

# 2025

## Water Quality Report



**AURORA  
WATER**

**CITY OF AURORA, COLORADO**

All data from January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024,  
unless otherwise noted.

Public Water System Identification CO0103005.

# Aurora Water **CONTACT INFORMATION**

## **Customer Service, emergencies and water reconnects**

During business hours  
7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
Monday-Friday 303.326.8645

After business hours  
5 p.m. to 7 a.m.  
Every day, including  
weekends and holidays  
303.739.6772

**General inquiries**  
(non billing) 303.739.7370

**AuroraWater.org**

## **Additional CONTACTS**

**EPA's Safe Drinking  
Water Hotline**  
800.426.4791





# WHAT IS THIS REPORT?

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) requires public water supplies that serve the same people year-round (community water systems) to provide consumer confidence reports to their customers. These reports are also known as annual water quality reports. Aurora is required to monitor its drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether our drinking water meets health standards. Aurora's water meets or exceeds all state and federal drinking water standards.


This report summarizes information regarding water sources used, any detected contaminants, compliance and education.

The 2025 Water Quality Report is available for download at **[AuroraGov.org/CCR](https://AuroraGov.org/CCR)**. Reports from previous years can be viewed at **[AuroraGov.org/Residents/Water/Water\\_System/Water\\_Quality](https://AuroraGov.org/Residents/Water/Water_System/Water_Quality)**.

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이 보고서에는 귀하의 식수에 대한 중요한 내용이 실려있습니다. 그러므로 이 보고서를 이해할 수 있는 사람한테 번역해 달라고 부탁드립니다.

Este informe contiene información importante acerca de su agua potable. Haga que alguien lo traduzca para usted, o hable con alguien que lo entienda.



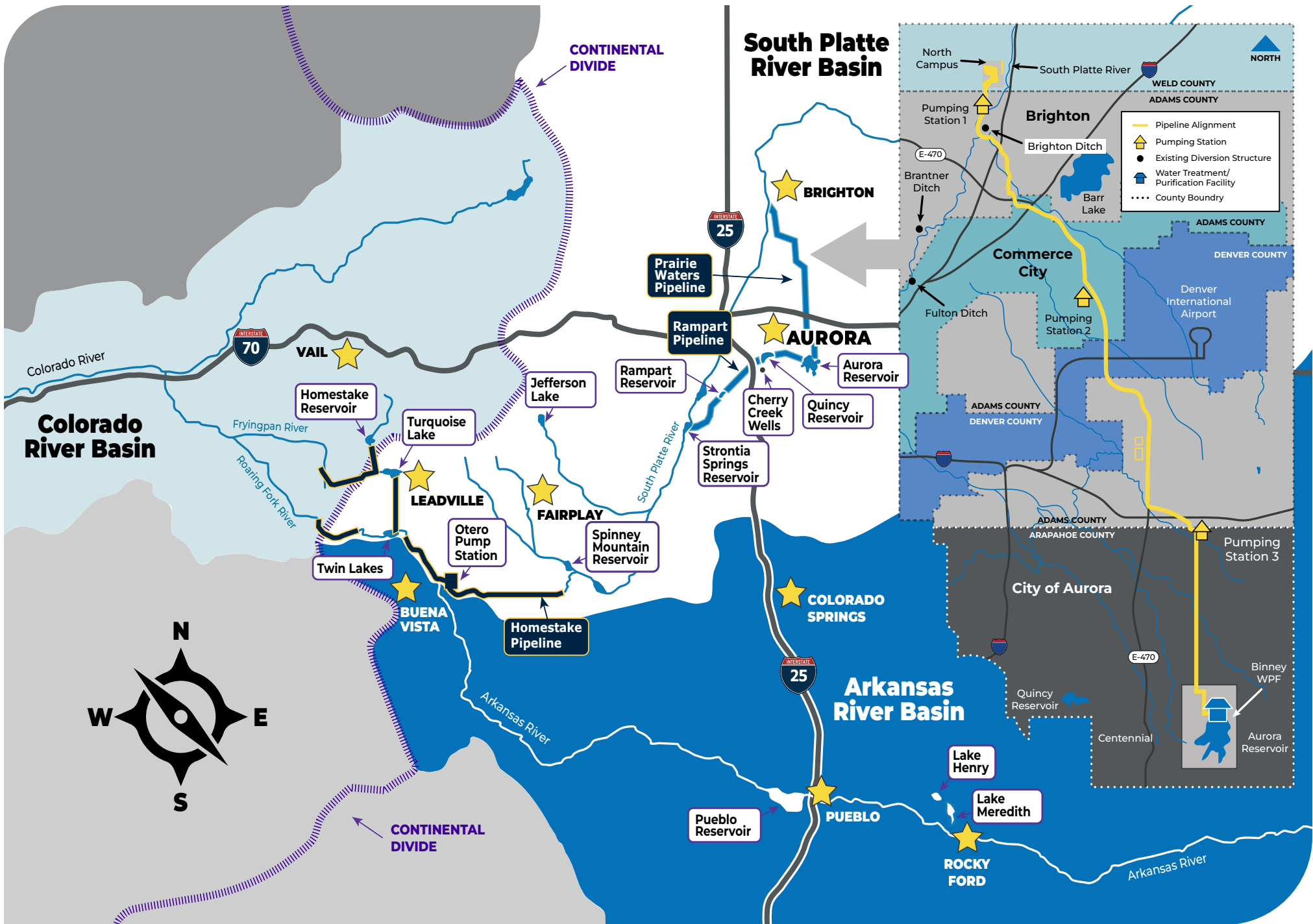
**Our 2025 Water Quality Report is an EPA-mandated disclosure of our 2024 performance.**

