



# *The Water We Drink*

*2023 Consumer Confidence Report  
Issued: May 2024*



**Annual Drinking Water Quality Report**  
**Rock Springs Municipal Utility**  
**PWS ID#: WY 5601182C**  
**City of Rock Springs**



# Annual Water Quality Report

## 2023 Consumer Confidence Report



Issued: May 2024

Rock Springs Municipal Utility and the Joint Powers Water Board are pleased to present this year's **Annual Water Quality Report.**

This report is designed to inform you about the quality of water and services we deliver to our customers every day. It is our commitment and our goal to provide you a safe and dependable supply of drinking water.



### WHERE DOES MY WATER COME FROM?

Our water source is surface water from the Green River.

### SOURCE WATER ASSESSMENT REPORTS

Source Water Assessment Reports are available and can be obtained through WYDEQ on their internet site under Water Quality, Watershed Protection, Water Quality Assessment, Section 303(d). The reports can be read online or downloaded.

### IS MY WATER SAFE?



We are pleased to report that your drinking water is **SAFE** and meets all Federal and State requirements.

### CONTINUED EFFORTS & FOCUS

*Our continued efforts are focused on optimizing the water treatment process, ensuring quality water, and protecting our water resources.*

- TREATMENT PROCESS
- QUALITY WATER
- WATER SOURCES





## CONTACTS



*If you have any questions about this report or concerns regarding your water utility please contact:*

**Clint Zambai**  
**City of Rock Springs**  
**Water Superintendent**  
**307-352-1405**

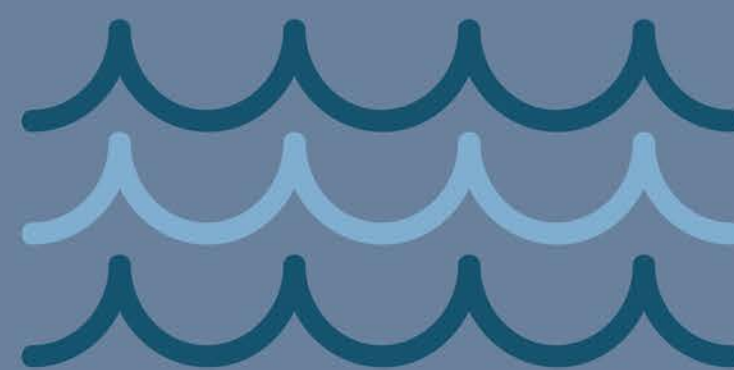
**David Latorre**  
**Water Treatment Plant**  
**Joint Powers Water Board**  
**307-875-4317 Ext.225**

**City of Rock Springs**  
**Rock Springs Municipal Utility**  
**Billing Department**  
**307-352-1527**

## GET INVOLVED

*We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility.*

To learn more, please attend any of the regular City Council meetings, which are held on the 1st & 3rd Tuesdays of each month or the Joint Powers Water Board meetings, which are held on the fourth Thursday of each month. All meetings are advertised for times and location.



**This notice is being sent to you by**  
**Rock Springs Municipal Utility**  
**State Water System PWSID#**

WY 5601182C

**Date Distributed**

May 1st, 2024



## IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

**Availability of Monitoring Data  
for Unregulated Contaminants  
for Rock Springs Municipal Utility**

Our water system has sampled for a series of unregulated contaminants. Unregulated contaminants are those that don't yet have a drinking water standard set by the EPA. The purpose of monitoring for these contaminants is to help the EPA decide whether the contaminants should have a standard. As our customers, you have a right to know that these data are available. If you are interested in examining the results, please contact Clint Zambai, Water Superintendent, at 307-352-1405, or by mail at 212 D Street, Rock Springs, WY 82901.





# Understanding

## THE TEST RESULTS

On the "Test Results" table, you will find many terms and abbreviations you might not be familiar with. To help you better understand these terms, we've provided the following definitions:



TERM & ABBREVIATION		DEFINITION
<i>Parts per million or Milligrams per liter</i>	<b>ppm or mg/L</b>	Represents the unit of measure for the concentration of a contaminant in water – one part per million corresponds to one minute in two (2) years, or one penny in \$10,000.
<i>Parts per billion or Micrograms per liter</i>	<b>ppb or ug/l</b>	Represents the unit of measure for the concentration of a contaminant in water – one part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000.
<i>picocurie</i>	<b>pCi/L</b>	a picocurie (one trillionth) of a Curie, is a unit of measurement used to measure the activity of radionuclide contaminants in drinking water. To put the relative size of one trillionth into perspective, consider that if the Earth were reduced to one trillionth of its diameter, the "picoEarth" would be smaller in diameter than a speck of dust. In fact, it would be six times smaller than the thickness of a human hair.
<i>Nephelometric Turbidity Unit</i>	<b>NTU</b>	nephelometric turbidity unit is a measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity in excess of five (5) NTU is just noticeable to the average person.
<i>Variances &amp; Exemptions</i>	<b>V&amp;E</b>	State or EPA permission not to meet an MCL or a treatment technique under certain conditions.
<i>Action Level</i>	<b>AL</b>	the concentration of a contaminant, which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
<i>Treatment Technique</i>	<b>TT</b>	a treatment technique is a required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water
<i>Maximum Contaminant Level</i>	<b>MCL</b>	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. ***
<i>Maximum Contaminant Level Goal</i>	<b>MCLG</b>	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.





