine compliance with MCLs.

Locational Running Annual Average (LRAA): Average of sample analytical results for samples taken at a particular monitoring location during the previous four calendar quarters.

Regulated Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Value	Range (Low/high)	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source
ATRAZINE	5/6/2025	0.6	0.6	ppb	3	3	Runoff from herbicide used on row crops
BARIUM	4/15/2025	0.075	0.075	ppm	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
FLUORIDE	4/15/2025	0.27	0.27	ppm	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
SELENIUM	4/15/2025	1.2	1.2	ppb	50	50	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from mines

There are no additional required health effects notices.

Radiological Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Value	Range	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source
COMBINED RADIUM (-226 & -228)	6/9/2020	1	1	PCI/L	5	0	Erosion of natural deposits
GROSS ALPHA, INCL. RADON & U	6/9/2020	3	3	PCI/L	15	0	Erosion of natural deposits
RADIUM-228	6/9/2020	1	1	PCI/L	5	0	Erosion of natural deposits

Disinfection Byproducts	Sample Point	Period	Highest LRAA	Range	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source
TOTAL HALOACETIC ACIDS (HAA5)	105 RIVERSIDE DR (NEAR POE-COE)	2025	20	17 - 17	ppb	60	0	By-product of drinking water disinfection
TOTAL HALOACETIC ACIDS (HAA5)	2513 S 80TH AVE (ARRIS SIGLE)	2025	21	23.3 - 23.3	ppb	60	0	By-product of drinking water disinfection
TTHM	105 RIVERSIDE DR (NEAR POE-COE)	2025	47	19.2 - 19.2	ppb	80	0	By-product of drinking water chlorination
TTHM	2513 S 80TH AVE (ARRIS SIGLE)	2025	76	85.2 - 85.2	ppb	80	0	By-product of drinking water chlorination

There is no safe level of lead in drinking water. Exposure to lead in drinking water can cause serious health effects in all age groups. Infants and children can have decreases in IQ and attention span. Lead exposure can lead to new learning and behavior problems or exacerbate existing learning and behavior problems. The children of women who are exposed to lead before or during pregnancy can have increased risk of these adverse health effects. Adults can have increased risks of heart disease, high blood pressure, kidney or nervous system problems.

Lead and Copper	Monitoring Period	90TH Percentile	Range (low/high)	Unit	AL	Sites Over AL	Typical Source
COPPER, FREE	2021 - 2023	0.18	0.013 - 0.23	ppm	1.3	0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives

LEAD	2021 - 2023	1.5	0 - 3.3	ppb	15	0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits

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. **ELLSWORTH CO RWD 1** is responsible for providing high quality drinking water and removing lead pipes but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components in your home. You share the responsibility for protecting yourself and your family from the lead in your home plum bing. You can take responsibility by identifying and removing lead materials within your home plumbing and taking steps to reduce your family's risk. Before drinking tap water, flush your pipes for several minutes by running your tap, taking a shower, doing laundry or a load of dishes. You can also use a filter certified by an American National Standards Institute accredited certifier to reduce lead in drinking water. If you are concerned about lead in your water and wish to have your water tested, contact **ELLSWORTH CO RWD 1** at **785-472-4486**. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

The Lead and Copper rules require water systems to develop and maintain a Service Line Inventory. The service line is the underground pipe that supplies your home or building with water. To view the Service Line Inventory, which lists the material type(s) for your location, you may view the inventory at: **[Insert a direct link to the website or physical location/address where the inventory is publicly accessible to be viewed]**.

Chlorine/Chloramines Maximum Disinfection Level	MPA	MPA Units	RAA	RAA Units
3/1/2025 - 3/31/2025	3.30000	MG/L	2.80000	MG/L

Total Organic Carbon Lowest Month for Removal	Number of Samples	Actual Removal Ratio	Required Removal Ratio	Lowest Monthly Removal Ratio
11/1/2025 - 11/30/2025	12	1.95	1.0 RATIO	1.13

Secondary Contaminants – Non-Health Based Contaminants - No Federal Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) Established.	Collection Date	Highest Value	Range (low/high)	Unit	SMCL
ALKALINITY, TOTAL	4/15/2025	130	130	MG/L	300
ALUMINUM	4/15/2025	0.029	0.029	MG/L	0.05
CALCIUM	4/15/2025	80	80	MG/L	200
CHLORIDE	4/15/2025	230	230	MG/L	250
CHLORITE	4/8/2025	0.87	0.71 - 0.87	ppm	1
CONDUCTIVITY @ 25 C UMHOS/CM	4/15/2025	1200	1200	UMHO/CM	1500
CORROSIVITY	4/15/2025	0.11	0.11	LANG	0
HARDNESS, TOTAL (AS CACO3)	4/15/2025	270	270	MG/L	400
MAGNESIUM	4/15/2025	16	16	MG/L	150
MANGANESE	4/15/2025	0.0023	0.0023	MG/L	0.05
NICKEL	4/15/2025	0.0018	0.0018	MG/L	0.1
PH	4/15/2025	7.6	7.6	PH	8.5
PHOSPHORUS, TOTAL	4/15/2025	0.35	0.35	MG/L	5
POTASSIUM	4/15/2025	11	11	MG/L	100
SODIUM	4/15/2025	140	140	MG/L	100
SULFATE	4/15/2025	160	160	MG/L	250
TDS	4/15/2025	750	750	MG/L	500

Additional Required Health Effects Language:

Some people who drink water containing trihalomethanes in excess of the MCL over many years may experience problems with their liver, kidneys, or central nervous systems, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

There are no additional required health effects violation notices.