If you have any questions or need more information, visit our website at **[AuroraWater.org](https://AuroraWater.org)**.



## Get Involved

Aurora Water wants you to be involved in the decisions that affect you, so we hope you will participate by attending public meetings of the Citizens' Water Advisory Commission, Water Policy Committee and City Council. You can find meeting times and agendas at **[AuroraGov.org/City\\_Hall](https://AuroraGov.org/City_Hall)**.



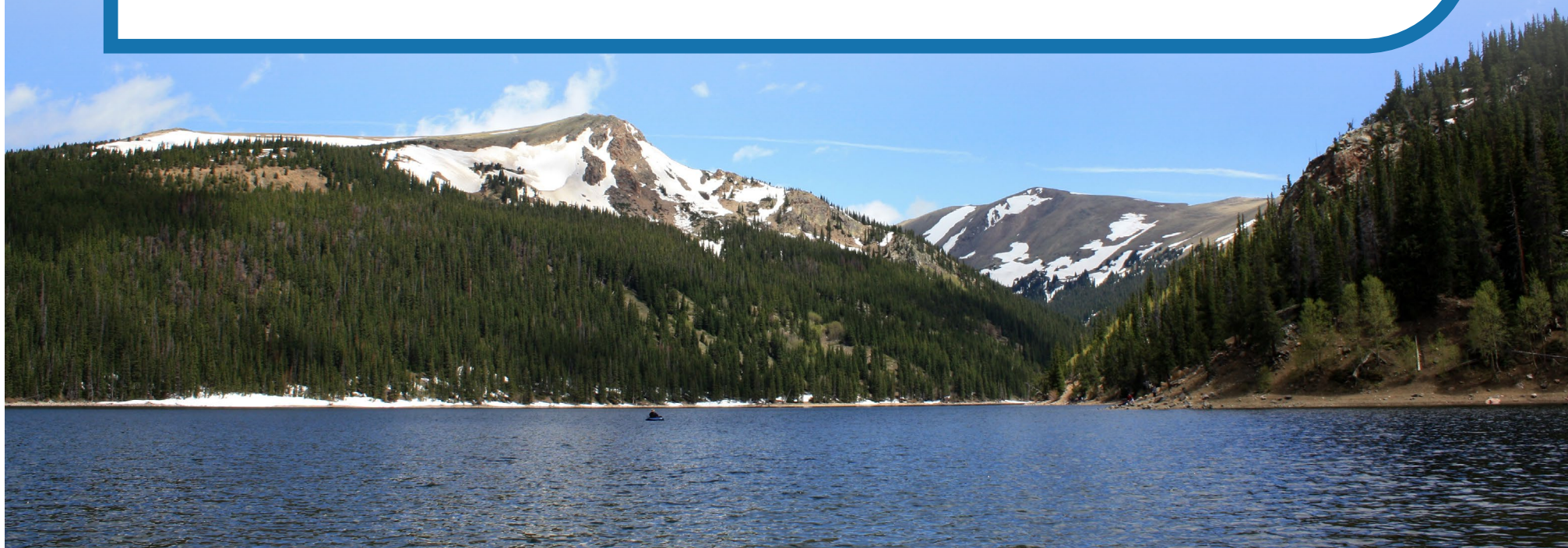


# YOUR DRINKING WATER

## Where does our drinking water come from?

In Colorado, we rely heavily on snowmelt for our water supply, but from year to year, it can be difficult to predict how much will be available. That's why we've developed a diverse water portfolio that allows us to access water from a variety of sources, ensuring that we will have adequate supplies to meet demand.

Our water travels from up to 150 miles away and our system includes the use of reservoirs, the natural river system, pipes, tunnels and pumps, all of which help us pull the water we own from the Arkansas, Colorado and South Platte river basins. This water is stored in 12 reservoirs and lakes: Aurora, Henry/Meredith, Homestake, Jefferson, Pueblo, Quincy, Rampart, Spinney Mountain, Strontia Springs, Turquoise and Twin Lakes. Some of the water pulled out of the South Platte River is through our North Campus wells and out of the alluvial groundwater near our Cherry Creek wells.







**Griswold Water Purification Facility**



**Wemlinger Water Purification Facility**



**Peter D. Binney Water Purification Facility**

## Treatment process

Like most public water systems around the country, Aurora Water uses multi-step treatment processes to turn raw water into clean, safe drinking water.