# TEST RESULTS

The water plant routinely monitors for constituents in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws.

The following table, shows the results of the monitoring for the period of January 1 to December 31, 2023.

The City of Rock Springs—Rock Springs Municipal Utility, along with the Joint Powers Water Board, tests for 76 bacteria/chemical contaminants in the water system. Of the 76, the only ones that are detectable are as follows:

Contaminant	Yes/No Violation	Level Detected	Unit of Measurement	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Turbidity Met Treatment Rule	NO	.203	NTU	N/A	TT	Soil Runoff.
Nitrate as N	NO	.14	ppm	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use, leaching from septic tanks, sewage, and/or erosion of natural deposits.
Acrylamide	NO	0.00009	ppm	0	TT	Added to water during the treatment process.
Fluoride	NO	.2	ppm	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits, discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories, and/or water additive which promotes strong teeth.
Total Organic Carbons (TOC) Actual % Removed	NO	Highest 4.7 Lowest 1.5 Annual Avg 68.08%	ppm	N/A	N/A	Trees, grass, animals & other carbon base life forms found in and around the water source.
Haloacetic acids (HAA-5s)	NO	18.5	ppb	N/A	60 Annual Avg	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs)	NO	37.75	ppb	N/A	80 Annual Avg	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.
Lead—90th percentile Based on 30 samples (4th highest value) Collected between June—Aug 2022	NO	3	ppb	N/A	AL= 15 ppb	Corrosion of household plumbing systems and/or erosion of natural deposits. This sample was taken from a private residence on the system.
Copper—90th percentile Based on 30 samples (4th highest value) Collected between June—Aug 2022	NO	.72	ppm	1.3 ppm	AL=1.30 ppm	Corrosion of household plumbing systems and/or erosion of natural deposits. This sample was taken from a private residence on the system.
Bromate	NO	ND	ppm	0	10	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.
Chlorine	NO	Highest 1.60 Lowest .09	ppm	4	4	Water additive used to control microbes.
Radionuclides Gross Alpha 1/11/23 Gross Beta 1/2017 Radium 228 1/11/23 Uranium 1/11/23	NO NO NO NO	.02 0.7 0.04 .0015	pCi/L pCi/L pCi/L ppb	N/A N/A N/A N/A	15 50 5 30	Erosion of natural deposits. Erosion of natural deposits. Erosion of natural deposits. Naturally present in the environment.
Lithium	NO	Highest 16 Lowest 0 Annual Avg 9.625	ppb	N/A	N/A	A naturally occurring metal. May be found at higher concentrations in certain parts of the country, particularly in groundwater sources in arid locations in Western U.S.

1 Turbidity is reported as the highest single measurement and the lowest monthly percentage of samples meeting the turbidity limits specified for the filtration technology being used. Turbidity has no health effects. However, turbidity can interfere with Disinfection and provide a medium for microbial growth. Turbidity may indicate the presence of disease-causing organisms. These organisms include bacteria, viruses, and parasites that can cause symptoms such as nausea, cramps, diarrhea and associated headaches.







*Our system had no violations.  
We are proud to report that your water  
meets or exceeds State and Federal Regulations.*

## **NO VIOLATIONS**

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.**

*The sources of drinking water  
include rivers, lakes, streams,  
ponds, reservoirs, springs and  
wells. As water travels over the  
surface of the land or through  
the ground, it can dissolve  
naturally occurring minerals and  
in some cases, radioactive  
materials. The water can also  
pickup substances such as those  
listed below:*

### **Microbial contaminant:**

such as viruses and bacteria, which may  
come from sewage treatment plants,  
septic systems, agriculture 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 agriculture, urban  
storm water run off and residential uses.

### **Organic chemical contaminants:**

which can come from industrial processes,  
gas stations, urban storm water runoff and  
septic systems.

