

# **2024 CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT**

## **Argos Municipal Water Plant, PWSID # IN5250001**

**Prepared by Astbury Water Technology, Inc.**

### **Spanish (Español)**

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre la calidad de su agua beber. Tradúscalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

### **Is my water safe?**

Last year your tap water met all U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and state drinking water health standards. This report is a snapshot of last year's water quality and includes details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to standards set by regulatory agencies. We are committed to providing you with information because you deserve to know about the quality of the water you drink.

### **Where does my water come from?**

Your water is groundwater sourced from two wells.

### **Are there any assessments of my source water available to me?**

Source water assessments and/or Wellhead Protection Plan may be requested from the certified operator.

### **Why are there contaminants in my drinking water?**

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

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: microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, that 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 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 agriculture, urban storm water 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 storm water runoff, and septic systems; and 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 amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

### **Do I need to take special precautions?**

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/Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Water Drinking Hotline (800-426-4791).

### **How can I reduce my water usage?**

Did you know that the average U.S. household uses approximately 350 gallons of water per day? Luckily, there are many low-cost or no-cost ways to conserve water. Water your lawn at the least sunny times of the day. Fix toilet and faucet leaks. Take short showers - a 5 minute shower uses 4 to 5 gallons of water compared to up to 50 gallons for a bath. Turn the faucet off while brushing your teeth and shaving to save 3-5 gallons per minute. Teach your kids about water conservation to ensure a future generation that uses water wisely. Make it a family effort to reduce next month's water bill!

### **How do I interpret the Water Quality Data?**

A table listing the most up to date data on drinking water contaminants detected in your water follows. The Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) requires us to monitor certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year, so some of the data may predate the last calendar year. In all cases, the year is listed and is representative of your drinking water.

Please note that the presence of these contaminants in the drinking water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. The following definitions may help you better understand the data:

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 Contaminant Level (MCL) – 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.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL) – The highest level of disinfectant allowed in drinking water.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG) – The level of drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health.

Action Level (AL) – The concentration of contaminant which, when exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

Action Level Goal (ALG) = The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. ALGs allow for a margin of safety.

N/A – Not applicable

ND – Not detectable at testing limit

PPM or Mg/L – parts per million or milligrams per liter

PPB or ug/L – Parts per billion or micrograms per liter

pCi/L – Picocuries per liter is a measure of radioactivity in water

mrem/yr – Millirems per year is a measure of absorbed radiation

ppb – micrograms per liter (ug/L) or parts per billion – or one ounce in 7,350,000 gallons of water

ppm – milligrams per liter (ug/L) or parts per million – or one ounce in 7,350 gallons of water

picocuries per liter (pCi/L) – picocuries per liter is a measure of the radioactivity in water

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

Variances and Exemptions – State or EPA permission not to meet an MCL or a treatment technique under certain conditions.

BDL – Below detection limit

ABS – Absent

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

HAA5 – Haloacetic Acid

TTHM – Total Trihalomethanes

IOCs – Inorganic compounds

SOCs – Synthetic organic compounds

VOCs – Volatile organic compounds

Avg – Average; Regulatory compliance with some MCLs are based on running annual average of monthly samples

LRAA – Locational Running Annual Average

na – not applicable

## WATER QUALITY DATA

CONTAMINANT	MCLG/ MRDL G	MCL/TT/ MRDL	YOUR WATER	RANGE		Violation	SAMPLE YEAR	TYPICAL SOURCES
				Low	High			
Disinfectant & Disinfectant By-Products – resulting from drinking water disinfection, which has been determined necessary for control of microbial contaminants in your water								
Chlorine (as Cl <sub>2</sub> ) (ppm)	4	4	Highest RAA = 1	-	-	No	2024	Water additive used to control microbes
HAA5 (ppb) – 560 W Walnut St	N/A	60	Highest LRAA = 5	5.32	5.32	No	2023-2024	By-product of drinking water disinfection
TTHM (ppb) – 718 N Michigan/ 15923 Michigan	N/A	80	Highest LRAA = 4	4.1	4.1	No	2023-2024	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Inorganic Contaminants – excluding lead & copper (see below)								
Arsenic (ppb)	0	10	2	2	2	No*	2023	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
<i>*While your drinking water meets EPA standards for arsenic, it does contain low levels of arsenic. EPA's standard balances the current understanding of arsenic's possible health effects against the costs of removing arsenic from drinking water. EPA continues to research the health effects of low levels of arsenic, which is a mineral known to cause cancer in humans at high concentrations and is linked to other health effects such as skin damage and circulatory problems.</i>								
Barium (ppm)	2	2	0.175	0.175	0.175	No	2023	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	0.245	0.245	0.245	No	2023	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Nitrate (ppm)	10	10	2.12	2.12	2.12	No	2024	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Radioactive Contaminants								
Combined Radium-226 and 228 (pCi/L)	0	5	0.42	0.42	0.42	No	2021	Erosion of natural deposits
Gross Alpha (excl. Radon and Uranium) (pCi/L)	0	15	0.161	0.161	0.161	No	2021	Erosion of natural deposits

Combined Uranium (ug/L)	0	30	0.196	0.196	0.196	No	2021	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium-226	0	5	0.229	0.229	0.228	No	2021	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium-228	0	5	0.191	0.191	0.191	No	2021	Erosion of natural deposits
CONTAMINANT	MCLG	AL	# OF SITES OVER AL	RANGE		90% OF YOUR WATER UTILITY WERE LESS THAN...		TYPICAL SOURCES
				Low	High			
Inorganic Compounds – as governed by the Lead and Copper Rule; collected from consumer taps								
Lead (ppb)	0	15	1 (2023 - 2024)	1.08	21	3.25		Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Copper (ppm)	1.3	1.3	2 (2023)	0.0164	1.39	1.01		Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives

#### Additional Information Regarding Lead:

Our system was required to complete a lead service line inventory in 2024. That inventory is available at: <https://idem.120water-ptd.com/>

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 is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

#### How can I learn more?

If you have any questions about the contents of this report, please contact Joseph Stone, Certified Drinking Water Operator, at 574-780-4948, or call the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

To have a say in decisions regarding your water, the public is welcome to attend our regularly scheduled town council meetings on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month at the Argos Municipal Building at 7:00 pm. For more information, please visit <https://www.townofargos.com/government/town-council>.