The Thomas J. Griswold and the Charles A. Wemlinger water purification facilities use direct filtration processes, which include coagulation, flocculation, filtration and disinfection. Each facility has the capacity to treat up to 80 million gallons of water per day.

The Peter D. Binney Water Purification Facility has two treatment trains. One train uses a conventional treatment process, which includes coagulation, flocculation, sedimentation and biological filtration. The other treatment train uses an advanced treatment process, which includes softening, advanced UV oxidation, biological filtration and granular activated carbon filtration.

Water from each process at Binney is then combined and undergoes disinfection. The facility has the capacity to treat up to 50 million gallons of water per day.

All three facilities have achieved the Phase IV “Excellence in Treatment” designation, the highest level awarded by the Partnership for Safe Water (PSW). The PSW is an alliance of six prestigious drinking water organizations, including American Water Works Association and EPA. Aurora Water is the only water provider in the country to earn this designation at three facilities.

To date, a total of 19 treatment plants in the United States have successfully achieved this Phase IV designation. For more information on the PSW, visit [AWWA.org/Resources-Tools/Programs/Partnership-for-Safe-Water](https://www.awwa.org/Resources-Tools/Programs/Partnership-for-Safe-Water).



# AWARDS for Outstanding Water Treatment\*

## **Phase IV Presidents Award for Distribution System Operation**

Partnership for Safe Water 2023

## **Phase IV 15 Year Excellence in Water Treatment Award**

**(Wemlinger Water Treatment Facility)**

Partnership for Safe Water 2023

## **Phase IV Excellence in Treatment**

**(Binney, Griswold, Wemlinger)**

Partnership for Safe Water 2024

## **Outstanding Water Laboratory:**

**Aurora Water Quality Control Laboratory**

Rocky Mountain Section of the American Water Works Association  
2024

## **Outstanding Water Treatment Plant**

Rocky Mountain Section of the American Water Works Association  
2018

## **Best Tasting Water**

**First Place 2023**

**Second Place 2019**

**Tied for Third Place 2022**

Rocky Mountain Section of the  
American Water Works Association

\*For a list of additional awards, visit  
[AuroraGov.org/PartnershipForSafeWater](https://AuroraGov.org/PartnershipForSafeWater).





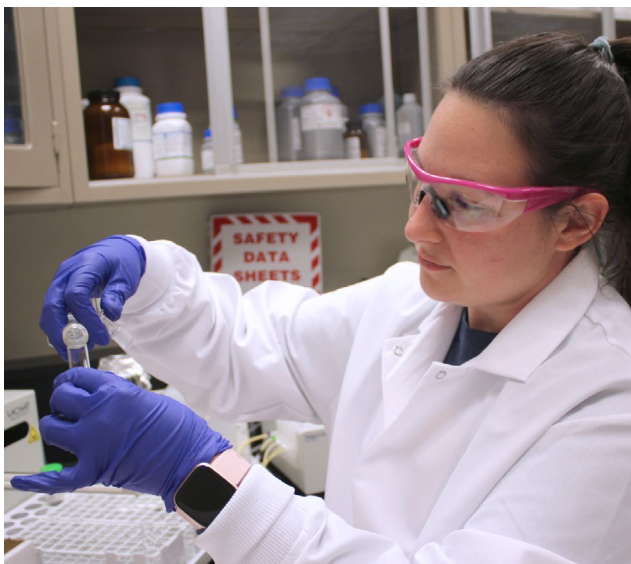


# FROM TREATMENT TO TAP

## How does Aurora Water monitor water quality?

Aurora Water's monitoring program – far more extensive than required by law – demonstrates that the quality of the city's drinking water remains high and meets all federal and state drinking water standards. Each year, our dedicated team conducts more than 85,000 tests system wide. These tests confirm that our city's tap water meets or exceeds all regulations set by the Safe Drinking Water Act. To safeguard your health, Aurora Water tests for many other contaminants that are not regulated, and therefore are not included in the table of detected contaminants (see page 13).

Most tests on our water are conducted in our Quality Control Laboratory, which is certified by the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment. Independent laboratories conduct other tests as necessary.