### **Radioactive contaminants:**

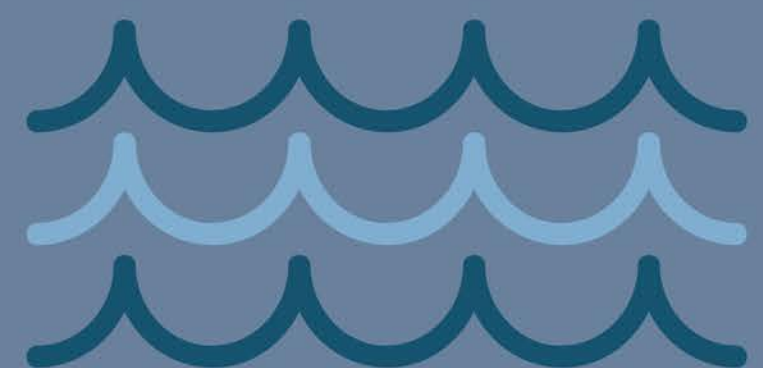
which can be naturally occurring or the  
result of oil and gas production and mining  
activities.

## **EPA REGULATIONS**

In order to ensure that tap water is  
safe to drink, the EPA establishes  
regulations, which limit the amount  
of certain contaminants in water  
provided by public water systems.

The Food & Drug Administration  
establishes limits for contaminants  
in bottled water. 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 1-800-246-4791.





**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 effects.**

**Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immune-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.**

**POSSIBLE HEALTH EFFECTS  
AND PERSONS AT RISK**



# LITHIUM

## and the Fifth Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR5)

### *What is Lithium?*

Lithium is a naturally occurring metal and may be found at higher concentrations in certain parts of the country, particularly in groundwater sources in arid locations in the Western U.S. Lithium has been used in pharmaceuticals for a long time to treat certain medical conditions under the care of a physician. Despite the abundance of information on patients receiving lithium at therapeutic levels, there has historically been limited information available to evaluate health risks in people at the levels associated with typical drinking water consumption, which are thought to be much lower than patients prescribed lithium as therapy. Getting a better understanding of how much environmental lithium the public may be exposed to is one of the reasons the EPA is choosing to monitor for the presence and levels of lithium in drinking water systems around the country.

At present, EPA cannot confidently estimate the risk for people with lithium exposure from drinking water between the UCMR5 reporting limit of 9 µg/L (micrograms per liter) and a much higher concentration equivalent to a therapeutic dose. Therapeutic doses of lithium generally range from 600 to 1,200 mg/day (milligrams per day), which would be the equivalent of drinking water containing  $\geq 240,000$  µg/L lithium. The science on the potential for lithium's effect on human health, and at what levels, including those which may be present in the environment, is still evolving. For more information on lithium, visit the website:

<http://www.epa.gov/dwucmr/fifth-unregulated-contaminant-monitoring-rule#lithium>

### *Fifth Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR5)*

As a part of an on-going evaluation program, the EPA has required us to monitor for some contaminants in drinking water that are not currently regulated. Under the UCMR5, EPA is gathering information on the occurrence of 29 per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) and lithium in drinking water. UCMR5 is intended to improve understanding about the presence and quantity of these substances in public drinking water systems, and EPA often does not have full knowledge of the health effects for these unregulated contaminants.

The UCMR5 data collected on PFAS and lithium from drinking water systems will help the EPA make determinations about future regulations and other actions to protect public health under the Safe Drinking Water Act. The process of developing regulatory standards is careful, deliberative, and data based. Monitoring for contaminants that are not regulated also helps federal, state, and other researchers prioritize studies for health effects information, identify data gaps, and determine the need for future studies to improve our understanding of the possible health risks associated with these contaminants in public drinking water. Information collected through the monitoring of these contaminants will help to ensure that future decisions on drinking water standards are based on sound science. For more information about UCMR5, visit:

<https://www.epa.gov/dwucmr/fifth-unregulated-contaminant-monitoring-rule>



## **LEAD, CRYPTOSPORIDIUM, OTHER MICROBIOLOGICAL CONTAMINANTS, AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

### **LEAD**

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. GR/RS/SW Co. Joint Powers Water Board 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 the 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 (1-800-426-4791) or at the website: <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>

### **CRYPTOSPORIDIUM & OTHER MICROBIOLOGICAL CONTAMINANTS**

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 (1-800-426-4791). Ingestion of Cryptosporidium may cause cryptosporidiosis, an abdominal infection. Symptoms of infection include nausea, diarrhea, and abdominal cramps. Cryptosporidium must be ingested to cause disease, and it may be spread through means other than drinking water.

The GR/RS/SW Co. Joint Powers Water Board finished its 24-month required monitoring of our Source water (the Green River) for Cryptosporidium on September 18, 2018. No Cryptosporidium was detected. The GR/RS/SW Co. Joint Powers Water Board water treatment plant was designed with filtration plus an ozone disinfection system to specifically address microbial and other organic contaminants in the source water.

### **ADDITIONAL COPIES & ALTERNATE FORMATS OF THIS REPORT**

**Additional copies and alternate formats of our Annual Drinking Water Quality Report may be obtained at City Hall: 212 D St., Rock Springs, WY or on our website: [www.rswy.net](http://www.rswy.net).**