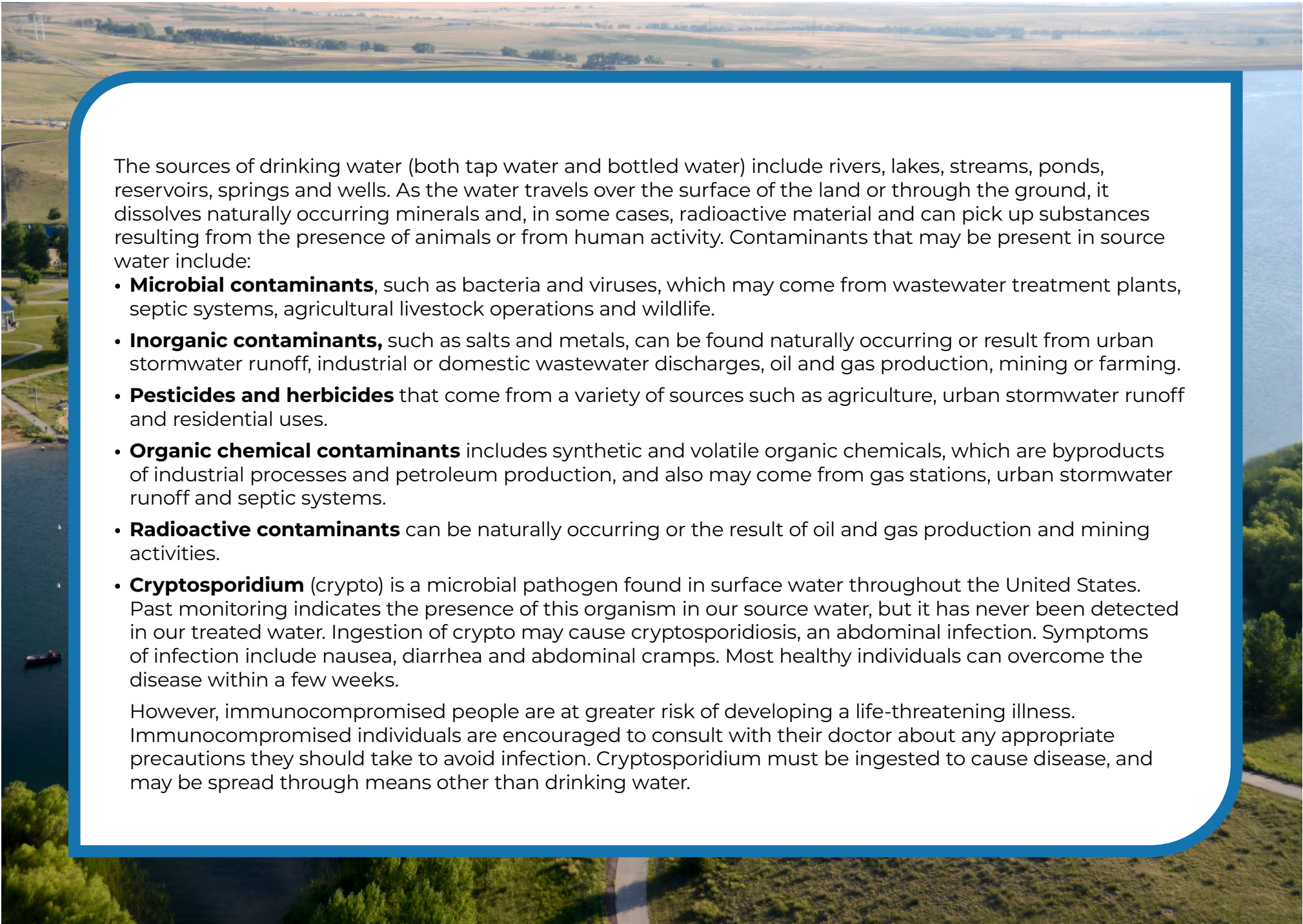
An aerial photograph showing a golf course with green fairways and brown sand traps, situated next to a river. The river has a concrete-lined bank in the foreground. A large blue-bordered white box with rounded corners is overlaid on the right side of the image, containing text. The background shows dry, hilly terrain with some trees and distant buildings.

## Source water assessment

The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) has completed a source water assessment of the potential for contaminants reaching any of Aurora Water's terminal supplies, the last stop for the water before it is treated. The potential sources of contamination that may exist are: EPA areas of concern; permitted wastewater discharge sites; above ground, underground and leaking storage tank sites; solid waste sites; existing or abandoned mine sites; other facilities; commercial, industrial and transportation activities; residential, urban recreational grasses; quarries, strip mines and gravel pits; agriculture; forests; septic systems; oil and gas wells and roads. For more information on the report, contact the CDPHE by calling **303.692.2000** or visiting **[Colorado.gov/CDPHE/CCR](https://colorado.gov/CDPHE/CCR)**. The report is located under "Guidance: Source Water Assessment Reports."

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 high-quality drinking water is delivered to you.





The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs and wells. As the 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 source water include:

- **Microbial contaminants**, such as bacteria and viruses, which may come from wastewater treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations and wildlife.
- **Inorganic contaminants**, such as salts and metals, can be found naturally occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining or farming.
- **Pesticides and herbicides** that come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff and residential uses.
- **Organic chemical contaminants** includes 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 the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.
- **Cryptosporidium** (crypto) is a microbial pathogen found in surface water throughout the United States. Past monitoring indicates the presence of this organism in our source water, but it has never been detected in our treated water. Ingestion of crypto may cause cryptosporidiosis, an abdominal infection. Symptoms of infection include nausea, diarrhea and abdominal cramps. Most healthy individuals can overcome the disease within a few weeks.

However, immunocompromised people are at greater risk of developing a life-threatening illness. Immunocompromised individuals are encouraged to consult with their doctor about any appropriate precautions they should take to avoid infection. Cryptosporidium must be ingested to cause disease, and may be spread through means other than drinking water.



To ensure tap water is safe to drink, the EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that must provide the same protection for public health.

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 EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline **800.426.4791**.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised people, such as people with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, people who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly people and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. The EPA and the Centers for Disease Control guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by crypto and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at **800.426.4791**.





## ABBREVIATIONS AND DEFINITIONS

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

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

**Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (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 (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.

**Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG):** The level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water, 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.

**Secondary Maximum Contaminant Level (SMCL):** The concentration of a contaminant that is recommended, but not enforceable, in drinking water due to its effect on taste, color, odor or appearance.

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

**Waiver:** State permission not to test for a specific contaminant.

**N/A:** Not applicable

**NTU:** Nephelometric Turbidity Units (a measure of water clarity)

**pCi/l:** Picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)

**ppm:** Parts per million

**ppb:** Parts per billion

**ppt:** Parts per trillion



# TABLE OF DETECTED CONTAMINANTS

The table details the contaminants detected in Aurora’s drinking water during 2024. All are well below allowed levels. The state permits monitoring less than once per year for some contaminants because the concentrations of these contaminants do not vary significantly. Some of the data, though representative, may be more than one year old. Colorado has a statewide waiver for dioxin monitoring. Aurora has monitoring waivers for cyanide and asbestos. The waivers were granted because CDPHE determined Aurora Water’s system is not vulnerable to these contaminants.

Turbidity	Violation	Units	TT Requirement	MCLG	Level Detected	Range	Sample Date	Typical Source of Contamination
Turbidity*	No	NTU	Maximum 1 NTU for any single measurement	N/A	Highest single measurement for 2024 was 0.095 NTU		May 2024	Soil runoff, river sediment provides a medium for microbiological growth
	No	%	In any month, at least 95% of samples must be less than 0.3 NTU**	N/A	100% of samples were less than 0.3 NTU	N/A		
<div>*Turbidity is a measure of the clarity of water and has no health effects. Nevertheless, turbidity may interfere with disinfection and provides a medium for microbial growth.</div> <div>**Turbidity must be less than 0.3 NTU in 95% of monthly samples. The higher the percentage the better.</div>								

Radionuclides	Violation	Units	MCL	MCLG	Average Level Detected	Range	Sample Date	Typical Source of Contamination
Combined Radium (-226 & -228)	No	pCi/L	5	0	0.19	0.19 to 0.19	2022	Decay of natural and man-made deposits
Combined Uranium	No	ppb	30	0	1.43	0.61 to 2.33	2024	Erosion of natural deposits

Copper and Lead	Violation	Units	Action Level	MCLG	90th Percentile	Range	Sample Date	Typical Source of Contamination
Copper	No	ppm	1.3	N/A	0.08	0.00225 to 0.339	June through Sept. 2024	Corrosion of household plumbing systems
Lead	No	ppb	15	N/A	2.5	0 to 7.27	June through Sept. 2024	Corrosion of household plumbing systems

Inorganic Contaminants	Violation	Units	MCL	MCLG	Average Level Detected	Range	Sample Date	Typical Source of Contamination
Barium	No	ppb	2000	2000	39.5	32.7 to 51.2	2024	Erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride	No	ppm	4	4	0.72	0.45 to 1.1	2024	Erosion of natural deposits
Mercury	No	ppb	2	2	0.1	0.1 to 0.1	2024	Erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate	No	ppm	10	10	0.28	0.08 to 0.92	2024	Runoff from fertilizer use and erosion of natural deposits
Selenium	No	ppb	50	50	0.45	<0.5 to 1.13	2024	Erosion of natural deposits

Disinfection	Violation	Units	TT Requirement	MRDLG	Average Level Detected	Range	Sample Date	Typical Source of Contamination
Chlorine Residual (Chloramines)	No	ppm	At least 95% of samples per month must be at least 0.2 ppm	4	1.76 99.52% of samples were >0.2 ppm	0.13 to 2.2	Daily	Water additive to control microbes
Chlorine Dioxide	No	ppb	N/A	800	34	0 to 300	Daily	Water additive to control microbes

Disinfection By-products Precursors	Violation	Units	TT Requirement	MRDLG	Average Removal Ratio	Range of Removal Ratios	Sample Date	Typical Source of Contamination
Total Organic Carbon	No	Ratio	Removal ratio >1	N/A	1.96	1.21 to 3.91	Monthly	Naturally present in environment

Disinfection By-products	Violation	Units	MCL	MRDLG	Average Level Detected	Range	Sample Date	Typical Source of Contamination
Chlorite	No	ppm	1.0	0.8	0.55	0.09 to 0.63	Quarterly	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Haloacetic Acids	No	ppb	60	N/A	14.83	0 to 54.4	Quarterly	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Trihalomethanes	No	ppb	80	N/A	24.34	15.2 to 51.1	Quarterly	By-product of drinking water disinfection



# SOME PRODUCTS THAT CONTAIN **PFAS**

## Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances



ELECTRONICS



NON-STICK  
COOKWARE



MICROWAVE  
POPCORN BAGS



FAST FOOD  
WRAPPERS



PAINTS, SEALANTS  
AND VARNISHES



WATER RESISTANT  
CLOTHING



NAIL POLISH



SHAMPOO AND  
PERSONAL CARE ITEMS

## What are PFAS?

PFAS, an abbreviation for perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances, is a common term for a group of human-made chemicals found in everyday products such as carpets, clothing, food packaging and cookware since the 1940s. PFOA and PFOS have been the most extensively produced and studied.

PFAS are used in many applications because of their unique physical properties such as resistance to high and low temperatures, resistance to degradation and nonstick characteristics. PFAS have been detected worldwide in the air, soil and water. Due to their widespread use and persistence in the environment, most people in the United States have been exposed to PFAS. EPA has determined there is evidence that continued exposure above specific levels to certain PFAS may cause adverse health effects.

The science around these chemicals is evolving. Scientists are hard at work understanding the chemicals, their risk to human health and how to mitigate that risk.

We encourage residents to avoid PFAS when purchasing consumer goods and new household products. This will not only protect your health but also prevent the compounds from further entering our environment.

For information on PFAS-free products, visit [PFASCentral.org/PFAS-free-products](https://PFASCentral.org/PFAS-free-products).

## The EPA has issued final drinking water standards for six types of poly- and perfluoroalkyl (PFAS) compounds. Aurora Water is committed to meeting the regulations and providing high quality drinking water.

On April 10, 2024, EPA announced the final National Primary Drinking Water Regulation for six PFAS. The regulation establishes individual maximum contaminant levels (MCLs) for five PFAS: PFOA, PFOS, PFHxS, PFNA, and HFPO-DA (GenX). It also establishes a hazard index for mixtures containing PFHxS, PFNA, HFPO-DA (GenX), and PFBS. A hazard index is a tool used to evaluate combined risk from exposure to a mixture of contaminants.

The EPA's final rule requires public water systems to:

- Monitor for these PFAS and have three years to complete initial monitoring (by 2027), followed by ongoing compliance monitoring. Water systems must also provide the public with information on the levels of these PFAS in their drinking water beginning in 2027.
- Public water systems have five years (by 2029) to implement solutions that reduce these PFAS if monitoring shows that drinking water levels exceed these Maximum Contaminant Levels.

For more information about the standards, please visit [EPA.gov/SDWA/and-Polyfluoroalkyl-Substances-pfas](https://www.epa.gov/SDWA/and-Polyfluoroalkyl-Substances-pfas).

## Aurora Water's treatment process

Aurora Water strives to provide clean, safe, great-tasting drinking water to its customers. Aurora's water comes primarily from high-quality surface water sources originating from high in the mountains.

The city also recaptures river water from the South Platte through the Prairie Waters System. Water is captured downstream through riverbank filtration. The water is then treated at the Binney Water Purification Facility, using granular activated carbon (GAC), which is among the most commonly recommended treatment technologies for removing PFAS. Binney is one of the few U.S. facilities built to treat emerging substances of concern. For more information about Prairie Waters and the Binney Water Purification Facility, go to [AuroraGov.org/PrairieWaters](https://AuroraGov.org/PrairieWaters).

As always, public health and the quality of your drinking water is Aurora Water's top priority. Aurora's water continues to meet and exceed all state and federal drinking water standards.





# PFAS MONITORING

Aurora Water's current test results from samples collected in 2024 are below the maximum contaminant levels and hazard index. For more information about Aurora Water's efforts related to PFAS visit [AuroraGov.org/PFAS](https://AuroraGov.org/PFAS).

Contaminant Name	MCL	Average Level Detected (ppt)	Range (ppt) Low to High	Typical Source of Contamination
GenX (HFPO-DA)	10	<2	<2	<p>PFAS are a group of synthetic chemicals used in a wide range of consumer products and industrial applications including: non-stick cookware, water-repellent clothing, stain-resistant fabrics and carpets, cosmetics, firefighting foams, electroplating, and products that resist grease, water, and oil. PFAS are found in the blood of people and animals and in water, air, fish, and soil at locations across the United States and the world.</p>
PFBS	N/A	0.94	<2 to 2.9	
PFHxS	10	<2	<2	
PFNA	10	<2	<2	
PFOA	4.0	<2	<2	
PFOS	4.0	<2	<2	
PFBA	N/A	2.25	<2 to 6.9	
PFHxA	N/A	0.64	<2 to 3.6	
PFPeA	N/A	0.81	<2 to 5.2	

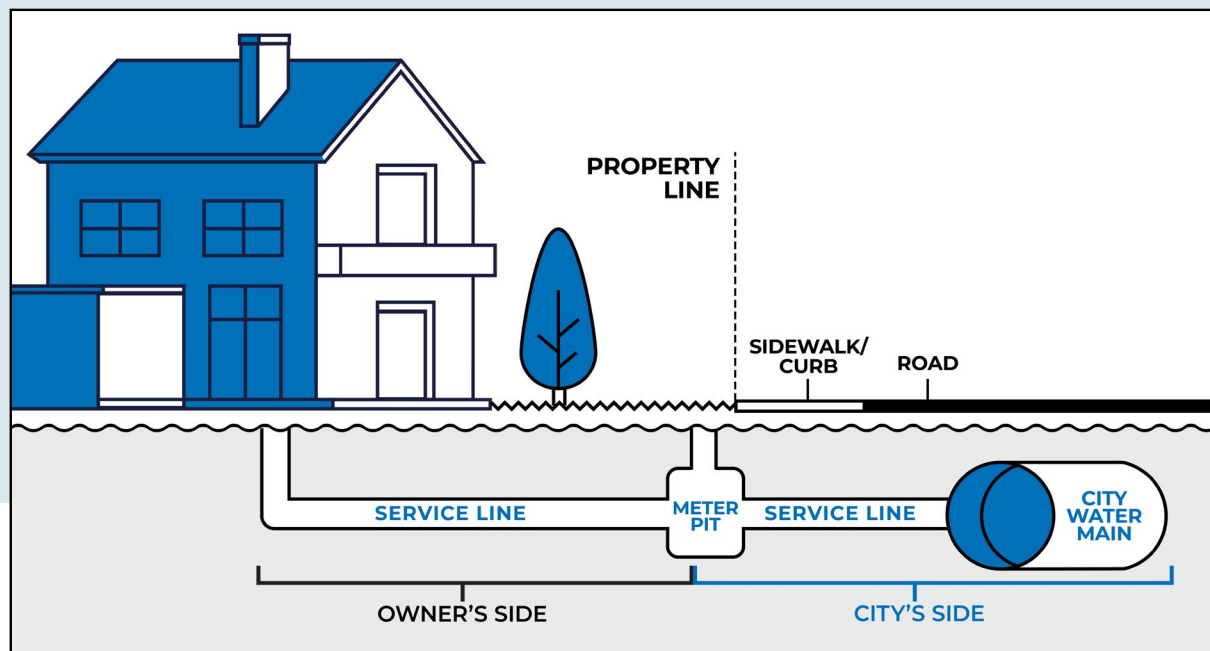
## We also sampled for the following, which were not detected in the water:

- 11CI-PF3OUdS
- 4:2 FTS
- 6:2 FTS
- 8:2 FTS
- 9CI-PF3ONS
- ADONA
- NFDHA
- PFDA
- PFDaA
- PFEESA
- PFHpA
- PFHpS
- PFMBa
- PFMPA
- PFPeS
- PFUnA
- PFTA
- PFTrDA
- NEtFOSAA
- NMeFOSAA

Beer brewers and fish tank owners often need more information about our water than the EPA requires us to report – some of which is included below.

Secondary Contaminants/ Other Unregulated Monitoring	Units	SMCL	Average Level Detected	Range	Sample Date	Typical Source of Contamination
Alkalinity (as CaCO <sub>3</sub> )	ppm	N/A	79.8	46.8 to 122	Daily	Water quality parameter
Aluminum	ppb	50 to 200	34.4	2.96 to 60.0	Quarterly	Erosion of natural deposits and treatment chemicals
Calcium	ppm	N/A	38.3	19.8 to 74.0	Weekly	Erosion of natural deposits
Chloride	ppm	250	42.2	18 to 112	Monthly	Erosion of natural deposits
Conductivity	µmhos/ cm	N/A	536	201 to 886	Weekly	Water quality parameter
Total Dissolved Solids (TDS)	ppm	500	228	122 to 417	Monthly	Water quality parameter
Hardness (as CaCO <sub>3</sub> )	ppm	N/A	113	56 to 154	Daily	Erosion of natural deposits
Hardness-CA (as CaCO <sub>3</sub> )	ppm	N/A	95.9	49.6 to 185	Weekly	Erosion of natural deposits
Iron	ppb	300	< 10	< 10	Quarterly	Erosion of natural deposits
Manganese	ppb	50	0.99	<0.5 to 2.79	Quarterly	Erosion of natural deposits
pH	SU	6.5 to 8.5	8.1	8.0 to 8.3	Daily	Water quality parameter
Sodium	ppm	10,000	37.2	18.6 to 91.6	Yearly	Erosion of natural deposits
Sulfate	ppm	250	56.8	27 to 114	Monthly	Erosion of natural deposits
Zinc	ppb	5000	2.24	< 0.5 to 5.49	Quarterly	Erosion of natural deposits





## AURORA WATER'S LEAD SERVICE LINE REPLACEMENT PROGRAM

### About Lead

Aurora Water is committed to delivering safe water to our customers. The water we provide to homes and businesses is lead-free, but lead can enter the water as it moves through water service lines.

In Aurora, lead was sometimes used in water service lines installed in 1960 or earlier. Galvanized steel water service lines that currently are, or ever have been, downstream of a lead pipe can also release lead into drinking water, especially if it is disturbed. A lead or galvanized steel water service line does not necessarily mean you have elevated levels of lead in your water.

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. Residents can view what Aurora Water has listed for their property's service line material by visiting **[AuroraGov.Org/LeadStatusMap](https://AuroraGov.Org/LeadStatusMap)** and entering the address. If you have questions about your service line material, contact our Lead Hotline at **720.859.4411** or email **[leadreplacement@auroragov.org](mailto:leadreplacement@auroragov.org)**.



## How is Aurora Water reducing my exposure to lead in drinking water?

Aurora's water does not contain lead when it leaves the water purification facilities and travels through the water mains in the streets. However, when it travels through the water service pipes, it may come into contact with lead materials in the water service line and the plumbing in your home.

Aurora Water continually works to significantly reduce lead exposure risks for customers with water service lines containing lead. Aurora Water is diligent in ensuring the great water we deliver to you is carefully monitored at all points throughout the system so this doesn't happen.

When water interacts with metal, the metal can sometimes oxidize, resulting in corrosion. Aurora Water proactively treats the water to maintain an optimal corrosion control treatment that minimizes the lead at customers' taps. We carefully monitor the water treatment process to minimize the risk of service line corrosion. We then adjust the chemistry of the water through pH/alkalinity to cause a buildup or coating on pipe walls, which reduces the amount of lead released from lead-containing pipes and fixtures. As long as this film is intact, houses with lead service lines pose less risk for lead in their water.

Aurora Water meets and exceeds all state and federal regulations regarding lead. We have never been out of compliance due to elevated lead levels.

Aurora Water carefully monitors its water treatment processes to minimize the risk of service line corrosion.



## Aurora's FREE Lead Service Line Replacement Program

Do you own a home in Original Aurora built in 1960 or earlier? If so, Aurora Water needs your help with ridding Aurora of lead and galvanized steel water service lines. Since service lines are buried, homeowners may not know what they are made of, and many records do not indicate the service line material. Residents own the service line from the home to the meter and the city owns the service line from the meter to the water main.

To determine the service line material, Aurora Water must create two, 6" holes on the property. In accordance with City Code 138-229, Aurora Water and our contractors can access the yard without prior consent to conduct the inspection.

If lead or galvanized steel is found, Aurora Water will pay for the new service line, which normally costs \$10,000 for a full-line replacement. To participate, the property owner must complete the Acknowledgement and Agreement form for Aurora Water and its contractor to replace the service line with a copper one. The form can be found at **[AuroraGov.org/Lead](https://AuroraGov.org/Lead)**.

Property owners who decide not to participate in the program will be responsible for replacing the lead or galvanized steel water service line at their own cost. Aurora Water does not reimburse owners when they have a service line replaced. All work must be done by Aurora Water or one of our contractors.





## Health effects of lead

Lead can cause serious health effects in people of all ages, especially pregnant people, infants (both formula-fed and breastfed), and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and parts used in service lines and in home plumbing. Aurora Water is 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 our Lead Hotline at 720.859.4411. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at **[EPA.gov/SafeWater/Lead](https://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead)**.

For more information about Aurora's lead program, visit **[AuroraGov.org/Lead](https://AuroraGov.org/Lead)**.

Questions? Call 720.859.4411  
or email **[leadreplacement@auroragov.org](mailto:leadreplacement@auroragov.org)**.



## **The best way to be a steward of Aurora's water is to take care of our watershed – the area of land that drains to the river.**

Water pollution can be caused by the things that we do every day. What we leave on sidewalks and streets impacts our water quality. When it rains or when snow melts, storm water mixes with trash, antifreeze, motor oil and other undesirable items. As water flows off the sidewalk or street it drains to large, underground pipes designed to prevent flooding on streets and sidewalks. These storm drain pipes discharge storm water to the nearest stream or river.

Water pollution also happens when rainwater or snow melt flows across yards. Pet waste and fertilizers mix with the water and eventually flow down a storm drain. The average home can accumulate as much as 100 pounds of chemical wastes each year from common household lawn or garden products.

There are many things you can do to prevent water pollution.

- Recycle household products and paint. For resources, visit [AuroraGov.org/Recycle](http://AuroraGov.org/Recycle).
- Do your part to protect water quality and never dump items into nearby streams or channels. Additionally, prevent litter and pick up pet waste.
- Use only enough pesticides, landscaping chemicals and fertilizer as necessary. Excess garden and lawn-care materials wash into and pollute waterways during rainfall.
- Dispose of household waste, grease and motor oil properly, not down sinks or storm drains.
- Prevent trash and debris from entering storm drains and catch basins.
- Report hazardous material spills, illegal dumping, or spills that could enter the waterways, as well as information about properly handling hazardous materials, by calling **303.326.8645**.
- For additional publications about Household Chemical Use, including Preventing Stormwater Pollution from Construction Sites; Preventing Stormwater Pollution from Household Waste; Preventing Stormwater Pollution from Industrial Activities; and Preventing Stormwater Pollution from Landscaping, visit [AuroraGov.org/Stormwater](http://AuroraGov.org/Stormwater).



